

TOWN OF GROTON
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION *Draft*
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
October 23, 2017
TOWN HALL ANNEX – COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Chair Pro Tem Aument called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Chair Hauber, Chair Pro Tem Scott Aument, Commissioners Kathy Chase, Robert Frink, Patrice Granatosky, Rosanne Kotowski, Daniel Mello, and Jennifer White.
Members Absent: Commissioners Jane Dauphinais, Brandon Marley, and Darcy Peruzzotti.

II. COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Chair: None.
- b. Secretary: None.
- c. Members: None.

Commissioner Peruzzotti arrived at 6:32 p.m.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Town Council Recommendations

Commissioner Mello stated that the Attorney's phrasing may be different than the Commission's intent; the Attorney's language should match the Commission's intent.

The Commissioners discussed how to proceed with the Town Council and Attorney's recommendations.

Commissioner Frink noted that the Attorney should have at least one week to review the Final Draft report.

Chair Pro Tem Aument read Town Council recommendation 1.a.

Commissioner Frink made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Granatosky, to reject Town Council recommendation 1.a.

Commissioner Mello stated that this has to be looked at carefully because there were people who attended the Charter Revision Commission meetings and were upset that they could not vote in budget referendum.

Commissioner Frink stated that non-resident property owners are stakeholders in Groton; they do not vote, but they pay taxes. He noted that the definition of 'stakeholder' was taken from the Government Financial Officers Association.

In response to Commissioner Peruzzotti, Commissioner Granatosky stated that the Attorney did not offer an alternative definition.

Commissioner Mello amended the motion, seconded by Commissioner Kotowski, to use the term "elector" in the Charter, which is the current language. He clarified that anywhere the word "stakeholder" appears, "elector" will be used in its place.

Vote on the amended motion: PASSES

In favor: 7 (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Kotowski, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)

Opposed: 2 (Granatosky, Frink)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Mello made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kotowski, to strike the following language that the Charter Revision Commission proposed: (Section 3.5.3) "Employees of the Town and BOE shall not serve on the Council or BOE." Commissioner Mello noted that when there is a conflict of interest, they have the obligation to declare it and recuse themselves from voting.

Commissioner Kotowski amended the motion, seconded by Commissioner Frink, to change "shall" to "must" (Section 3.5.3): "... Such person shall must recuse himself/herself from the decision-making process..."

Commissioner White referenced **Sec. 10-156e. "Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.** Notwithstanding the provisions of any special act or municipal charter or ordinance to the contrary, any employee of a local or regional board of education or of an incorporated or endowed high school approved pursuant to the provisions of section 10-34 shall have the right to serve on any governmental body of the town in which he resides except that no such employee shall serve on such employee's employing board of education." She noted that she was not sure, but she thinks the Town can include the language in the Charter that prohibits employees of the Town from serving on the Council and Board of Education.

Town Clerk Moukawsher clarified that the Town Council stated that this may result in multiple Town Attorney opinions whenever the subject arises.

Commissioner Frink stated that Motion 2 is not legal; employees of the Board of Education can serve on the Town Council.

Commissioner Granatosky noted that the lawyers have determined the proposed language is not legal.

Commissioner Chase stated that what the Commission proposed should stay; it is a conflict of interest for a teacher to be sitting on the body what will determine his or her salary.

Commissioner Granatosky noted that if the Commission votes to override Connecticut General Statues, the Town will be sued.

Vote on amended motion: PASSES

In favor 6: (Hauber, Aument, Frink, Kotowski, Mello, White)

Opposed 3: (Chase, Granatosky, Peruzzotti)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Kotowski made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mello, to keep Motion 49: "The Town Council shall establish an Ethics Commission consisting of at least five members appointed by the Town Council."

Commissioner Kotowski noted that the Code of Ethics was removed by ordinance. She stated that leaving the Ethics Commission in the proposed Charter is worth the try to have it created.

Vote on the motion: PASSES

In favor 7: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Kotowski, Mello, White)

Opposed 2: (Granatosky, Peruzzotti)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Granatosky made a motion to approve item 2.a. The Commissioners noticed that item 1.b. was skipped. Commissioner Granatosky withdrew the motion.

Chair Pro Tem Aument read item 1.b.: Recommend that the CRC determine a specific effective date(s) for implementation of any amendments. He noted that the concern was the transition concerning the RTM and the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Frink noted that according to Motion 3, the RTM would be abolished upon approval of the Charter Revision; that would be 30-days after.

