



**CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2025
6:30 PM TOWN HALL, SCITICO ROOM**

ROLL CALL

<i>Commissioners</i>	<i>Present</i>
Nikki Ann Price	Yes
Philip R. Dumond	Yes
Annemarie Nasuta	Yes
Thomas Cremona	Yes
Rob Anderson	Yes
Zachary P. Zannoni	Yes
Lewis S. Fiore	No
Lora Rae Anderson	Yes (6:38)*
Ken Nelson Jr.	Yes
Robert Cressotti	Yes
Michael Ludwick	Yes

*Commissioner L. Anderson notified of late arrival

APPROVAL of MINUTES

February 13, 2025 Regular Meeting

Motion Commissioner Cressotti, seconded Commissioner Nasuta to accept the minutes amending the word “life” on page 3 Section 10 – Public Safety.

Unanimous Consent as amended.

TOWN ATTORNEY CORRESPONDENCE

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding Upcoming Charter Revision Statutory Deadlines

Timelines

- Town Clerk Bailey: Shares numbers and timelines associated with budget
- Vice Chairman Cressotti: Confirms that we’d be moving up roughly a month. If the council budget is not over a 7% change things would move on as usual.
- Chairman Nelson: Confirms the key date of when the council adopts the budget. Suggests that we may wish to call people in after we go through the entire charter rather than mid-stream to save time.

Consensus to wait until the end to pull in outside parties

- Chairman Nelson: Confirms Town Clerk Bailey will pull together a list of who needs to speak on what topics.

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Charter Revisions

Chapter 6: Finance and Taxation

4 – Duties of Council on the Budget (Continued from 02/13/2025 Meeting)

Consensus to leave as is and remove from consideration

8 – Expenditures and Accounting: Requirement on independent appraisal by a certified appraiser, prohibit purchases outside of a 10% variance.

- Commissioner Zannoni: Can we appraise but not require 10%?
- Chairman Nelson: Most purchases need to run through an appraisal, in some cases parties waive that. An appraiser may not know what we fully intend to do with a building or a property.

Consensus to leave as is and remove from consideration

9 – Referendum on Capital Expenditure: Discussion of changing 2% threshold

- Chairman Nelson: The budget changes with inflation so that is already built in. Does not think we need to change this or make the threshold higher.
- Commissioner Cremona: Have we had any trouble with this?
- Chairman Nelson: Clarified emergency appropriations are exempt.
- Commissioner Zannoni: It's a little too high for my comfort which is why I considered the bifurcation? I would like to tighten to 1/100 for discretionary projects, but to increase for critical work to 3/100.
- Chairman Nelson: That would exempt even some CIP equipment.
- Commissioner L. Anderson: Disagree with bifurcate. Process for emergencies already exists.
- Commissioner R. Anderson: Clarified definition of project. If I make four pickleball courts, is it four projects or is it one project?
- Chairman Nelson: Confirmed yes, but we wouldn't call projects on the same property more than one.
- Commissioner Ludwick: I agree with Zach and wouldn't mind lowering it, but I do not want a 3. 1 ½ - I wouldn't go to 1. Clarifies budgetary process we go through with bonding, expenditures, etc.

Consensus to keep at 2%

- Commissioner Zannoni is No

9 – Referendum on Capital Expenditure: If you own property in town over and pay taxes over a certain amount you can currently vote on the budget. This is a significant change that would only allow electors of the town to vote.

- Town Clerk Bailey: The motivation would be to ensure that voters are invested in the entirety of the town. For example, a business owner may only care about their taxes, but not education investment.

Consensus

- Commissioner L. Anderson abstain

10 – Borrowing

Consensus to remove as previously discussed

11 – Contributions: Asked if budgeting is considered a “contribution” in the “no such contribution of more than (\$5,000.00) dollars shall be made.”

