

As of 9 AM 5/8/23

| Tab | Open | Withdrawn | Declined | Approved | Total Submissions (5/7/23) |
|------------------------------|------|-----------|----------|----------|----------------------------|
| Public Comments | 1 | | 50 | 10 | 61 |
| Board of Finance | | | | 7 | 7 |
| Commission for Accessibility | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Commission on Aging | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Economic and Community Dev | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Finance and Taxation | | 1 | 2 | | 3 |
| Information Technology | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Insurance & Risk Management | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Technical Changes | | 8 | | 20 | 28 |
| Town Clerk | | 1 | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| Water Pollution Control | | | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Board of Selectmen | | | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Pension | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Youth Commission | | | | 1 | 1 |

Total

1
1%
10
8%
60
47%
56
44%
127
100%

Green Row = Tab Complete

| Approved Changes | Redlines Completed | |
|------------------|--------------------|------|
| 10 | 10 | 100% |
| 7 | 7 | 100% |
| 1 | 1 | 100% |
| 2 | 2 | 100% |
| 1 | 1 | 100% |
| N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 1 | 1 | 100% |
| N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 20 | 20 | 100% |
| 6 | 6 | 100% |
| 3 | 3 | 100% |
| 3 | 3 | 100% |
| 1 | 1 | 100% |
| 1 | 1 | 100% |

56
56
100.00%

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Public Comments"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|------|------------------|--|
| A - 1 | 2.13.23 via Public Hearing | Affordable Housing Committee 3.30.23 After further disscussion, consensus is this is not a Charter issue 3.1.23 After discussion, the Commission decided it best to table the conversation about the Affordable Housing Committee as additional information continued to be received and both the Chairs of the Affordable Housing Committee and Planning and Zoning will address the Commission. 2.13.23 Should the the Ridgefield Affordable Housing Committee currently reporting to the Board of Selectman report to Planning and Zoning, instead. From their webpage, "The Affordable Housing Committee works with organizations and individuals to create more affordable housing in town, and to help people find the housing they need. We report to the Board of Selectmen." (rec'd via 2.13.23 Public Hearing) | 3/1/2023: Note to the Cernone's this will be discussed at the 3/16/23 meeting | 3.16.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion to table the discussion of the recommendation that the Ridgefield Affordable Housing Committee report to the Planning and Zoning Commission instead of the Board of Selectman until a later meeting. Motion carried 8-0. | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline A-1 on our Tracker as it is not a Charter issue" and " to decline the referral to change the line of reporting for the Affordable Housing to the Planning and Zoning Comission from the Board of Selectman" Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3.30.23 36:00) |
| A - 2 | 2.13.23 via Public Hearing | 4.7.23 Further language from Mike R: <i>Below is an update to the proposed language that would be included in the Commission's report on the proposed change of the several Town offices from elected to appointed positions....there is some specific existing language on the duties of the Treasurer (which I believe are intended to tie to corresponding language in state statutes). I have incorporated that language into the new treasurer's section below.</i> Sec 9-yy Town Treasurer <i>A Town Treasurer shall be appointed by the First Selectman, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, after concurrence by the Board of Finance.</i> <i>The Town Treasurer shall be qualified by training and/or experience in public or private finance or accounting. The Town Treasurer shall exercise the functions of the agent of public funds, including the management of the Town's cash assets and non-pension investments, and shall have such other powers and duties as prescribed by town ordinance and state statute. The Town Treasurer shall recommend to the Board of Selectman the appointment of a Deputy Town Treasure who shall, in the temporary absence or incapacity of the Town Treasurer, be authorized to perform all of the duties of the Town Treasurer.</i> 4.6.23 Mike R's suggested draft: The Town Treasurer shall be qualified by training and experience in public or private finance or accounting. The Town Treasurer shall have such powers and duties as prescribed by town ordinance and state statute. The Town Treasurer shall recommend to the Board of Selectman the appointment of a Deputy Town Treasurer. 3.30.23 It is the Commission's recommendation that the credentials and qualifications of the Town Treasurer be explicitly stated in the Final Report and follow the 2014 language as to a professional position. 3.28.23: From Mike Rettger re Town Treasurer and Tax Collector Proposals: At last week's meeting there was some discussion as to why the prior proposals on these positions did not get voter support, and some speculation that there may have been a concern about how the positions would be appointed. I went back to the 2018 and 2014 Charter proposals, both of which suggested the change from elected to appointed, and found they had different language. The 2014 proposal including specific qualification criteria for each role, while the 2018 version did not. 2018 language can be found on page 31 of that report. 2014 language can be found on pp 29-30 of that report. 2.13.23 Suggested Change: Should the Town Charter be amended to allow the Town Treasurer currently an elected position become an appointed position. This is a proposal considered in 2018 that was voted down by the electorate No: 6704; Yes 5070 (rec'd via 2.13.23 Public Hearing) | | 3.30.23 | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Schirm moved, and Mr. Lansen seconded a motion to "recommend that the position of Town Treasurer be appointive rather than elected", thereby allowing the Town to hire the most qualified candidate. Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3/30/23 7:14) |

