

**Essex Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes
(Draft)**

Town of Essex Charter Review Committee
Draft Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday November 15, 2022

Charter Review Committee: Lauren Layman, Charles Tabone, Alexis Dubief, Bruce Post, Margaret Smith, Dawn Hill-Fleury.

Administration and Staff: Cheryl Brown

At Meeting – Irene Wrenner

Others Present: On Teams – Ken Signorio, Patricia Crocker

1. Call to Order

- a. Ms. Layman called the Essex Charter Review Committee to order at 5:34 PM.

2. Agenda Additions/Changes

- a. None.

3. Approve Minutes

- a. Mr. Post made a motion seconded by Mr. Tabone to approve minutes: November 1, 2022. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Public Comment

- a. There were a few public comments regarding finding the agenda and minutes on the town website. That said, the current agenda and minutes were available on the town website and in the location, they were supposed to be.

5. Member Recommendations to Charter

- a. Preamble - Mr. Post and Ms. Smith suggest some changes to the Preamble that were accepted by the committee.
- b. Sections 101-105 – no changes.
- c. Section 106 – remove word morality.
- d. Section 107 – no changes.
- e. Sections 201-204 no changes.
- f. Section 205 - no changes.
- g. Section 206 – Mr. Post added language in regards to Executive sessions.
- h. Section 207 – add that minutes will be available on town website.
- i. Section 208 - no changes.
- j. Section 209 – (a)(2) added at that time or sooner.
- k. Section 209 – (a)(4) added Commission on Public Safety.
- l. Section 209 – fix rest of numbering.
- m. Sections 301-307 – no changes.
- n. Sections 308 – update citation reference.
- o. Sections 401-402 – no changes.
- p. Section 403 – Remove Fire Warden and Cemetery Commission.
- q. Section 403 – added if Selectboard has no filled the office within 45 days.
- r. Section 403 – update language to reflect his/her.
- s. Section 404 – no changes.

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- t. Section 501 – no changes.
- u. Section 502 – per revisions in draft charter.
- v. Sections 503 – 504 – no changes.
- w. Section 603 – merge last sentence into first sentence.
- x. Sections 604 – 606 – no changes.
- y. Section 701 – no changes.
- z. Section 702 – discussion over whether or not this needs to be in the Charter.
 - i. Ms. Wrenner said this should not be in the Charter.
 - ii. Mr Signoro said the Selectboard already has the authority to implement this.
- aa. Sections 703 – 704 – no changes.
- bb. Section 705 – added Town assessor.
- cc. Sections 801 – 803 – no changes.
- dd. Section 804 – added or July 1st, 2024 whichever is earlier.
- ee. Section 805 – Added Public Service Commission language.
 - i. Mr. Signorio felt there should be some participation in hiring the Fire Chief and the Police Commissioner.
 - ii. Ms. Hill-Fleury felt that Essex Best should participate in the creation.
 - iii. Ms. Hill-Fleury suggested that the purpose of the PSC is a place for the public to come and express their opinions and then it is up to the PSC to consult with the appropriate department.
- ff. Sections 901-905 – no changes.
- gg. Sections 1001, 1101, 1102 – no changes.

6. Next Meeting

- a. The next scheduled meeting of the Essex Charter Review Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 5:30 PM at Town of Essex 1st Floor Conference Room.

7. Adjourn

- a. Mr. Tabone made a motion seconded by Mr. Post to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0.
- b. Meeting Adjourned 8:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Tabone
Minute taker