

Andover Charter Revision Commission
Minutes 2018-08-14

I. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm. Members present: Curtis Dowling, George Elliott, Ryan Fitch, Ken Marcia, Ken Romeo, Dan Warren, and Dennis Williams.

II. Approval of minutes

G. Elliott moved to approve minutes of July 11, R. Fitch second. Approved unanimously.

G. Elliott moved to approve minutes of July 25, R. Fitch second. 6 ayes, D. Warren abstained.

III. Public Speak

A. Comments and suggestions on town governance and charter revision:

1. Current structure restricts flexibility in town office. Eliminate charter listing of town office positions.
2. Inherent conflict between BOF and BOS. Eliminate BOF and increase BOS to 7 members.
2. Budget hearing does not allow upward revision of budget lines, therefore not fully responsive to public concerns. Provide for earlier public input in budget process.
3. Reset date for budget referendum in light of chronic delays in state budget
4. Simplify charter language, especially considering revisions proposed in 2011 review.

IV. Discussion of comments from public hearing.

G. Elliott reviewed notes (attached) from Public Hearing held July 19.

V. Determine which proposed revisions should be adopted.

1. C. Dowling moved, D. Warren seconded, to address the structure of the BOS and BOF. Approved unanimously
2. G. Elliott moved, R. Fitch seconded, to address timing of budget referendums. Approved unanimously
3. G. Elliott moved, K. Marcia seconded, to address timing of municipal elections. Approved unanimously
4. G. Elliott moved, K. Romeo seconded, to review terms of office for Boards and Commissions. Approved unanimously
5. G. Elliott moved, R. Fitch seconded, to provide for an Ethics Commission in the Charter and for adoption of a Code of Ethics. Approved unanimously

6. D. Warren moved, C. Dowling seconded, to address Purchasing procedures. Approved unanimously

7. D. Williams moved, K. Marcia seconded, to address language and review previously suggested revisions. Approved unanimously

8. D. Warren moved, G. Elliott seconded, to address Chapter VIII Finance and Taxation, particularly but not limited to sections 802, 803 and 805. Approved unanimously

9. G. Elliot moved, R. Fitch seconded, to address provisions for the Town Annual Report, section 402E. Approved unanimously

VI. Review charter for relevant sections.

Deferred to later date

VII. Determine workflow for itemized changes

Deferred to later date

VIII. K. Marcia moved to adjourn, D. Williams seconded. Approved unanimously