Consensus to table until Town Attorney can weigh in

Chapter 7: The Merit System

Consensus to keep as previously discussed

Chapter 8: Transition and Miscellaneous Provisions

1 – Miscellaneous Provisions: Flag provision

- Town Clerk Bailey: Distribute copies of flag policy.
- Commissioner R. Anderson: Should we change flown to displayed?
- Chairman Nelson: Good point.
- Commissioner Cremona: With respect to schools – the principle would have authority to decide what is flown indoors. Clarify outside and inside, and some other wording is needed.
- Chairman Nelson: Selective enforcement is challenging. We created this to avoid the Boston lawsuit situation.
- Commissioner Zannoni: BOE has a legal opinion that when students are in the school, they own the building.
- Commissioner R. Anderson: Reminds the commission that separation of church and state protects the church – not the State.
- Commissioner Zannoni: I don't think our previous policy opened us up to legal action. Council can pick special guests, but if they only let people of certain political persuasions speak, they would get sued – that's what happened with the application process in Boston.
- Chairman Nelson: Confirms that this motion would just put this in front of the voters.
- Commissioner Zannoni: Does not want to put voters in the position to vote on this along with everything else in the Charter.
- Commissioner R. Anderson: Expressed that some well-intending displays of flags could be unintentionally hurtful.
- Chairman Nelson: Clarifies if you lease town green you can use whatever flag you want as it's your “property” for the day.
- Commissioner Cremona: What about as part of curriculum?
- Chairman Nelson: Right. We can add “unless it's a part of the curriculum”
- Vice Chairman Cressotti: Don't think town charter. We have ordinance that was passed. It's too confusing. If what we have is working – then why would we put it into the charter?
- Zannoni: Nothing ordinances so narrow in the charter - flag policy/profanity etc. should not be codified into the charter.
- R. Anderson: Expresses this is to protect the town from lawsuits and should be there.
- Cremona: Time for a vote?
- Dumond: Yes, putting “.” after flagpoles.

Role call vote re: whether or not to include the flag policy in the charter:

<i>Commissioners</i>	<i>Vote</i>
Nikki Ann Price	No
Philip R. Dumond	Yes
Annemarie Nasuta	Yes
Thomas Cremona	No
Rob Anderson	Yes
Zachary P. Zannoni	No
Lewis S. Fiore	AB
Lora Rae Anderson	No
Ken Nelson Jr.	Yes
Robert Cressotti	No
Michael Ludwick	Yes

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: 8:04pm: Vice Chairman Cressotti
Commissioner Nasuta Second

Unanimous to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Lora R. Anderson
Secretary
Charter Revision Commission

Proposed 2025/26 Budget Calendar

Date	Event
March 3, 2025 <u>February 6, 2025</u> Chap. VI Sec.2 NLT 120 <u>145</u> Days Prior to FYE	Board of Education Budget Filed with Town Manager
March 3, 2025 <u>February 6, 2025</u> Chap. VI Sec.2 NLT 120 <u>145</u> Days Prior to FYE	Departmental Budgets Submitted to Town Manager's Office
	Review of Departmental Budgets by Town Manager and Conferences with Department Directors and Staff
	Preparation of Town Manager Budget Proposal
April 17, 2025 <u>March 13, 2025</u> Chap. VI Sec.3 NLT 75 <u>110</u> Days Prior to FYE	Submission of Town Manager's Proposed Budget to Town Council.
	Town Council Conducts Budget Review Sessions as Required
Dependent on public hearing date CGS Not greater than 15 nor less than 5 days	Advertise Public Hearing and Summary of Proposed Budget
TBD	P&Z CIP Presentation
May 1, 2025 <u>March 23, 2025</u> Chap. VI Sec.4 NLT 60 <u>100</u> Days Prior to FYE	Public Hearing on Budget
May 18, 2025 <u>April 12, 2025</u> Chap. VI Sec.4 NLT 20 Days After Hearing	Council Adopts Budget by Resolution (Fixes Mill Rate for Fiscal Year <u>if No Referendum Pending</u>)
<u>30 Days' Notice for Referendum Not in Conjunction with an Election</u>	<u>Advertise Referendum</u>
<u>May 20, 2025</u>	<u>Referendum to be Held the Third Tuesday of May – If 7% or > Increase in Expenditures</u>
<u>May 27, 2025 Not Later than 7 Days After Referendum</u>	<u>Council Sets Mill Rate After Referendum</u>
Tuesday, July 1, 2025	Budget for FY 2026 Becomes Effective

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY FOR
THE DISPLAY AND FLYING OF FLAGS ON
TOWN PROPERTY**

CERTIFICATION:

I, Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk of the Town of Enfield, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Enfield Town Council at its duly called and held meeting on January 8, 2024, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

WHEREAS, The Town of Enfield has not adopted a formal policy for the display and flying of flags on Town owned real property and Town owned personal property; and

WHEREAS, In past years, the American flag, the State of Connecticut flag, and the MIA/POW flag were consistently displayed and flown on Town property; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council wishes to speak only for itself, not for any other person or organization, in creating its own governmental flag policy; and

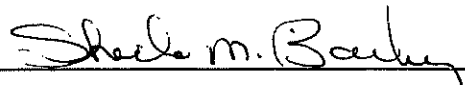
WHEREAS, The Town Council wishes to project solely its own views as opposed to entertaining future applications from organizations or members of the public to fly or otherwise display any flag or emblem not specifically cited and/or authorized by resolution, thereby rejecting the creation of any type of a public forum through this resolution; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council desires to formally adopt a policy regarding the displaying and flying of flags on all Town property

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council formally adopts a policy in which only the American flag, the State of Connecticut flag, the MIA/POW flag, and the flags of the various military services of the United States may be displayed or flown on town-owned buildings and flagpoles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any previous resolutions and policies to the contrary are hereby repealed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this certificate this 9th day of January, 2024.



Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk