

Town of Windham Charter Revision Commission

Windham Town Hall

First floor conference room

Tuesday, June 14th 2016 @ 7:15pm

Attendees: Harry Carboni, Christel Donahue, Josh Eves, Dan Lein, Jeff Smith; Neal Beets, Ernie Eldridge

- 1) Call to order- Ernie Eldridge called the Town of Windham Charter Revision Commission meeting (located in the first floor conference room of the Town hall) to order at 7:32pm.
- 2) Commissioners Introductions- Christel Donahue, Jeff Smith, Harry Carboni, Dan Lein, Josh Eves.
- 3) Call for Nominations:
 - A. Chairman-** Christel Donahue made a motion to elect Harry Carboni as Chair, motion seconded by Jeff Smith: Motion passed- unanimous.
 - B. Vice Chairman-** Dan Lein made a motion to elect Jeff Smith as Vice Chair, motion seconded by Josh Eves: motion passed unanimous.
- 4) Citizens and delegations- Ernie Eldridge – he stated that the council was hoping that when the charter is opened this will be the only issue looked t – he is fearful as when you set the date for the tax collector.

Anita Sebastian (BOF) – if you delay the budget referendum date it would make it easier to decide what to present to the public- there would be less questions.

Neal Beets- He handed out 2 handouts- the first was a summary of the state legislature and the charter revision; reviewed by Dennis O'Brien and the town attorney. The second handout was the timing of the budget annual meeting and timing of the referendum.

- 5) Discussion and possible action to set the public hearing on June 23rd2016in the Windham Town Hall Bellingham Auditorium -Dan Lein questioned if the council had developed a formal direction for this charter commission. (While the formal charge was being looked for discussion continued). 6/15 is the last date QDS (Quality Data Services) can approve the mill rates in order to get the tax bill out for July 1. Dan Lein mentioned the formal details and task this commission has to abide by (2 public hearings, allowing time for the council to review recommendations and still have time to make changes if need be). Jeff Smith recommended that what needs to be done is to work backwards- start at 6/15 and go through all the steps leading up to that point- allow more time for things.

Ernie Eldridge located the minutes which read as follows: Niles moved, Ide seconded, to create a Charter Revision Commission comprised for five members for a limited time frame of approximately one month to be charge with mainly looking at the timing of the Budget Referendum and a draft must be given to the Town Council no later than July 7th 2016. All were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held to held regarding having the tax assessor and Gay attend either the public hearing or the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the approval of the State Budget and how it effects the town budget and mill rate.

Discussion was held regarding setting a date for public hearings you need 5 days in the newspaper.

Josh Eves made a motion to have the Public Hearing on Thursday June 23rd at 7pm in the Windham Town Hall Bellingham Auditorium, seconded by Christel Donahue motion passed unanimously.

It was decided the next meeting would be right after the public hearing but would take place in the First floor conference room.

Neal Beets mentioned maybe all it would take is adding in a comma and the following language: such other date as the Council sets.

Josh Eves made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Christel Donahue; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Niles.