

City of Waterville Charter Commission Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

City Hall Basement Meeting Room, 1 Common Street, Waterville Maine

The Meeting was called to order by Co- Chairman James Laliberty at 6:05 p.m.

Members present: Phil Bofia, Lutie Brown, Samantha Burdick, Rien Finch, Hilary Koch, James Laliberty, Ronald Merrill, Tom Nale, Julian Payne, and Cathy Weeks

City Clerk: Patti Dubois

The approval of the meeting minutes from January 28, 2020 was reviewed and discussion was held about the amendment on page 3 that is should be caucus rather than partisan. The motion was made and seconded. Vote was 10-0 to accept the minutes with the amendment.

A discussion was held on when the public attended would there be a time at the end of the meeting for the public to speak. There would be a two minute time limit to speak. Motion was made, seconded , vote was 10-0.

The final reports were given by the sub-committees. Lutie Brown will provide a written report that will be given at the next meeting. Phil Bofia gave the written report and all members received a copy. Hilary Koch will provide a summary of the data collected.

Julian Payne gave the update (Items H, I, J page 25 regarding the topic of budgets). on the School Board chapter of the charter. Eric Haley, the school superintendent will be meeting with Mike Roy, the city manager to give a budget report which is stated in Section 6. This report was information only for the commission at this time.

The following was discussed and reviewed of the items for consideration presented by Patti Dubois, City Clerk. Item 1& 2 covered creating vacancy among the seats of Mayor, City Council and Board of Education. Patti was to do research on how the vacancy for all three of these areas should be consistent with the Code of Ethics Ordinance. A report will be given at the February 25th meeting. A motion was made, seconded and voted 10-0.

Item 3 – Due to state law changes, residents who are 16& 17 years of age will be allowed to pre-register to vote. The only qualification to run for Mayor, City Council and Board of Education is to be inhabitants of the City of Waterville and registered voters herein. Discussion was held as to what age the person should be to run for these offices which was determined to be age 18 at the time of election. Motion was made, seconded, vote was 9-1 with Cathy Weeks opposing the age of 18 to run for these offices.

Item 4 Patti offered consideration of removing the requirement for publication in a newspaper of general circulation (since it is very costly and does not reach all residents). The discussion

was held about posting election notices, but not Planning Board zone ordinances. Patti Dubois will review the different references that require public publications and report back at the next meeting. Motion was made, seconded, vote was 10-0.

Item 5 – Remove the requirement that the City Clerk must accept voter registration applications in the absence of the Registrar. The Registrar must prepare a printed list of voters in each Ward and keep it current as covered in State law. Motion made, seconded, vote was 10-0.

Item 6 – Update State Statue references regarding recounts. Article 9, Section 7, pg. 25-31B Motion was made, seconded, vote was 10-0.

The meeting on March 10, 2020 will be held at 6:00 pm.

James Laliberty made a motion to adjourn, seconded, vote was 10-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm

Sincerely,

Cathy Weeks

Charter Commission Secretary

2/12/2020

