

MINUTES

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

JUNE 18, 2012

PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL MEETING

I. NOTICE OF HEARING

Chairman Nafis read the Town of Newington - Legal Notice which was published on June 12, 2012 (a copy of such Notice is attached hereto.)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present

Alan Nafis - Chair
Paul Vessella
Mike Lenares
Vincent Camilli

Also Present

Peter Boorman, Town Attorney
Tanya Lane, Town Clerk
Susan Gibbon, Commission Clerk

(*These minutes are a brief overview of the public hearing/meeting held on June 18, 2012. Please refer to tape for full transcript.)

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Myra Cohen, 42 Jeffrey Lane, Town Councilor, speaking for self. § 410, replace language that was deleted, put back and take out new proposed language. Type in line 3 - should be "or" not "on." § 411 ok with new language.

Andrew Brecher, 120 Stage Coach Lane, as self and as new Economic Development Director for the Town of Newington. (A copy of Mr. Brecher's remarks are attached hereto.)

Chairman Nafis closed the public hearing at 6:39 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nafis called this meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. in Room L101 of the Newington Town Hall.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

IV PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive. Thank you.

V MINUTES

a. 6/6/12 MEETING

Move to accept by Commissioner Camilli, second by Commissioner Vessella.
Unanimous vote.

VI MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

a. Discussion -to consider Amending Draft Report discussed at the 6/18/12 Public Hearing pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 7-191(a)

§ 410. Put back previous language, change to "in the negative" to "shall vote in opposition to".

§ 411. Leave in new language.

Commissioner Nafis reviewed remarks by Andrew Brecher. Commissioner Camilli mentioned that many of these items are already in Charter and part of the Zoning Board.

Attorney Boorman reviewed comments, all provided for by Statute and Charter.

b. Discussion - to consider submitting the proposed Draft Report discussed at the 6/18/12 Public Hearing to the Town Clerk for transmission to the Newington Town Council as a draft report pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 7-191(b).

Attorney Boorman: Provide Town Council with both a Draft copy and a Redline Draft copy for review. Next Town Council meeting scheduled for June 26, 2012.

All in favor of providing report to Town Council.

VII ANY OTHER BUSINESS PERTINENT TO THIS COMMISSION

None

VIII WRITTEN COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Myra Cohen provided the Commission with a written note to be read if she were unable to attend hearing. (A copy of these notes can be found in the Town Clerk's office.)

IX PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Myra Cohen, 42 Jeffrey Lane, Town Councilor, speaking for self. Thank you. You did a fabulous job.

Clark Castille, 167 Connecticut Avenue, Town Councilor, speaking for self. Thank you. Great experience. Great dialogue. This is the way Town Government should function.

Commissioner Nafis asked if any other comments from the public. None.

X COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Vessella: I want to echo what people said here. I found this to be a phenomenal learning experience. Being involved and looking at the Town Government from inside-out. Camaraderie and non-partisanship showed what Town Government should be.

Commissioner Camilli. Thank you.

Commissioner Lenares. Great job.

Attorney Boorman. Thank you all Commissioners. Everybody worked together, congratulate everyone for being so positive and looking to promote what is best for the Town of Newington. Thank staff. Thank the people that participated - your comments were invaluable and helped guide us at times.

Chairman Nafis. Thank all the Commissioners. We stayed on topic and subject. We did what the Council asked us to do within the time they asked us to do it. Thank you Susan. Tanya, thank you for your knowledge and history. Peter, thank you for your knowledge and explanations. I hope more people were watching on TV because they would have gotten a good education of what our Charter is about, why we have it and what it does for us. Thank you for all the people that came out. I think that the Council will be happy with the document we will be providing to them.

XI ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Camilli moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m., motion seconded by Commissioner Vessella; it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Susan Gibbon
Clerk – Charter Revision Commission



TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

(Please Publish Forthwith—Once Only—Zoned Legal Ad)

TOWN OF NEWINGTON LEGAL NOTICE

This is to give notice that the Charter Revision Commission for the Town of Newington will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 6:30 PM in Room L-101 in the Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street, Newington, CT, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 7-191 (a), regarding its draft report to the Newington Town Council that has been completed, but not submitted.

Copies of the draft report are available in the Town Clerk's office, and online at www.newingtonct.gov.

Dated at Newington, CT this 7th day of June, 2012.
Alan Nafis, Chairman
Charter Revision Commission

JUNE 18, 2012

REMARKS TO THE NEWINGTON, CT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Chairman Nafis and Commissioners Clark, Vessella, Lenares and Camilli:

First, I want to thank you for your efforts to modernize and bring our town's Charter up to date.

Second, I want to apologize for raising a new topic at this late date in the Charter Revision process. However, as I was only recently hired as Newington's Economic Development Director, this is my first opportunity to address the Commission. And since Charter Revision occurs infrequently, I felt it was important to use this opportunity to confirm the following concerns had been properly considered.

My appearance this evening has only one purpose—to ensure Newington is properly positioned to use all the tools available to support present day economic development initiatives. Those include:

- All rights and powers granted by the State of Connecticut General Statutes and Special Acts, particularly those addressing Economic Development incentives and programs.
- The right to buy, lease, sell, exchange or grant lands and rights-of-way in pursuit of Economic Development objectives.
- The ability to designate Special Development Districts, Targeted Economic Development Zones, Industrial Development Parks and similarly named geographic areas where specific Economic Development incentives might be applied.
- The right to grant Tax Exemptions, Abatements and Credits.
- The right to provide Tax Increment Financing for individual development projects, consistent with the rights and powers granted by the State of Connecticut.
- The right to make infrastructure investments, and to maintain such investments, that would promote Economic Development in general, as well as to advance specific development projects, including, but not limited to, roads, bridges, walkways, parking, site preparation, drainage, soil stabilization, lighting and utilities, either within a development area or which would improve service to a development area.

If the Commissioners are satisfied all of the above powers are adequately addressed in the Proposed Revised Charter, no additional revisions need be considered. However, if it is unclear that General Powers and Financial Provisions Articles are sufficient, please revise subsections, or add new subsections, as you determine appropriate.

Thank you,



Andrew A. Brecher
Newington Economic Development Director