

**TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE
CHARTER COMMISSION
OCTOBER 21, 2013 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS DRAFT MINUTES**

Commissioners present:

Chair Clay Mitchell, Vice Chair Phil Nazzaro, Secretary Chris Hawkins, Bruce Hawkins, Sr., Toni Weinstein, Al Zink, John Badger, Leo Filion, Kevin Cyr

Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. He said the agenda would cover the October 7th minutes, feedback from Attorney Ratigan on the informal filing of the Preliminary Report and Charter draft, formal filing with the appropriate state agency, public relations, schedule for next meeting and RSA52 proposed amendment.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2013: Commissioner Nazzaro moved to approve the minutes of October 7, 2013, and Commissioner Chris Hawkins seconded. Commissioner Hawkins will share the 5 – 6 responses to the questionnaire at the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously, 9 – 0.

FEEDBACK: PRELIMINARY REPORT AND CHARTER DRAFT/FORMAL FILING: Town Attorney John Ratigan had not heard back from the Attorney General's office. The Commission discussed whether or not this presented concerns. If the state does not respond to a formal filing by the deadline, the Preliminary Report and revised Charter are considered approved. It was decided to ask Attorney Ratigan to formally submit the Preliminary Report and revised Charter to the State.

Commissioner Chris Hawkins moved to authorize Attorney Ratigan to formally submit the Preliminary Report and revised Charter to the appropriate state agency. Motion passed unanimously, 9 – 0.

RSA 52 PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Chair Mitchell had been corresponding with State Rep Adam Schroadter about a possible amendment to RSA 52 to specifically include Charter Towns, and reported that he was happy to hear the Commission's concerns and would also be happy to propose an amendment. They would reach out to others in the legislature. Rep. Schroadter was unable to attend Commission meetings, but had been reading the minutes.

MARKETING AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION/MEETING SCHEDULE: Previously, the Commission had decided that January 8, 2014 would be the kick off date for public presentations to town groups. Attorney Ratigan would be asked to prepare the grouping of Warrant Articles by November 4th, so the Commission could follow a similar format for the presentations. The next meeting would be November 18th, when the Commission would prepare the presentations. Unless the Attorney General recommended further changes to the Charter, the Commission would meet monthly until January. Commissioner Weinstein suggested they look at the background information the School Board had provided on its previous year's Warrant Articles. It was hoped that Attorney Ratigan would be able to formally submit the documents to the State the next day.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Chris Hawkins moved to adjourn and Commissioner Nazzaro seconded. Motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Adlington, Recording Secretary