

Town Charter Commission Meeting Freedom, Maine  
Minutes of August 2, 2022

Present: Tyler Hadyniak, Phil Bloomstein, Eleanor MacMakin, Mary Ann Bennett, Rene Ouellet, Meredith Coffin, Joseph Freeman.

Absent: William Pickford, Tim Biggs

Agenda 1. Meeting called to order by Tyler at 6:05 pm. Quorum achieved.

Agenda 2. Review of meeting's minutes of July 5, 2022 and July 19, 2022.

*Minutes of July 5, 2022 reviewed:*

Under "Agenda 5. How to outline our charter". It was moved to amend the first sentence to read "Eli thinks that the Waterville charter has an appropriate table of contents which is better than St. George's." This amendment carried.

Under "Agenda 6", 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph. It was moved to amend last sentence which is in parenthesis by removing it. This amendment carried.

It then was moved to accept the final minutes as amended. **Motion carried** with Eli and Phil abstaining.

*Minutes of July 19, 2022 reviewed:*

Tyler moved to accept minutes as written. Mary Ann seconded. **Motion carried.** 4 abstentions.

Going forward the committee will continue during the meeting to review the draft minutes, suggest amendments, and vote on what they approve.

Agenda 3. Phil was able to set up a projector to enable all to easily follow the section review. Wording is discussed as a group and agreed upon. Changes are made and kept in red.

Highlighted words in yellow flag need for discussion with the Select Board. Any removal of language has a strike through. As Tyler led the discussion, Rene highlighted colors and Phil made the word changes. This team effort was successful and was continued to be used as we went forward.

Tyler resumed his section of the Select Board at Part II Article 201:

Section 201.3.6 and Section 201.3.8. read through

Section 201.4 Limitations. We all agreed to strike the whole section as it had to do with a manager, of which Freedom has not.

Section 201.5.1 Vacancies. Defining "failure to qualify for office" was felt to be new territory. Are there State Statutes that define "qualify"? Perhaps this is where we can refer back to "eligibility", in Section 201.1.2. Under Vacancies it was felt that "f." covers "d." and "e."

Section 201.5.2 Recall. Freedom has a recall ordinance that we can refer to. It needs revision but we are working on what is current. Keep "a." and strike "b." through "g."

Section 201.5.3 Clarification needed: What happens when there is one vacancy on our Select Board?

Section 201.6 Procedures. This appears appropriate. Need to ask the Select Board if they can break a tie.

Section 201.7 Compensation. Need to find the discrepancy of pay between the Select Board members.

We have now completed the first read through of Article 201. We feel discussing the items in yellow in small sections with the Select Board would be appropriate, but this needs to begin to happen AFTER we have completed a first read of the whole document. It was noted that as we read , the overlaps will likely be more obvious and we can tighten up the document.

Rene offered the following review of what we are doing:

- Committee to continue with the group read.
- Each works up their own section ready for group read.
- Group read results in group edit.
- We will note what we have done by using highlighting and strike through.
- Following the whole document first read, a separate copy will be made without the red or strike through, but keeping the yellow.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM. Rene moved and Eli seconded to adjourn. ***Motion Carried***  
Respectfully submitted, Meredith Coffin

*Next meetings : Tuesday August 16, 2022*  
*Tuesday September 6, 2022*  
*Tuesday September 20,2022*