Charter Review Committee revised agenda Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall Hearing Room 18, 210 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

- Approval of minutes for April 2, 2019
- Public comment
- Updates from committee members
- Discuss Special Municipal Employee status for Charter Review Committee members
- Discuss and vote on possible deletions from Attachment 1-Related Laws
- Discuss and vote on possible changes to:

  1. Section 2-10 (City Council confirmation of certain appointments): The City Council shall refer each name submitted to a standing committee of the council, which shall review each candidate for appointment and shall make a recommendation to the full City Council not less than 7 nor more than 45 days after the referral. (Remove phrase less than 7 nor and add except during July and August to the end of the sentence.)

  2. Section 3-3 (Appointments by the mayor): The mayor shall appoint, subject to review by the city council under section 2-10, all city officers and department heads and the members of multiple-member bodies for whom no other method of appointment or selection is provided by the charter; provided, however, this shall not include persons serving under the school committee, (add) superintendents of Smith’s Agricultural School and persons serving under the city council.

  3. Section 3-6 (Approval of mayor, veto): Every order, ordinance, (delete) resolution or vote adopted or passed by the city council relative to the affairs of the city, except non-binding (delete “memorial” and replace with non-binding) resolutions, the confirmation (delete “selection” and replace with confirmation) of city officers by the city council and any matters relating to the internal affairs of the city council, shall be presented to the mayor for approval within 3 business days of such adoption or passage.

  4. Section 7-2 (Annual budget policy): Before the commencement of the budget process, the City Council president shall place on the agenda of a regularly scheduled City Council meeting a general discussion with the mayor about spending priorities and revenue potential for the coming fiscal year. (Add sentence as second paragraph.)

- Discuss issues raised by city officials March 19 and April 2:
  1. Establish term limits for all elected positions
  2. Create an appointed, independent ombudsperson who responds to citizen complaints
  3. Allow City Council to hire its own legal counsel
  4. Add section requiring in January the City Council president to place on the agenda of a regularly scheduled City Council meeting a general discussion with the mayor about the city’s legislative priorities in the upcoming state legislative session.

- Details of April 30 public forum on election issues
- Adjourn