

Robert J. Park

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

2021 SEP 29 AM 9:09

WORKSHOP

TOWN CLERK
~~ECORRECTED~~ 09-29-21

AUGUST 24, 2021

PRESENT Deb Arrieta, Richard Bates, Don Bell, Shelby Brown, Tom Rup, Marcia Leclerc
and Eric Thompson

ABSENT Angel Santiago, Travis Simpson

ALSO Richard F. Kehoe, Town Council Chair
PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order at 6:00p.m. by Don Bell.

The Commission continues to gather information regarding the subjects that they agreed to study at the previous meeting. Regarding the issue of the form of government, the Commission discussed inviting professionals like former strong mayors, chief operating officers, and town managers to talk about their experiences and perspectives, as well as researchers. Of particular interest was the reason why Hartford shifted from a city manager to a strong mayor form of government. The Commission also will review the reasons why the town's initial charter in 1967 included a strong mayor/council form of government from the previous council-boards/commissions form of government.

Chair Bell suggested the following timeframes, noting that some timeframes could be extended or compressed depending on how quickly the Commission came to a conclusion on each issue:

1. End of September: Items A, B, and C should be decided. So any information that the Commission members would like to receive should be sought by the first meeting in September.
2. End of October: Resolve the drafting of any suggested language changes for A, B, and C with Corporation Counsel.
3. Early November: Discuss and resolve the Personnel Appeals Board issues
4. End of November: Resolve 4 year mayor term, staggered council terms and budget by referendum

Commissioner Brown suggested focusing each timeframe into research, debate, and decision-making phases. The chair agreed and noted that after seeking to foster open and more generalized discussion in the initial meetings, the format and purpose of all future meetings will be more focused. **Commissioner Bates asked what are the specific problems that would require a professional person to be placed within Town Hall.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Eric Thompson
seconded by Deb Arrieta
to **adjourn** (7:03 p.m.).
Motion carried 7/0.