The Commissioners discussed addressing other items before determining effective dates.

Item 1b was tabled.

Commissioner Granatosky moved item 2.a, seconded by Commissioner Frink: (2.a): Recommend to retain the definitions for Board of Education, Council, Town Attorney, Town Clerk, and Town Council, along with Representative Town Meeting if that body is retained, in the Glossary of terms.

Vote on the motion: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Commissioner Frink moved item 3.a, seconded by Commissioner White: (3.a.) Recommend the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for the replacement of a Representative Town Meeting with a Board of Finance.

Commissioner Kotowski stated that the RTM is not being replaced by a Board of Finance; the referendum is replacing the RTM.

Commissioner Frink stated that in the revised Charter, the Commission does not claim that the Board of Finance replaces the RTM.

Chair Pro Tem Aument stated that he thought the Town Council was agreeing with what the Commission recommended.

In response to Commissioner Peruzzotti, Town Clerk Moukawsher stated that the vote on the new Charter will be an all or nothing question.

Commissioner Mello stated that “provisions” means how the change in government would be implemented—the steps that would be taken for the change in government.

Commissioner Frink suggested an implementation schedule (RK Frink Notes—Town Finance Dept. Charter Revision Feedback Attachment A)

The Commissioners discussed the implementation period of the new budget process if the new Charter is approved.

Chair Pro Tem Aument stated that there may need to be a two-year implementation period.

In response to Commissioner Kotowski, Commissioner Frink stated that if the referendum is not approved, but the RTM is eliminated, then the budget approved by the Town Council is the adopted budget.

Commissioner White noted that the transition plan can be developed at a later meeting.

Commissioner Kotowski made a motion to table this item until the next meeting.

Commissioner Frink amended the motion, seconded by Commissioner Kotowski, to Recommend the CRC Final Report contain a Board of Finance.

Commissioner Peruzzotti noted that she thought the voters would be voting on individual items, not the entire Charter in one question.

Commissioner Mello stated that there needs to be a transition period between the sun setting of the RTM and the implementation of the Board of Finance.

Vote on the amended motion: PASSES

In favor 6: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Kotowski, White)

Opposed 3: (Granatosky, Mello, Peruzzotti)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Chase moved item 3.a-2, seconded by Commissioner White (3.a-2) Recommend that the Board of Finance be set up by districts.

Commissioner Fink stated that he is not a fan of this, but it is not bad. He noted that there would need to be language addressing filling vacancies.

Commissioner Chase stated that there will not be a problem finding one person from each district; currently the RTM has representation by district. She noted that the Town Council could appoint somebody who ran in that district, but was not elected, until the term expires.

Commissioner Peruzzotti noted that she is concerned that the Town Council is trying to compare the Board of Finance to the RTM. She clarified that the Board of Finance is a body that makes recommendations only. She stated that the seven best qualified people should be on the Board of Finance. She noted that it will be hard to find qualified people by district for the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Chase stated that she does not understand the argument that it will be difficult to find qualified people to serve on the Board of Finance. She referenced research she conducted on the RTM earlier in the process and questioned who is qualified on the RTM to make the same financial decisions that the Board of Finance will be making.

Commissioner Peruzzotti stated that the Board of Finance will be doing more research on the budget and will evaluate revenue.

Chair Pro Tem Aument stated that election by district is a compromise. He stated that he does not necessarily agree with it, but it is a compromise.

Commissioner Kotowski moved the question, seconded by Chair Hauber.

Vote on moving the question: PASSES

In Favor 6: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Kotowski, White)

Opposed 3: (Granatosky, Mello, Peruzzotti)

Abstained: 0

Vote on the motion: PASSES

In favor 6: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Kotowski, White)

Opposed 2: (Granatosky, Peruzzotti)

Abstained 1: (Mello)

Commissioner Granatosky moved item 3.a-3, seconded by Commissioner Frink (3.a-3) Recommend that the Board of Finance terms be set as synchronous with one another instead of being staggered terms.

Commissioner Mello noted that the purpose of staggered terms is continuity.

In response to Commissioner Mello, Commissioner Kotowski stated that the Council's rationale is that it will give the public the opportunity to have a clean slate after the election. Commissioner Kotowski noted that there is a need to compromise on certain issues.

Commissioner Frink stated that he supports keeping the Commission's recommendation: 4-year terms, staggered.