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| A - 3 | 2.13.23 via Public Hearing | <p>4.7.23 Further language from Mike R: <i>Below is an update to the proposed language that would be included in the Commission's report on the proposed change of the several Town offices from elected to appointed positions. Note that in updating this, I realized that the existing Charter is silent as to the detailed duties of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector...</i></p> <p>Sec 9-xx Tax Collector <i>A Tax Collector shall be appointed by the First Selectman, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, after concurrence by the Board of Finance.</i></p> <p><i>The Tax Collector shall be qualified by training and/or experience in public or private financial management or accounting. The Tax Collector shall be responsible for all tax collection matters and for the operation of the Tax Collector's office. The Tax Collector shall have such other powers and duties as prescribed by town ordinance and state statute.</i></p> <p>4.6.23 Suggested Wording by Mike R: "The Tax Collector shall be qualified by training and/or experience in public or private financial management or accounting. The Tax Collector shall be responsible for all tax collection matters and for the operation of the Tax Collector's office. The Tax Collector shall have such other powers and duties as prescribed by town ordinance and state statute"</p> <p>3.30.23 It is the Commission's recommendation that the credentials and qualifications of the Tax Collector be explicitly stated in the Final Report and follow the 2014 language as to a professional position.</p> <p>3.28.23: From Mike Rettger re Town Treasurer and Tax Collector Proposals: At last week's meeting there was some discussion as to why the prior proposals on these positions did not get voter support, and some speculation that there may have been a concern about how the positions would be appointed.</p> <p>I went back to the 2018 and 2014 Charter proposals, both of which suggested the change from elected to appointed, and found they had different language. The 2014 proposal including specific qualification criteria for each role, while the 2018 version did not.</p> <p>2018 language can be found on page 31 of that report.</p> <p>2014 language can be found on pp 29-30 of that report.)</p> <p>2.13.23 Suggested Change: Should the Town Charter be amended to allow the Tax Collector currently an elected position become an appointed position. This is a proposal considered in 2018 that was voted down by the electorate No: 6861; Yes 4905 (rec'd via 2.13.23 Public Hearing)</p> | | 3.30.23 | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to "make the position of the tax collector appointed rather than elected". Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3/30/23 5:41) |
| | | | | | | | |
| A - 4 | 2.13.23 via Public Hearing | <p>4.25.23 After conversation with Mr. McLaughlin, the Commission discussed additional re-wording to Article XI. A redraft was shared with Mr. McLaughlin on 4.24 and he replied with the following on 4.25: <i>I've reviewed and these are consistent with our discussion. I (personally)have no further improvements or comments, but I am still waiting for a couple of BoE members to check in. Once I have a full consensus, I'll let you know if the BoE has any suggestions.