

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING of the Burrillville Charter Review Commission held Wednesday December 8, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. In the Jesse M. Smith Memorial library, 100 Tinkhan Lane, Harrisville, R.I.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alfred Bettencourt Jr., Arthur Bonin, Michael Lamoureux, David Landry, Richard Nolan, Adam Schatz, John Westhoven and Anthony Zampello

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Woodruff was excused.

1. VOTED to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held November 23, 2021; and the question of dispensing with the reading of said minutes.

Motion by Adam Schatz, second by Anthony Zampello. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

2. Public comment: None

3. Unfinished Business to be considered and acted on:

CR21-015 Review of submissions continued from November 23, 2021 meeting.

#13 Section 11.06 – School Committee – Filling Vacancy

Discussion: The amendments proposed on the November 23, 2021 meeting were discussed.

VOTED to accept the proposed amendments, as follows:

Section 11.06. - Filling Vacancy.

A vacancy in the office of a school committee person shall be filled by the qualified candidate for School Committee with the next highest vote total in the last general election. Said person shall serve only until the next general election. If no qualified candidate is available, the Town Council shall appoint a qualified elector to fill the vacancy until the next general election, as follows:

- (A) The Town Council will turn the selection process over to the Screening Subcommittee of the Town Council. The Screening Subcommittee will provide for one advertisement for candidates, meet outside of normal planned meetings to consider the application of candidates and review candidates. The Screening Subcommittee will rank the candidates and submit the top five (5) ranked candidates to the Town Council for consideration.
- (B) The candidates submitted to the Town Council shall have the opportunity to appear before the Town Council prior to the vote of the Town Council, to give all Town Council members a chance to speak with them and ask questions.

At the next general election, the voters shall elect a person to fill any unexpired term. The replacement candidate shall be sworn into office within thirty (30) days from the occurrence of the vacancy.

Motion by Arthur Bonin, second by John Westhoven. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

#6 Section 8.28 Department of Finance – Division of Information Systems

Discussion: Justin Allen, Director of Technology was in attendance and spoke about his role in the school department/town. The commission asked Mr. Allen to provide job descriptions and agreed to wait for more info before voting.

VOTED to defer until next meeting.

Motion by John Westhoven, second by Anthony Zampello. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

CR21-016 Review of new submissions and interviews with department heads.

#17 Section 8.06 – Town Treasurer Qualifications

NOTE: The submitter asked that this item be held until a future meeting. There was no action taken on this item.

#18 Section 11.01 - Term limits for School Committee

Discussion: Adam Schatz stated that he had done some research of other towns that have term limits and presented a suggestion to mirror the language in the Cumberland Charter. It was suggested that there be a limit of three terms, with eligibility to serve again after a term has passed.

VOTED to amend Section 11.01 of the Charter, as follows:

Section 11.01. - Number, Term, Constituency.

There shall be a School Committee consisting of seven (7) members each of whom shall be elected at large at the regular biennial elections in even-numbered years to serve for a term of four (4) years and until his/her successor is elected and qualified. No member of the School Committee shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms.

Motion by David Landry, second by Anthony Zampello. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

NOTE: Submissions #19 through #25 were taken up together.

#19 Section 19 5.04 Adding new sub-section Powers and Duties of Town Manager- to define responsibilities

#20 Section 8.09 Adding new sub-section- Duties

#21 Section 8.13 Add new language - Powers and duties

#22 Section 12.04 Add new language - Powers and duties

#23 Section 12.09 Add new language – Health Officer

#24 Section 12.14 Add new subsection (H) - Health Officer -Duties and responsibilities

#25 Article I (No section noted) to add new section – Environment in general

Discussion: All members agreed to defer until Mr. Roselli is present to speak on his behalf.

VOTED to defer to the next meeting in order to discuss with Mr. Roselli.

Motion by Adam Schatz, second by Aurthur Bonin. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

#26 Section 10.02. - Budget Board

VOTED to amend Section 10.02 of the Charter, as follows:

Section 10.02 – Budget Board

There shall be a Budget Board of five (5) regular members and two (2) alternate members appointed by the Town Council. The Director of Finance shall be a non-voting member ex-officio. The Board may choose a chairman, ~~and a vice-chairman~~ and a secretary from its membership and prescribe its own procedures. The Board/Committee shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings which shall be available for public inspection and shall provide certified copies of the approved minutes of all proceedings to the Town Clerk in accordance with Section 4.02(E).

Motion by David Landry, second by Anthony Zampello. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

#27 No recommended changes – Sewer department head

VOTED to receive and file

Motioned by Adam Schatz, second by Arthur Bonin. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.

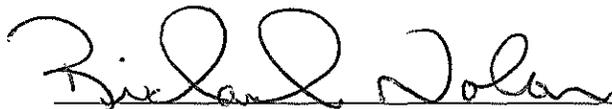
CR21-017 – Review of Burrillville Town Charter by Charter Review Commission.

Discussion: The Commission asked for clarification relative to the Redevelopment Agency, Building Inspection, Tax Collector and Other Offices and Commissions. The Commission agreed to continue the review of the Charter at the next meeting.

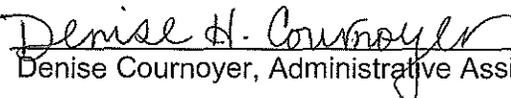
There was no action taken on this item.

VOTED to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.

Motion by Michael Lamoureux, second by Arthur Bonin. The motion carried unanimously by the eight members present.



Richard Nolan, Secretary
Charter Review Commission

ATTEST: 
Denise Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant