

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 9, 2016
6:30 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

Minutes

Present: Pete Brown, Melissa Engel, Lori Lanzi, Michael Rose, Diane Achenbach-Zatorski, Sandra Wieleba (Town Clerk)

Absent: Anne McKinney, Rolland Jackson

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Engel called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting February 3, 2016: Mr. Rose made a motion, seconded by Ms. Achenbach-Zatorski, to approve the minutes of the organizational meeting of February 3, 2016. Voted 5-0 in favor.

3. Approval of Meeting Dates: Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lanzi, to approve the meeting dates. Voted 5-0.

4. Discuss public remarks from Public Hearing: No discussion

5. Review and discuss charge #3 – Provide clarification to the language in Chapter II sec. 2.1 in order to allow former Town Council members to volunteer for the Town:

Discussion occurred on the background of why this has become an issue, along with how a lawyer interpreted this section to include volunteers rather than only paid positions. Consensus was to change the section to have the following language (changes in italics):

“Section 2.1. Election.

At each biennial election there shall be elected seven members of the Town Council, hereinafter referred to as the “council”, all for terms of two years, who shall serve without compensation. Note more than five of the members shall be of the same political party. No member shall hold *more than one elected office under the government of the Town of East Hampton, nor shall be, during the term of office for which he is elected, and for one year thereafter be appointed to any position of remuneration within the said government. This*

prohibition shall not preclude any elected official from volunteering in any capacity. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, this clause shall not prevent any elected official from serving as a moderator."

6. Review and discuss charge #5 – eliminate Section 6.2 as it is no longer relevant: The Commission agreed to eliminate Section 6.2 entirely.

7. Review and discuss charge #6 – eliminate the reference in Section 3.3 to the Building Official and Zoning Enforcement Officer language as it is no longer relevant: Discussion occurred on the background of this change, with Ms. Wieleba explaining that the current Building Official is not also the Zoning Enforcement Officer, as in the past, because of the complexity of both positions. Some other title updates were made. Consensus was to change the section to have the following language (changes in italics):

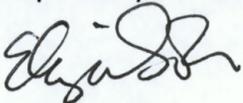
"Section 3.3 Appointments.

Based upon merit and fitness alone, the town manager shall appoint for an indefinite term or remove for cause, a town clerk, a collector of revenue, a finance director who shall perform the duties of treasurer, *a building official, a zoning enforcement officer*, a director of health, a civil preparedness director, *an animal control officer*, a tree warden, a harbor master and a *director* of public works. In addition to the aforementioned, the town manager shall appoint, based upon merit and fitness alone, all other department heads and employees, except employees of the board of education. Such appointments shall be made when vacancies exist or new positions are created by the council. The town manager may, subject to the approval of the council, perform the duties of any office which he may fill by appointment. The council may appoint an *interim* town manager to act during the absence of the town manager or a vacancy in that office."

Also noted was that finding a way to include gender-neutral language throughout the charter will be looked into further.

8. Adjournment: Mr. Rose made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Eliza LoPresti

Recording Secretary