



Chester Charter Commission
Meeting Minutes

Charter Commission Charter Drafting Session: March 28, 2024
Location: Chester Meeting House
Immediately following Board of Selectmen Public Hearing

CALL TO ORDER

The 3.28.24 meeting of the Chester Charter Commission was called to order at 8:58 PM by Richard Strauss, Chairman, Chester Charter Commission. In attendance included: Commission members; Brian Dailey, Richard Strauss, Mark Borton, Pat Holloway, Jesse Gnazzo, and Ian McLachlan. Lol Fearon was present on the phone. There was no audience of citizens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the draft minutes from the March 19th meeting with minor non substantive changes. The motion was carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC HEARING

The Commission discussed the Board of Selectmen's public hearing. There was discussion on our current government structure, including residency requirements for the town clerk and tax collector. Chairmen Strauss also explained the process that the Commission will follow moving forward. Specifically what would occur if the Board of Selectmen made recommendations to the Commission regarding the draft charter.

CHARTER CONVERSATIONS

Several Commission members explained that turnout for the Charter Conversations is still strong, and that there are more planned. Those interested can sign up for these on the Charter Webpage. Dates for Charter Conversations are also included in the weekly town emails.

CHARTER TRANSITION PLANNING DRAFT MEMO REVIEW

The commission discussed provisions in the charter related to taking the Oath of Office. It was also noted that the final step for the Commission is to submit the final report. Furthermore, if the Board of Selectmen votes to send the Charter to referendum, the Charter Commission would be disbanded.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: Brian Dailey, Secretary, Chester Charter Commission