Vote on the motion: PASSES

In favor 5: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Kotowski, White)

Opposed 4: (Granatosky, Frink, Mello, Peruzzotti)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Granatosky moved item 3.b, seconded by Commissioner Frink (3.b) Recommend that the CRC reconsider retaining the RTM.

Commissioner Frink noted that the Town Council did not vote on this item.

Commissioner Granatosky withdrew the motion, Commissioner Frink withdrew the second.

Commissioner Mello moved item 4.a, seconded by Commissioner Kotowski (4.a) Recommend that the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for a Budget Referendum.

Vote on the motion: PASSES**In favor 6: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Kotowski, Mello)****Opposed 2: (Granatosky, Peruzzotti)****Abstained 1: (White)**

Commissioner Kotowski moved item 4.a-2, seconded by Commissioner Frink (4.a.2) Recommend that there be a minimum of 15% eligible voter turnout to validate the budget referendum vote.

Commissioner Frink stated that he is not in favor of a 15 percent voter requirement.

Commissioner Frink amended the motion, seconded by Commissioner Kotowski, to the following: that there be a maximum of two referendums with no minimum voter turnout requirement and no trigger for referendum.

Commissioner Frink referenced the Town of Stonington and noted that sixteen of the last nineteen referendums passed in two referendums. He stated that at the Public Hearing there was a lot of talk about the cost of referendum. He noted that including a minimum voter turnout rewards people who do not vote.

Commissioner Mello stated that he does not support this. He noted that if the proposed Charter revision is not sent to the voters, then the Town Council will face the voters as well.

Commissioner Kotowski stated that she supports an unfettered budget referendum; however, before it gets to the voters it needs to be supported by the Town Council. She noted that she does not think the Council will support it without one or the other. She noted that she agrees with Commissioner Frink's statement about the minimum voter turnout requirement. She stated that that with a trigger, the Town Council would need to explain the increase to the public.

Commissioner White stated that she is opposed to a referendum, but if there is one, then there should be one every year with no trigger.

Chair Pro Tem Aument stated that he is leaning toward minimum voter turnout rather than a trigger. He noted that taxes could be raised to the trigger every year. He stated that he supports the original language of item 4.a-2.

Commissioner Chase stated that if there is minimum voter turnout, and if it is not reached, then she would be upset if she voted in the referendum and it did not count. She stated that the Board of Finance needs to have teeth.

Commissioner Mello agreed with a Board of Finance that has teeth.

Vote on the amended motion: FAILS**In favor 1: (Frink)****Opposed 7: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Granatosky, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)****Abstained 1: (Kotowski)**

Commissioner Granatosky moved the question, seconded by Chair Hauber.

Vote on moving the question: PASSES

In favor 6: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Granatosky, Kotowski, Mello, Peruzzotti)

Opposed 3: (Frink, Mello, White)

Abstained: 0

Vote on the motion: FAILS

In favor 3: (Hauber, Aument, Kotowski)

Opposed 6: (Chase, Frink, Granatosky, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Frink noted that item 4.a.4 was not a recommendation from the Town Council.

Chair Pro Tem Aument noted that the Town Council did not recommend 4.a.4.

Commissioner Granatosky moved item 5.a, seconded by Commissioner Frink, (5.a) recommend the CRC revise the timeline to allow sufficient time to obtain information on the State budget and to logistically have time to react and put a sound budget in place.

Commissioner Frink amended the motion, seconded by Commissioner Kotowski, to accept the budget timeline recommendation in the document entitled "RK Frink Notes—Town Finance Dept. Charter Revision Feedback – October 16, 2017" (Attachment A).

Commissioners Frink and Kotowski noted that this is what the Town staff can live with.

Commissioner Granatosky made a second amendment to the motion, seconded by Commissioner Mello, to use the Town Attorney's "Budget Deadlines in Proposed Revisions to TOG Charter Chapter IX 'Budget and Finance.'" (Attachment B)

In response to Commissioner Chase, Commissioner Frink stated that the Town needs to pay bills on July first; there needs to be revenue to pay the bills. He reviewed the differences between the two timelines.

Commissioner Granatosky noted that representatives from the Finance Department should have attended a Commission meeting to have a discussion about the timeline so that everyone would have had the opportunity to ask questions.

Commissioner Frink questioned if the Town Council is asking to change the fiscal year; he noted that that is not possible. He stated that this is not a realistic request.

Chair Pro Tem Aument noted that the Town Attorney's request is close to the Finance Department's request.

Town Clerk Moukawsher clarified that the Commission should be voting on the recommendation; the amendments to do reflect that.

Commissioner Granatosky withdrew the second amendment, Commissioner Mello withdrew the second.

Commissioner Frink withdrew the amendment, Commissioner Kotowski withdrew the second.

Commissioner Peruzzotti moved the question, seconded by Commissioner Frink:

Vote on moving the question: PASSES

In favor 7: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Kotowski, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)

Opposed 2: (Granatosky, Frink)

Abstained: 0

Vote on the motion (to approve item 5.a as written): FAILS

In favor: 0

Opposed: Unanimous opposition

Abstained: 0

The Commissioners discussed not acting on items that were not recommended by the Town Council.

Commissioner Mello moved item 6.a-2, seconded by Commissioner Frink, (6.a-2) Recommend the CRC retain the 2-year terms for Town Council members.

Commissioner Kotowski stated that minority representation may be the reason the Council is in favor of two-year terms.

Commissioner Mello noted that there is political interest here; the bottom line is what is best for the Town. He stated that a four-year term would allow strategic planning and a flow to the government.

Commissioner Frink stated that teeth in this process is allowing giving the voters the opportunity to elect a new Town Council every two years.

Chair Pro Tem Aument noted that minority representation will apply to the Town Council. He stated that the four years provides some stability.

In response to Commissioner Mello, Commissioner Kotowski stated that a part of the process is listening to the Town Council's input.

Chair Hauber stated that she supports a four year term because the first year is a learning experience.

Vote on the motion: FAILS

In favor 2: (Frink, Granatosky)

Opposed 7: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Kotowski, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)

Abstained: 0

Commissioner Frink moved item 6.b, seconded by Commissioner Mello, (6.b) Recommend that the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for staggered terms for the Town Council members.

Chair Pro Tem Aument noted that this means there are less people to elect every year.

Chair Hauber stated that she is in favor of staggered terms

Vote on the Motion: PASSES**In favor 8: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Kotowski, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)****Opposed 1: (Granatosky)****Abstained: 0**

Commissioner Granatosky moved item 6.c, seconded by Commissioner Mello, (6.c) Recommend that the CRC remove language imposing term limits on Council members.

Commissioner Frink stated that the voters should decide this; he supports term limits.

Commissioner Chase stated that initially she was against this, but after hearing the Council's rationale, she may have changed her position on the issue. She noted that there has been turnover on the Council.

Commissioner Mello stated that he is opposed to term limits because if somebody is doing a good job, then he or she should be allowed to run again.

Chair Hauber stated that she wants term limits.

Vote on the motion: PASSES**In favor 5: (Aument, Granatosky, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)****Opposed 4: (Hauber, Chase, Frink, Kotowski)****Abstained: 0**

Commissioner Frink moved item 7.a, seconded by Commissioner Chase, (7.a) Recommend replacing 'The Town Council shall issue an annual Town report' under Section 5.2 and changing to 'The Town Manager shall issue an annual Town report' and place it under in Section 7.2 Town Manager Powers and Duties.

Commissioner Granatosky clarified that this reverts to the original language of the Charter.

The Commissioners discussed the Town Council interpreted this as compiling and creating the report; it did not understand the intent of the Commission.

Vote on the motion: PASSES**In favor: 7 (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Granatosky, Mello, Peruzzotti, White)****Opposed: 2 (Frink, Kotowski)****Abstained: 0**

Chair Pro Tem Aument clarified that the Town Council voted down item 8.a.

Commissioner Frink moved item 9.a, seconded by Commission Mello, (9.a) Recommend altering language to change the Town Clerk from an elected position to an appointed position, under the Town Manager.

Commissioner White stated that the Town Clerk should be elected.

Chair Pro Tem Aument stated that this has been a political football; it should be an elected position.

Vote on the motion: FAILS

In favor 1: (Peruzzotti)

Opposed 8: (Hauber, Aument, Chase, Frink, Granatosky, Kotowski, Mello, White)

Abstained: 0

The Commissioner discussed the agenda for the next meeting. They decided to invite the Town Attorney to the next meeting to discuss the Attorney's recommendations. The Commissioners discussed addressing the issues raised in Natalie Billing's letter at the next meeting.

IV. ADJOURMENT

Commissioner Frink made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Peruzzotti. Chair Pro Tem Aument adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Attest:

Scott Aument, Secretary

RK Frlnk Notes - Town Finance Dept Charter Revision Feedback - Oct 16, 2017

Budget Guidance Clarification

- The proposed Charter Revision requires that the TC provide quantitative budget guidance to the TM by Jan 15 (Sec 9.4.1). Guidance may be given as a specific mill rate cap, as a percent increase in expenditures from the previous year or other quantitative means deemed appropriate by the TC. This is guidance, is not a directive and the TM may deviate from the guidance with an explanation for that deviation (Sec 9.8.2).

Budget Time Line Recommendations

- Town Council Goals NLT Dec 31 (not in current charter).*
- Town Council quantitative budget guidance to the TM NLT Jan 15 (not in current charter).*
- Submission of Dept budgets to the TM NLT Jan 15 (currently Jan 14).
- Submission of the BOE and Subdivision budgets to the TM NLT Feb 15 (currently Feb 28).
- Submission of the TM budget (Town Ops+, BOE, Subs) to the BOF and TC NLT Feb 28 (currently March 15 to TC).
- Submission of the BOF budget to the TC NLT March 31 (currently March 15 from TM).
- TC proposed budget complete by April 30 (Currently April 28 to the RTM)
- First Budget Referendum 3rd Tuesday in May (New).

Other Recommendations

- TC goals will have to be established in Dec of each year to support budget development.
- Sec 9.2.1, recommend deleting the following words at the end of the paragraph; "and projections for the following fiscal year".
- Consider adding words to sec 9.4.1, Town Council Guidance, to amplify the notion of 'guidance' as outlined above, ie., not a directive, examples of the form guidance might take.
- Sec 9.4.2 states that the TC will provide quantitative guidance to the TM by the 3rd week in Jan. Recommend deleting this Sec as Sec 9.4.1 states the same thing but with the correct date of Jan 15.
- Sec 9.9.1, the Public Hearing should be referenced to a ten day period, not a specific date. The draft Charter Revision currently references 10 days and March 8. Recommend deleting the reference to March 8.
- Recommend deleting the requirement for a public hearing between budget referendums (Sec 9.12.6.5).
- Sec 9.13 Fixing the Tax Rate. Recommend deletion of the reference to 3 business days and going with NLT June 9. This is to ensure that the Town can issue tax bills in time to receive revenue in July which is needed to fund critical July expenses like insurance payments.

*I word searched the current charter for the words 'goal', 'goals' and 'guidance' and got no hits.

9/28/17

**BUDGET DEADLINES IN PROPOSED REVISIONS TO
TOG CHARTER CHAPTER IX "BUDGET AND FINANCE"**

TASK	DEADLINE	AUTHORITY
Fiscal Year	7/1 to 6/30	§ 9.1
Annual Schedule for the Development of the Budget (To Be Prepared by BOF and TM)	10/30	
BOF to Assemble on Current Fiscal Status Data to TOG, etc.	11/20	§ 9.4.6
TC to Provide Annual Budget Guidance to TM and BOE	1/15	§ 9.4.1
TC to Provide Annual Budget Guidance to TM and BOF	No later than 1/15	§ 9.3.1
TC Quantitative Guidance to TM and BOE	Third Week in January	§ 9.4.2
Department, Etc. Estimates to TM	No later than 2/1	§ 9.5.1
BOE and Subdivisions Estimates to TM	2/28	§§ 9.6.1, 9.7.1
TM Budget to BOF and TC	3/1	§ 9.8.1
BOF Public Hearing(s)	At least 10 days after its receipt of budget from BOF, TM, Superintendent of Schools and Subdivisions, but no later than 3/8	§ 9.9.1
BOF Recommendations for Budget to TC	No later than 3/31	§ 9.9.3
TC Public Hearing	No later than 4/15 but no less than 5 days before the hearing, TC shall make copies of its budget estimates available in the office of the Town Clerk and cause a copy of the estimates to be available via internet	§ 9.10.2
TC Budget	No later than 4/30	§ 9.10.3

