

CHARTER COMMITTEE
October 25, 2018 – Memorial Hall
Meeting Room 2 – 6pm

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TOWN OF TOWNSEND
TOWN CLERK

Members Present: John Page; Jane Jackson; Nancy Rapoza; Sue Lisio; Carolyn Smart
Call in: Kym Craven (6pm – 6:25pm)
Absent: Kelly Kelly; Rob Templeton

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Chairman's additions or deletions - none
4. Committee progress – new members have received past meeting packets.
5. Meeting Business

5.1 Approval of minutes – October 18, 2018

The minutes from October 18, 2018 were reviewed. Motion made (SL), seconded (JJ) to approve the minutes - minutes approved

5.2 Review of changes to Articles 1-6

Article 4 Section 4-1

Discussion regarding limiting the Town Administrator's contract to 3 years as is done in other charters. SL made a motion that the Town Administrator's contract will not be for more than three years. Motion seconded by CS, approved unanimously.
Add this to the list for Town Counsel and also ask about limiting any personnel contracts to 3 years, not just the Town Administrator. Will also need to determine where the 3 year personnel contract limit would reside.

Article 3 Section 3-4

Suggestion to change the Town Clerk from an elected position to an appointed position. This is happening in other towns. Also look at other positions that should be changed from elected to appointed, if any. Add to list for Town Counsel.

Article 3 Section 3-9

On the list for Town Counsel. Need clarification to avoid different interpretations.

5-3 Review of Articles 7-8

Article 7 Section 7-5 Definitions

Suggestion to move the definitions to the beginning of the document.
Add to definitions: "Cause"

Most of Article 7 and all of Article 8 were recommended to be deleted by the prior Charter Committee. Reason for deleting was the information contained in these articles resided in other documents (personnel policies, MGL, etc). Decision was made to add Articles 7 and * to the list for Town Counsel to discuss.

During discussions, the question came up if amendments to the charter could be made on the floor of Town Meeting. Will add this to the list for Town Counsel.