

ALL COMMON COUNCIL ACTIONS TAKEN AT THIS MEETING TO APPROVE EXPENDITURES AND CONTRACTS OR TO ACCEPT BIDS AND OTHER PROPOSALS REQUIRING THE EXPENDITURE OF CITY FUNDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m. and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to hold a public hearing. He led the Assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Dixon called the Roll:

Council at Large:	Mr. Gregory Burnett	Mr. Edwin Camacho
	Mr. Joshua Goldstein	Ms. Nora Niedzielski Eichner
	Ms. Barbara Smyth	

District A: Ms. Nicol Ayers (8:05 p.m.) Mr. David Heuvelman

District B: Ms. Diana Revolus Ms. Darlene Young

District C: Ms. Jenn McMurrer

District D:

District E: Mr. James Frayer Ms. Lisa Shanahan

At Roll Call there were eleven (11) Common Councilmembers present and four (4) absent (Ms. Ayers; Mr. Kydes; Ms. Alterman; Mr. Meek). A Quorum was present.

Also present were Mayor, Harry Rilling; City Clerk, Irene Dixon and Corporation Counsel, Mario Coppola.

Charter Revision members present were, Ms. Patsy Brescia, Chair; Tyler Fairbairn; Benita Raleigh Watford

III. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHARTER REVISION

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted. Speakers are Norwalk residents unless otherwise noted.

Mr. Alex Knopp expressed his appreciation for all the hard work done by the Commission. He said he was here to urge the Common Council to make a broader effort to inform the public of what is in the Charter package. He said it was very confusing and it would be a tremendous help to make sure there is clarity. He urged the Common Council to print a summary that is accessible and clarifies the major items. Mr. Knopp said this would go a long way to be sure the non-controversial items are not caught up with the controversial items.

Ms. Ayers joined the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Ms. Lisa Brinton spoke in support of updating the Charter but was not in support of the four year term for Mayor. She noted this was not personal to Mayor Rilling. She said she could support a four year term if the Common Council members have a four year term. She talked about single party rule and said they need to look at proportional representation. She expressed hope that the Common Council will not put other aspects of the Charter at risk.

Ms. Diane Lauricella expressed her thanks to all involved in the Charter revision. She urged the City to inform the residents. She said that Newtown has a flyer to help explain their Charter

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revision and said she will drop it off to the Mayor's office. She said she did not know if the Common Council members reviewed the comments that were sent to the Charter Commission. She said she was not sure she could support a four year term for the Mayor of Common Council. She said suggested adding members to the Districts and to the At Large seats so people do not have to attend so many meetings. She said she was disappointed that Common Council compensation was not discussed. She said she wished they would reconsider the language and seek out an Ordinance.

Ms. Lauricella said a Citizen Police Review Commission is needed and would help the Police.

Mr. Fairbairn explained that a summary of the revisions to the Charter is on the City's website.

Ms. Brescia noted that they recommended two additions to the Fire and Police Commissions.

Ms. Deb D'Lorenzo said the City should do a five year long-range plan. She said she was concerned that the Common Council is not considering the financial impacts.

Ms. Shushela Gillis said she went into the City's website and found it extremely difficult to find the revision to the Charter. She said there needs to be a better way to communicate this to the residents without having to go on the website.

Mayor Rilling asked three times if there were any other people who wished to comment. He asked if any members of the Common Council wished to comment. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Irene Dixon City Clerk

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THE COMMON COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHARTER REVISION

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** 8:02 PM
- II. **ROLL CALL** 12- Mr. Kydes, Ms. Alterman and Mr. Meek absent;
Ms. Ayers joined at 8:04 PM
- III. **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHARTER REVISION** **NO VOTES OR ACTION TAKEN**
- IV. **ADJOURNMENT** 8:24 PM