



**CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2024
6:30 PM TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

A public hearing of the Charter Revision Commission was called for 6:30pm on Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners	Present
Nikki Ann Price	Yes
Philip R. Dumond	Yes
Annemarie Nasuta	Yes
Thomas Cremona	Yes
Seth David Klase	Yes
Zachary P. Zannoni	Yes
Lewis S. Fiore	Yes
Lora Rae Anderson	Yes
Ken Nelson Jr.	No
Robert Cressotti	Yes
Michael Ludwick	Yes

GROUND RULES

READ BY CHAIR:

“The following Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Hartford Courant on Thursday, December 12, 2024

**TOWN OF ENFIELD
LEGAL NOTICE
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

The Enfield Charter Revision Commission will hold a Public Hearing in the Enfield Town Hall Council Chambers, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield Connecticut on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 6:30pm to solicit public input on suggestions for revisions to the Enfield Town Charter.

This meeting will be streamed live to YouTube at: <https://youtube.com/live/QxFkZk81Zns>
A copy of the Enfield Town Charter is available in the Town Clerk's office for public inspection or at www.enfield-ct.gov.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing in person, Enfield electors or taxpayers may submit written testimony stating their name and address to PHCharterRevisionComments@enfield.org by 12:00 midnight on Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

Dated this 10th day of December 2024
Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk”

Announcement of Ground Rules for Public Hearing:

- Each person must state their name and address
- Each person will be allowed to speak for up to five minutes.
- After each person who desires has had one chance to speak, I shall permit those individuals who desire a second chance to speak for up to five additional minutes.
- After each person who desires has had a second chance to speak, I shall permit those individuals who desire a third chance to speak for a final time of up to five minutes.
- Please refrain from personalities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

George Young, 8 Holly Lane

Mr. Young recommended that we update language in Chapter IV regarding the Town Manager residency requirement as that has been resolved repeatedly. In addition he suggested “shall” be replaced with “will” to ensure the section is enforceable. Mr. Young also referenced Chapter VI and encouraged us to: clarify referendum language regarding what triggers a referendum, to better define what the grand list means, and encouraged the commission to consider using a mill rate % OR dollar cap (whichever amount is lower). Mr. Young reminded the Commission that emergency appropriations are covered elsewhere, and that this provision is “per-project”.*

Commissioner Cressotti, Vice Chairman, offered the opportunity for other attendees to share ideas, and they declined.

**Mr. Young shared a document with his thoughts with the Commission, but noted he intended to include an additional “0” at the point marked and initialed on the attached.*

MEMBER REMINDERS

Commissioner Fiore reminded members not available for the Commission’s initial meeting that we have upcoming meetings on January 9th, 23rd and 30th in the Scitico Room downstairs.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cressotti, Vice Chairman, declared the meeting closed at 6:40pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Lora Rae Anderson

Secretary, Enfield Charter Revision Commission

CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE MEETING 12.18.2024

George Young, 8 Holly Lane Enfield gyircpa@aol.com

Good evening:

I have a couple suggestions to revisions of certain portions of the present Town Charter.

- A. Chapter IV. THE TOWN MANAGER Under Section 1(a) Remove the second and third sentences because the manager needs not be a resident of Enfield either before or after his appointment and replace it with only "The manager *will* devote full time to the duties of the office". Everything else in those two sentences is meaningless because the word "shall" is not enforceable as mentioned in the Council many times.

- B. Chapter VI. REFERENDUM ON CAPITAL EXPENDITURES under Section 9 The second sentence which indicates that "any appropriation that exceeds 0.002 (2/100's of one percent) of the **current grand list** shall not be effective until it shall be submitted to and approved by a referendum"

That means that the taxpayers are giving the Council members a blank check up to a little over \$800,000 now without a referendum. I doubt that was the intention more than 10 years ago when this method was written and the grand list was substantially lower. There needs to be some clarification of what that current grand list means. When the mill is calculated or the comparison to decide on an increase in the Veteran's exemption the **NET taxable value** is used. That change would probably reduce the Council's freedom to spend by about \$100,00 without a referendum. I would go further and change the wording to "any appropriation that exceeds 0.0002 (2/100's of one percent) of the **net taxable value of the current grand list** shall not be effective until it shall be submitted to and approved by a referendum. If the commission so desires, it could also put a dollar cap on that expenditure such as \$600,000 whichever amount is lower. Remember that emergency appropriations are covered elsewhere. Many may already know that our present net tax value for use to calculate the mill rate for the 2024-2025 budget was \$3 billion 7 hundred and 7 thousand if you would like to do some math.