Notice of Budget Referendum including Budget Summary	No later than 10 days before Referendum Town Clerk shall publish date of Referendum in newspaper and post notice in such public place or places as the Council shall by ordinance prescribe	§§ 9.2.2, 9.12.2
TC Budget Summary to Made Available upon Request in the Office of the Town Clerk and for Download via Internet and Publication in Newspaper	At least 10 days before the Referendum	§ 9.12.3
Annual Budget Referendum	Third Tuesday in May	§ 9.12.1
If either Town or BOE Budget Fails at Referendum, TC shall Recommend a Revised Budget for Each Rejected Budget	Within 7 days after failed Referendum	§ 9.12.6
Second Referendum	14 days after the initial Referendum (at least five days before the second Referendum, and any additional Referenda, TC shall publish "the details of the changes made to the previous budget" by the same methods identified in § 9.12.3	§§ 9.12.6.3 and 9.12.6.4
TC Public Hearing before each follow-up Referendum	Prior to each additional Referendum with five days legal notice	§ 9.12.6.5
Additional Referenda as Required	Two weeks after previous (notice for each Referendum to be posted in daily newspaper at least three days before each such Referendum)	§ 9.12.6.6
Consequence of No Budget Approved by 6/30	6/30 (Previous year's budget to be adopted until new budget approved)	§ 9.12.6.7
TC fixing of Tax Rate	Within 3 business days after new budget adopted	§ 9.13

RECOMMENDATIONS PER COW DISCUSSION ON 10/10/17

1. Town Attorney Review

Item 1.a: Recommend that the CRC review changes and questions per Town Attorney review, dated September 28, 2017, of the draft charter revision report, especially noting that the CRC should reconsider the use of the term "stakeholder"; look at wording for Ethics Commission; and Employees serving on the Town Council and Board of Education.

Item 1.b: Recommend that the CRC determine a specific effective date(s) for implementation of any amendments.

2. Glossary of Terms

Item 2.a: Recommend to retain the definitions for Board of Education, Council, Town Attorney, Town Clerk, and Town Council, along with Representative Town Meeting if that body is retained, in the Glossary of terms.

3. Board of Finance

Item 3.a: Recommend the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for the replacement of a Representative Town Meeting with a Board of Finance

Item 3.a-2: (if item 3.a passes): Recommend that the Board of Finance be set up by districts.

Item 3.a-3: (if item 3.a passes): Recommend that the Board of Finance terms be set as synchronous with one another instead of being staggered terms.

Item 3.b: (if item 3.a does not pass): Recommend that the CRC reconsider retaining the Representative Town Meeting.

Item 3.b-2: (If item 3.b passes): Recommend that the CRC consider reducing the number of Representative Town Meeting members.

4. Budget Referendum

Item 4.a: Recommend that the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for a Budget Referendum.

Item 4.a-2: (If item 4.a passes): Recommend that there be a minimum of 15% eligible voter turnout to validate the budget referendum vote.

Item 4.a-3: (if Item 4.a-2 passes): Recommend that in the event a minimum of 15% of eligible voters is not reached, the proposed budget will be considered approved.

Item 4.a.4: (if item 4.a passes): Recommend that the CRC consider only requiring a budget referendum if the mill rate were proposed to go up by more than 2%. Additionally language will need to be retained under 9.3.2 requiring the Town Council to set a mill rate.

5. Budget Timeline

Item 5.a: Recommend the CRC revise timeline to allow sufficient time to obtain information on the State budget and to logistically have time to react and put a sound budget in place.

6. Council 4 year and staggered terms

Item 6.a: Recommend the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for a 4-year term for Town Council members.

Item 6.a-2: (If 6.a fails): Recommend the CRC retain the 2-year terms for Town Council members.

Item 6.b: Recommend the CRC Final Report contain the provisions for staggered terms for the Town Council members

Item 6.b-2: (if 6.b fails): Recommend the CRC retain the synchronous terms for the Town Council members.

Item 6.c: Recommend the CRC remove language imposing term limits on Council members.

7. Annual Report

Item 7.a: Recommend replacing 'The Council shall issue an annual Town report' under section 5.2 and changing to 'Town Manager shall issue an annual Town report' and place it under Section 7.2. Town Manager Powers and Duties.

8. Voting rights for non-residents

Item 8.a: Recommend considering adding language to allow a combination legislative body consisting of a Town Council and a Town Meeting in order to allow non-resident tax-payers, who own real property assessed at least at \$1,000, the ability to vote on referenda, along with analyzing effects on other language in the charter revision report.

9. Town Clerk

Item 9.a: Recommend altering language to change the Town Clerk from an elected position to an appointed position, under the Town Manager.