</i></p> <p>4.24.23 An email was received from Laurie Fernandez: <i>I wanted to send you some comments on the Charter revision as it related to nepotism. When reviewing the info that was shared, I noted a couple of things which may conflict with the Town's current Nepotism policy. I have attached our current policy, and also denoted in green on the attached document and comments on the side, other areas which may be of interest and conflict with the policy in place. Specifically, the definition of family differs. Also, the Town has grand-fathered certain relationships from prior to the passing of the policy.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, when looking at violations of this section, the Charter doesn't give the Ethics commission authority over HR decisions, especially in relation to union positions, so there may need to be some other option such as recommendations or findings versus imposing violations and fines.</i></p> <p>4.10.23 An invitation was sent and acknowledged by Greg McLaughlin, Chair of the Ethics Committee. Mr. McLaughlin's reply: <i>I acknowledge receipt. The Ethics Board does not have a regularly scheduled meeting before the 20th, so it's unlikely I'll be able to speak for the full Board on that timeline. But I will take a look, and will circulate to the full Board for informal input, by that date. And I will do my best to be at the session on the 20th, or send a proxy.</i></p> <p>4.6.23 A Commission supported draft is ready to be distributed to the Board of Ethics (to the Chair person with an invitation to provide feedback to the Commission on 4.20.23). Once received an updated version will be sent to the Board of Selectman (as a courtesy look) and to Les/Ellen (courtesy look with ability to comment during the Public Hearing)</p> <p>3.30.23 Todd reviewed further updates and will continue to make small minor updates with a new version due 3.31.23</p> <p>3.20.23 From Mike R; "Attached is an update to the draft of the Ethics section, reflecting input since last meeting. We think this is advanced sufficiently that this can serve as the basis for further discussion and consideration, with any remaining edit suggestions dealt with in that discussion (vs a continuing chain on emails)." Note to Charter Commission - the 3.19.23 Excel Spreadsheet doc has been added to the Tracker folder</p> <p>2.13.23 We strongly suggest that the 2023 CRC consider the proposal of the 2017-2018 CRC regarding Article XI. We believe that the Charter, and not an Ordinance, is the proper place for the town's Standards of Conduct. Re Article XI...from Ellen & Les: the existing text of Article XI did not clearly and effectively outline objective standards of conduct to be observed by Town officials and employees, essential components of an ethics code, the CRC unanimously recommended entirely new text for Article XI in its draft report. (see supporting email from CRC email 2/13 for add'l info) (rec'd via 2.13.23 Public Hearing)</p> | 3/2/2023 | 3/9/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to table the discussion of Ms. Burns's and Mr. Steinmen's proposed revisions to Article XI, Standards of Conduct in the Charter. Motion carried 9-0. | | 4.27.23 | 4.27.23 Mr. Cascella moved and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to accept proposed language for Article XI, Sec 5-9, and Sec 12-4, as offered by Mr. Rettger, and as further amended at the meeting. Motion carried 8-0. |

