



**SPECIAL SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
JOINT WORKSHOP with CHARTER COMMISSION  
5:00PM WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2012  
YORK LIBRARY**

**Present**

**Board of Selectmen:** Chair; Tracy Jackson-McCarty, Vice Chair; Mary Andrews, Edward Little, Kinley Gregg, and Scott Fiorentino.

**Charter Commission:** Chair; Dave Marshall, Torbert MacDonald, Wendy Starkey, Peter Smith, Todd Frederick, Richard Bilden, Leon Moulton and Al Cotton,

**Staff:** Town Manager; Robert G. Yandow, Recorder; and Susan Scott.

**Media/Public:** Susan Morse (York Weekly) and Helen Rollins.

**Workshop: Proposed Home Rule Charter**

Charter Commission Chairman, Dave Marshall, provided an overview of the Charter review process, and the preliminary report originally provided to the Selectmen on February 13, 2012. The Selectmen posed the following questions and comments: (Clarification provided by the Charter Commission noted in *bold italics* following individual questions)

**Questions/Comments**

- Difficulty in reviewing the revised Charter document without the original document denoting changes and/or strike-outs. *Revised Charter document completely restructured making it impossible to have a side-by-side "track changes" document illustrating edits through strike-out notations. Charter Commission has prepared a document outlining where changes were made to assist with review.*
- Defeated Operational Budget Items/Town Meeting Referendum process. *Budget of defeated item will go to a Special Budget Referendum vote with a new number (proposed budget). If the budget fails at the Special Budget Referendum, then the line will be set at 85% of the approved budget from the previous fiscal year unless the Selectmen choose to hold a second special budget referendum, in which case the cost of the election will be covered by the Selectmen's contingency account.*
- Selectmen's Contingency Account: Monies to be used solely for true emergencies, and not for a referendum vote.

- Section 2.8(c)(d). *Applies only to upcoming year within the Capital Improvements Plan, and not all five years.*
- Section 2.10. *Capital Planning Committee to be memorialized in the Charter with Public Hearings to be scheduled.*
- Budget Review Process lengthened adding additional meetings and weeks to review process.
- Section 2.12. *Alternate State Statute for Proposal of School Budget allows for school budget to fall under the Charter should the Town vote not to follow State consolidation law.*
- Section 3.7. Authority and Duties prescribed to Selectmen to “oversee” CEO and Town Attorney among other positions may be in conflict with State statute. *Charter Commission to research.*
- Section 6.6. Treasurer. Meet with Treasurer four times a year with regular reports. *Intent of this section is to maintain communication between Selectmen and Budget Committee, and to comply with State law Title 30-A, §5603.2.1 (b).*
- Erosion of Budget Committee authority, Town Manager oversight, and allows for individual Selectmen to act singularly apart from the Board.
- Conflict of Interest: Charter lacking language prohibiting a spouse of a Town employee serving on the Budget Committee. *Language to be added.*
- Charter document as a whole requires cross referencing of dates and timelines for all procedures.
- Budget Committee and Finance Directors' process input desired.
- Current Charter to be available for comparative purposes with revised Charter.

### Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

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Susan H. Scott; Recorder