

PAWTUCKET CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MEETING

March 17, 2010

A meeting of the Pawtucket Charter Review Commission is held Wednesday, March 17, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., in the Dome Room, Pawtucket Public Library, 13, Summer Street, Pawtucket, RI.

Present – Chairperson Tavares, Commissioners Babiec, Brissette, Hovarth, McKittrick, Plitt, Spinola, and Tirrell.

Absent – Commissioners Butler, McGill and Sawyer.

Chairperson Tavares presides.

The meeting is called to order at 6:05 p.m., allowing time for late arrivals due to change in location.

There is no public input offered at this meeting.

The reading of the minutes of the Charter Review Commission Meeting of March 3, 2010 is dispensed with and the minutes are APPROVED as submitted by the Secretary by unanimous vote of all members present at the time of vote.

The Commission Takes up the following:

Discussion on some proposed areas of charter revision.

Preliminary votes – whether the commission should prepare proposed revised charter language addressing specific issues for final vote on each issue.

The subsequent votes which will take place at a later meeting, will determine whether or not to present each issue to the City Council as a recommended change.

Issues Presented: Vote:

**Should each gender-specific reference in the City Charter Yes: 1
No: 6**

be amended to reflect gender-neutral language?

**(The current charter contains a blanket reference to gender
Neutrality.)**

**Should the City Charter allow for 4 year terms for elected
officials?**

Mayor Yes: 5 No: 3

Council Yes: 2 No: 6

School Committee Yes: 0 No: 8

Should the City Charter have term limits for the Mayor? Yes: 6 No: 2

Should the School Committee be appointed by the Mayor with City Council approval? Yes: 8 No: 0

Should members of City Council be prohibited from serving on board & commissions? Yes: 8 No: 0

Should the provision in the City Charter that permits, under Certain circumstances, a special election to fill an elective office that becomes vacant less than 180 days from an upcoming City election be repealed? Yes: 0 No: 8

Should the City Charter contain the requirement that appointed members of City boards and commissions be :

City Residents? Yes: 8 No: 0

City Residents and Qualified Electors? Yes: 6 No: 2

Should the City Council have the authority to approve all labor contracts negotiated by the superintendent of schools and/or the School Committee? Yes: 8 No: 0

Should the City Council have the authority to appoint the Associate Judge of the Municipal Court? Yes: 7 No: 1

Should Judges of the Probate Court and Municipal Court be required to be qualified electors of the City? Yes: 8 No: 0

Should there be limits on the number of terms or years that a person can serve on a City board or commission? Yes: 8 No: 0

Should the provisions in the City Charter regulating campaign contributions and reporting be deleted, since State Law already addresses these issues? Yes: 8 No: 0

Should the City Charter contain language authorizing the Mayor and/or City Council to enter regionalization agreements with Other Rhode Island communities? Yes: 7 No: 0

Abstention: 1

Should the City Charter require the timely posting of financial reports and ordinances on City website? Yes: 8 No: 0

The meeting is adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Margaret-Mary Belliveau Hovarth, Secretary