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| A - 5 | 3.2.23 via Public Comment at 3.2.23 meeting | Section 2-1 Incorporation 3.16.23 Change Declined: The proposed changes are declined because they do not appear necessary and appear to be technically incorrect. The powers and privileges of the town are not conferred by the State Constitution or reserved by the town. They are granted to the town in the Connecticut General Statutes, as currently described in Section 2-1 of the Charter. The State Constitution authorizes the General Assembly to delegate to the towns such authority "as from time to time it deems appropriate" (Article Tenth of the Constitution), and the General Assembly has done so in the General Statutes. 3.2.23 Suggested Change: All the inhabitants dwelling within the territorial limits of the Town of Ridgefield, as heretofore constituted, shall continue to be a body politic and corporate under the name of "The Town of Ridgefield," hereinafter called "the Town," and as such shall have perpetual succession and may hold and exercise all powers and privileges heretofore exercised by said Town and not inconsistent with the provision of this Charter, the additional powers and privileges herein conferred and all powers and privileges conferred upon {or reserved by} Towns under {the State Constitution} the general statutes of the State of Connecticut and the laws of the United States of America. | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Cascella to decline the revision language suggested by Mr. Tartaglia to insert the phrases "or reserved by" and "the State Constitution" into <i>Section 2-1 Incorporation</i> .of the Charter. Seconded by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 8-0. |
| | | Section 2-3 General Grant of Powers 3.16.23 Changed Declined: The proposed change is declined because it does not appear necessary. As described in current Section 2-3, the source of the town's powers is the Connecticut General Statutes, enacted pursuant to the authority given to the Connecticut General Assembly in the State Constitution. Those powers include all powers "incident to the management of the property, government and affairs of the Town . . ." and a reference to other applicable laws does not appear necessary. 3.2.23 Suggested Change: In addition to all powers granted to Towns under the constitution and General Statutes {or any other applicable laws} , and those which may hereafter be conferred thereby, the Town shall have all powers specifically granted by this Charter and all powers fairly implied in or incident to the powers expressly granted and all other powers incident to the management of the property, government and alairs of the Town, including the power to enter into contracts with the United States or any federal agency, the State of Connecticut or any political subdivision thereof for services and the use of facilities, the exercise of which is not expressly forbidden by the constitution and the general law of the State of Connecticut | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Rettger to decline the revision language suggested by Mr. Tartaglia to insert the phrase "or any other applicable laws" into Section 2-3 General Grant of Powers of the Charter Section 2-1 Incorporation. Seconded by Mr. Schirm. Motion carried 8-0. |
| A - 7 | 3.2.23 via email | 4.13.23 The Commission reviewed the wording from Town Counsel. The note from Town Counsel implies that even with a name change to the current Board of Selectmen, First Selectman, and Selectman to something more gender neutral throughout the Charter, the Town would still need to reference Board of Selectman as per State Statute. The current working suggestion by the Commission would be to follow the second asterick of Town Counsel's opinion and recommend incorporating the following words respectively into the Charter (noting the footnote as cited below): Select Board, First Selectperson, and Member. 4.10.23 As per Town Counsel: <i>Changing the name of the Board would not be inconsistent with statute.