

RESOLUTION OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION, PURSUANT TO C.G.S. §7-191(b)

WHEREAS, the Charter Revision Commission (hereinafter, “Commission”) submitted its draft report to the Town Clerk on June 20, 2022 (“Draft Report”); and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectpersons has engaged in public meetings with members of the Commission and has conducted a Public Hearing on the Draft Report in accordance with C.G.S. §7-191(b) and considered and reviewed said Draft Report; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectpersons generally accepts the substantial content of the Draft Report favorably; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.G.S. §7-191(c) the Board of Selectpersons, as the appointing authority of the Charter revisions is authorized to make recommendations to Commission for modifications of the Draft Report; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectpersons does have a number of issues in the Draft Report that should be added, modified or deleted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD: That the Charter Revision Commission consider the following recommendations and alterations to its Draft Report:

- 1. Article I, §1.4: Review Definitions:** Including, but not limited to the definitions of “Board and Commission”, “Contract”, “Ordinance” and “Regulation” adding a definition for “Vacancy” and “Appointing Authority” (Article VI, §6.4.A) as well as a general review of the definitions necessary to ensure clarity and consistency.
- 2. Article I, §1.4(8): Elected Town Official.** Please consider including the RTM within the definition as an Elected Town Official and making modifications to the Charter accordingly.
- 3. Article I, §1.5.** Please review “Standards of Conduct” in order to determine whether these provisions should be Ordinances rather than Charter provisions.
- 4. Article I and Generally.** Please review (a) §1.6 “Rules of Order and Civility (general review of provision based on public testimony and comment); (b) §1.7 Open Meetings and Public Records (for redundancy); and (c) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (whether a standard of Town-wide application can be developed). In furtherance of the discussion on “open meetings” please consider removing the “open meeting” requirement from **Article III, §3.4.B**. In the alternative establish a public meeting standard that establishes a context under FOIA, including the necessity, from time to time of executive sessions.

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5. **Article I, §1.6.C(1).** Counsel recommends review order to consider authorizing the RTM to adopt rules which supersede Robert's Rules; in effect utilizing Robert's as a default in the event there is no rule or a rule requiring parliamentary interpretation.
6. **Article II, VII and VIII.** Please consider reformatting current charts for readability and consistency.
7. **Article II, §2.3.A(1) and (2), §2.3.C(1)(a) and (b) and throughout the Charter.** Please review the necessity of separating the First Selectperson from the Board of Selectpersons.
8. **Article II, §2.3.B and C.1(c) and Article III, §3.2.A(1)(c).** Please review the issue pertaining to the number of RTM members.
9. **Article II, §2.6.D.** Please review the issue of filling a vacancy on the Board of Selectpersons.
10. **Article III, §3.3.G.** Please review the issue of defining the role of the Parliamentarian.
11. **Article III, §3.6.B.** Please review the issue of the time-frame for holding of referenda.
12. **Article IV, §4.2.B(1)(a).** Please (a) review the provision pertaining to the approval of Board of Education by the Board of Selectpersons; and (b) consider lowering the threshold from \$100,000 to \$50,000.
13. **Article IV, §4.3.B(5) and (8).** Please review (a) the capital plan issue in sub-par (5) and compare to sub-par (6) for redundancy and coordinate with the budget function in Article IX; and, (b) the staffing issues in sub-par (8).
14. **Article IV, §4.3.C(3).** Please review the "Mediation and Resolution clause in order to achieve clarity of purpose.
15. **Article IV, §4.3.F: Town Administrator.** Please consider: (a) Delineation of duties; (b) Appointment or approval by the Board of Selectpersons; (c) change of title to Chief Administrative Officer. (d) codify reporting obligation to the Board of Selectpersons; or, (d) other ways and means to clarify the role in government.
16. **Article V, §5.2.F and Article VII, §7.17.** Please review the elimination of the Constables as elected Officials.
17. **Article V, §5.5.** Please review whether there is a continued role for the Board of Finance on the issue the assessment system?

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18. **Article V, 5.7.B(1).** Is there a difference between a Master Plan and POCD?
19. **Article VI, §6.1.A.** Please review whether the Elector requirement should attach to the position of Town Attorney.
20. **Article VI, §6.10.** Please review whether the Board of Selectperson, by majority vote, may also introduce Ordinances creating Boards and Commissions and clarify the authority of the Board of Selectpersons introduce Ordinances of this nature.
21. **Article VII, §7.5.** Please review the status of the Town Treasurer.
22. **Article VIII, §8.16.** Please continue to review additional requests from the Board of Library Trustees and CFO.
23. **Article IX, §9.1.A.** Please consider moving the cooperation provision to Article I.
24. **Article IX.** Please review the budget timeline.
25. **Article IX, §9.3.B.** Please re-evaluate the role of the FS as convener of the Joint Meetings.
26. **New. (a)** Please consider creating an on-going body to consider government reform measures; (b) Adding a DEI Officer; (c) Addressing Open Space and DEI; (d) DEI Commission.
27. **Generally.** Please continue to review and approve (a) all errata, scrivener's corrections [including, but not limited to Article III, §3.2.A(1)(d) and (e)] and restored language for final approval by the Board of Selectpersons; and, (b) the effective date provisions (Article X, §10.5) in order to facilitate the implementation of any revisions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectpersons authorizes the Town Attorney and Counsel to the CRC and Board of Selectpersons to continually review the document for errata and other non-substantive editorial revisions, subject to the approval of the Commission and final review and approval by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectpersons ratifies the filing of the Draft Report to the Town Clerk on June 20, 2022, as consistent with the intent of the Board of Selectpersons as specifically addressed in its proceedings on August 30, 2021, clearly articulated to and understood by the Charter Revision Commission and the public during the first phase of the charter revision process; and, by the resolution in compliance with the statutory obligations set forth under C.G.S. §7-190(b).

For Consideration at a Special Meeting of the Board of Selectpersons, July __, 2022.