

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers, Puchalski Municipal Building
212 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

1. Approval Of Minutes For June 4, 2019 Meeting
2. Public Comment
3. Updates From Committee Members
4. Discussion With Bill Scher, Member Of Former Charter Review Committee
5. Discussion Of Appointed Vs. Elected City Clerk
6. Discussion Of Possible Amendment To Section 3-7 Temporary Absence Of The Mayor

Documents:

[ATTACHMENT1 6-18 \(AMEND SECTION 3-7 TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF THE MAYOR\).PDF](#)

7. Discussion Of Proposal To Extend Conflict Of Interest To Immediate Family Members in Article 2 (Legislative Branch) Section 2-3 (Prohibitions); Article 3 (Executive Branch) Section 3-1 (Mayor: Qualifications; Term of Office; Compensation; Prohibitions); and Article 4 (School Committee) Section 4-3 (Prohibitions)

Documents:

[ATTACHMENT2 6-18 \(EXTENDING CONFLICT OF INTEREST TO IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS\) \(1\).PDF](#)

8. Discuss And Vote On Possible Removal Of Designation "Candidate For Re-Election" From The Names Of Incumbents On Municipal Ballots
9. Plan Outreach To Under-Represented Communities
10. Adjourn

CURRENT LANGUAGE – Section 3-7(a) Temporary Absence of the Mayor

- (a) Acting Mayor - Whenever, by reason of sickness, absence from the city or other cause, the mayor is unable to perform the duties of the office, the president of the city council shall be the acting mayor. The city council, by the affirmative vote of 7 members, shall determine whether the mayor is unable to perform the duties of the office. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the vote shall be taken in public session by a roll call vote.

PROPOSED AMENDED LANGUAGE - Section 3-7(a) Temporary Absence of the Mayor

- (a) Acting Mayor. The mayor shall, by a letter filed with the city council and a copy filed with the city clerk, delegate authority pursuant to Section 3-8 to a qualified city officer or employee to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the office during the temporary absence of the Mayor for periods of 10 business days or less and to serve only when the needs of the city require and only to the extent necessary under the then circumstances. If the temporary absence of the mayor exceeds 10 business days, the president of the city council shall be the acting mayor. If at any time the city council determines that the mayor is incapacitated and unable to perform the duties of the office, it may appoint its president to serve as acting mayor by the affirmative vote of 7 members. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the vote shall be taken in public session by a roll call vote.

Proposal to extend conflict of interest to immediate family members

Amend to add language noted in blue:

▪ Article 2 LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SECTION 2-3 - PROHIBITIONS

(a) Holding Other City Position - No member of the city council shall hold any other compensated city position. [No immediate family member of a city council member shall hold a compensated city position.](#)

▪ Article 3 EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SECTION 3-1 - MAYOR: QUALIFICATIONS; TERM OF OFFICE; COMPENSATION; PROHIBITIONS

(d) Prohibitions - The mayor shall hold no other compensated city position. [No immediate family member of the mayor shall hold a compensated city position.](#)

▪ Article 4 SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SECTION 4-3 - PROHIBITIONS

No member of the school committee shall hold any other compensated city position. [No immediate family member of a school committee member shall hold a compensated city position.](#)

NOTE: There are no prohibitions extended to other elected officials in Article 5 of the charter. At a minimum, this same prohibition on immediate family members should probably be extended to the SVAHS Trustees to align them with the School Committee.