</i> <i>However, if the Commission were to move in this direction, I would recommend that there be some connection in the document to the statutory term. Two examples could be:</i> * <i>Section 4-1 lists the Town's elected offices. For Board of Selectmen it could say:</i> * <i>"Board of Selectmen which shall be referred to as and named the "_____"; or</i> * <i>The "_____ Board" which, except as modified herein, shall have the powers and responsibilities conferred on a Board of Selectmen by state statute."</i> <i>We can discuss and review other variations as well, but the idea is that there be some connection to the statute, but the Town can alter the name as it sees fit.</i> 3.19.23 Please see Mike Lordi's email with examples from different Fairfield County towns and towns in the State beginning with A through L. <i>Note to Charter Commission - the 3.19.23 Excel Spreadsheet doc has been added to the Tracker folder</i> 3.16.23 The Commission would like to explore this idea further with the current Board of Selectman. Additional research is required to explore what other towns are doing (i.e. Seymour, Westport and Southbury). Brainstorming ideas by the Commission included: First Selectman = First Selectperson or First Select Person, Board of Selectmen = Board of Selectpersons or First Select Persons, Selectman = Select Person or Select Member....or keep gender specific to the role of Selectman or Selectwoman but create a Board of Selectpersons 3.2.23 I am writing to suggest a name change for the Board of Selectmen. I'd like to see a more inclusive and gender-neutral group. Board of Selecteds? Board of Governors? Board of Commissioners? Town Council? I'm sure a group could generate many appealing options. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Rettger to table the suggestion by Ms. Broderick to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to be more inclusive and gender-neutral. Seconded by Mr. Schirm. Motion carried 7-1 with Mr. Cascella voting nay | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "that the Town Charter be revised, that any reference to the First Selectman will now be changed to First Selectperson, any reference to the Board of Selectman will now be the Select Board, and if there is a reference to a member of the Selectman Board would be Member. And that we would incorporate in hte Charter in the appropriate location, the second recommendation, that the Selectboard which, except as modified herein, shall have the powers and responsibilities conferred on a Board of Selectmen by state statute." Motion carried 5-2. Mr. Cascella and Mr. Rettger opposed (4/13, 49:51) |
| A - 8 | 3.4.23 via email | 3.16.23 Consensus of the Commission is this is not a Charter issue as voting laws are established at the State level. 3.4.23 I'm not sure if this would fall under the charter, but it would be wonderful to update our ability to vote on town matters in a method other than in person at evening town meetings. Perhaps voting could be available throughout the day at town hall or even online when matters arise so that more residents can participate? . (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr Lordi seconded a motion to decline "moving this referral forward" (1:15, 3/16) Motion carried 8-0. |
| A - 9 | 3.4.23 via email | Section 1.1 The Charter 3.16.23 The proposed change is declined because "organic law" appears to be the correct phrase. "Organic law" means a system of laws that form the foundation of a government, and it is the phrase used in Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-188, which authorizes any municipality to adopt a charter "which shall be its organic law . . ." TC: "The Charter shall be the <u>organic</u> law of the Town of Ridgefield..." SC: Replace or define the word " <u>organic</u> ." I think the residents have different understandings of what this word means and it is the underpinning of the entire document. Suggested way to replace organic is "the principles by which the Town of Ridgefield is governed." Definition of "principles": a theorem or law that has application across a wide field. | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Cascella to decline the requests of Ms. Nunes and Mr. Tartaglia to replace the word "organic" in Section 1.1 The Charter of the Charter. Seconded by Ms. Christiansen. Motion carried 8-0. |

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| A - 10 | 3.3.23 via email | Section 1.1 The Charter 3.16.23 The proposed change is declined because "organic law" appears to be the correct phrase. "Organic law" means a system of laws that form the foundation of a government, and it is the phrase used in Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-188, which authorizes any municipality to adopt a charter "which shall be its organic law . . ." 3.3.23 TC: "The Charter shall be the organic law of the Town of Ridgefield..." Suggested Change: "The Charter shall be the organic supreme governing law of the Town of Ridgefield..." | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Cascella to decline the requests of Ms. Nunes and Mr. Tartaglia to replace the word "organic" in Section 1.1 The Charter of the Charter. Seconded by Ms. Christiansen. Motion carried 8-0. |
| A - 11 | 3.4.23 via email | Section 1.1 The Charter 4.13.23 These suggested changes have been raised already through other comments and recommendations and resolved through an updated rewrite in reference to agencies, boards, committees, commissions, departments, etc. 3.4.23 Charter Language: The term "board" or "boards," as used in this Charter, shall include all boards, commissions, agencies, and committees except as otherwise specified. TC: "all boards, commissions, agencies and committees..." SC: add subcommittees, i.e."...agencies, committees and subcommittees..." SC: add "whether elected or appointed." ***** Charter Language: The term "Town agency," as used in this Charter, shall mean each board, commission, committee, department and agency of the Town for which an appropriation was made in the annual budget; each Town official who is not a member of a board, commission, committee, department or agency for whom an appropriation was made in the annual budget; each separate function of the Town for which the Board of Selectmen is responsible. TC: "each board, commission, committee, department or agency..." SC: define department, it is very ambiguous. I cannot suggest a change because I do not know what it means. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to decline recommended changes put forward in Section 1.1 of the Charter as put forward by Ms. Noyes due to the fact that many of the issues have already been resolved by the Charter Review Commission"; "to decline further considerations of changes to Section 1.1" Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:07) |
| A - 12 | 3.3.23 via email | Section 1.1 The Charter 3.16.23 The proposed change is declined because it does not appear necessary, and appears to be incorrect in certain details. The principle of home rule is addressed by Article Tenth of the State Constitution, which does not guarantee any particular degree of home rule, but authorizes the General Assembly to delegate such authority to towns "as from time to time it deems appropriate . . ." The General Assembly has done so (see Title 7 of the General Statutes), and that is the source of the town's rights to home rule. Recognition of that delegation of authority in the Charter is not required. The Fundamental Orders referred to in the proposal (adopted in 1639 by the colony) have not been of any legal force or effect since the adoption of the State Constitution, if not earlier. 3.2.23 Suggested Change: After defining terms including "resident", "Elector", "Town Agency", etc, add the following last paragraph to Section 1.1 THE TOWN RECOGNIZES AND HONORS ITS RIGHTS TO HOME RULE AS GUARANTEED BY THE FUNDAMENTAL ORDERS, THE STATE CONSTITUTION, THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, AND SUCH OTHER GOVERNING LAWS OR RIGHTS TO SELF-GOVERNMENT AS MAY HAVE BY LAW, STATUTE OR CUSTOM BEEN PREVIOUSLY GRANTED OR RESERVED. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Lordi to decline the request by Mr. Tartaglia to add a suggested text regarding Home Rule to <i>Section 1.1 The Charter</i> of the Charter. Seconded by Mr. Schirm. Motion carried 8-0. |
| A - 13 | 3.4.23 via email | Section 2.1 Incorporation (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter) 4.13.23 The phrase <i>to be a body politic and corporate</i> refers to a corporation that is responsible for the governance of a municipality and it must remain. There is not an opportunity to change the wording. 3.4.23 Charter Language: All the inhabitants dwelling within the territorial limits of the Town of Ridgefield, as heretofore constituted, shall continue <i>to be a body politic and corporate</i> under the name of "The Town of Ridgefield," hereinafter called "the Town," and as such shall have perpetual succession and may hold and exercise all powers and privileges heretofore exercised by said Town and not inconsistent with the provision of this Charter, the TC: "... <i>to be a body politic and corporate...</i> " SC: Is this a generally recognized definition of a group whose members generally change over time or an accepted legal term to define who has rights? I have not encountered it previously. I do understand precisely what this Section means and why it is included, but I want the Charter to be as clear and precise as possible without excessive verbiage. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline this as it is not a correct change" Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:09) |

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| A - 14 | 3.4.23 via email | Section 2.3 General grant of powers (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter) 4.13.23 After discussion by the Commission and review of Mr. Marconi's comments about grants, the consensus of the Commission is that Section 2.3 talks about the general powers the Town (nothing specific to boards) and that throughout the Charter the duties and powers of town officials and boards are adequately addressed. 3.13.23: Rebecca asked Mr. Marconi about grants in reference to this suggested change. Mr. Marconi's reply: <i>Grants are always issued with/for a specific purpose which is normally outlined in the application. The actual use is decided prior to the application being submitted. The housing grant was requested by the Affordable Housing Committee through the Board of Selectmen and approved by the Ct. Dept. of Housing. This grant had a very specific use which was for the study of the Prospect Ridge area for additional housing to be located adjacent to the previous building project.</i> 3.4.23 Charter Language: In addition to all powers granted to Towns under the constitution and General Statutes, and those which may hereafter be conferred thereby, the Town shall have all powers specifically granted by this Charter and all powers fairly implied in or incident to the powers expressly granted and all other powers incident to the management of the property, government and affairs of the Town, including the power to enter into contracts with the United States or any federal agency, the State of Connecticut or any political subdivision thereof for services and the use of facilities, the exercise of which is not expressly forbidden by the constitution and the general law of the State of Connecticut. TC: "The Town shall have all power...including the power to enter into contracts..." SC: If this means contracts entered into or funds allocated to the Town, I think it should be made clear who can and cannot negotiate on behalf of the Town. An example is the current negotiations being carried out with the State by the Affordable Housing Committee Chairperson as to reallocation of funds the State allocated for an assessment of Prospect Ridge. According to the way I read the Charter the Town owns those funds and has power over them as they were allocated or to be reallocated. The Committee does not have power over the use of these funds except as defined by the Town. So who has power needs to be more precisely defined or there needs to be more specific oversight defined in the Charter of all funds allocated to the town from any source. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 4.13.23 | | | | 4.13.23 Mr. Zagorec moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion to "decline further consideration of Section 2.3" . Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:13) |
| | | Section 3.3 The Annual Town and Budget Meeting (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter) 4.13.23 As a point of reference, an Annual Town and Budget Meeting Committee hasn't existed in awhile and because it has not existed, the Commission agrees the language is awkward and inconsistent with other language in the Charter. Rebecca pointed out that the Committee is a "one and done" effort, not a two year committee. Mike R suggested the language should read: The Committee shall consist of five electors, appointed for a one two-year term. In the first year of implementation three members are appointed for a one-year term. 3.4.23 Charter Language: The Annual Town and Budget Meeting. [(13)(16)] The Board of Selectmen may, in January of each year, appoint an Annual Town and Budget Meeting Committee. The Committee <u>shall consist of five electors, appointed for a two-year term. In the first year of implementation three members are appointed for a one-year term .[(17)]</u> TC: <u>"shall consist of five electors, appointed for a two-year term. In the first year of implementation three members are appointed for a one-year term."</u> SC: I assume this means upon implementation, which includes naming a chairperson, the chairperson decides who continues to have two-year terms and who is reassigned to one-year terms? It may be generally understood what "implementation" means and we do not need to add unnecessary bulk to the Charter, but you may want to consider clarifying how the change to one-year terms is decided. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 4.13.23 | | | | 4.13.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Zagorec seconded a motion "to accept the referral and amend the language of the first paragraph of Section 3.3 so that the second sentence should read, 'The Committee shall consist of five electors, appointed for a one-year term' and then delete the last sentence of that paragraph. Motion carried 7-0. (4/17, 1:22) |
| A - 16 | 3.4.23 via email | Section 3-6 Legal notice (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter) 4.13.23 The Commission appreciates this suggestion and has heard reference to it and variations over the last few weeks. By law, Town Meetings must be advertised in the newspaper. While still advertising in the newspaper, Ridgefield has begun to use other mediums, like Ridgefield Alerts, the Town website, and various social media. .3.4.23 Charter Language: <u>Legal notice of all Town Meetings shall be advertised in a newspaper</u> having a general circulation in the Town at least five days prior to a Town Meeting. TC: <u>"Legal notice of all Town Meetings shall be advertised in a newspaper..."</u> SC: I believe you are all aware that the definition of where all matters requiring public notification in the Charter must be changed to include multiple forms of media including some form of electronic communications. However I stress that words such as "the emphasis must be on reaching all segments of the residents and encouraging community involvement" have to be added. For example, do the preponderance of seniors still read a newspaper and might not have on-line access? I view notification of as many town residents as practicable as a crucial role for everything in this Charter requiring public notification. I do not think this effort has been made over the past few years. If you really want examples, I can provide. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 4.13.23 | | | | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline the submitted changes to Section 3.6 as put forward". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:28) |

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| A - 17 | 3.4.23 via email | <p>Section 3.7 Organization and procedure. (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter)</p> <p>4.13.23 The Town of Ridgefield Information and Guidelines for Boards, Committees, and Commissions adopted by the Board of Selectmen on Dec 7, 2022 is intended for use by appointed and elected officials and dedicated to the principles of open and transparent government. The Handbook specifically states in Section 4.12 that Rules of Procedure for all meetings be governed by the Charter and Roberts Rules of Order. If members of Boards, Committees, or Commissions are not doing their job correctly, the administrative rules of the meeting don't necessarily need to be in the Charter to address this but rather gaps should be reported to the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p>3.4.23 Charter Language: The First Selectman or a representative of the First Selectman shall call the meeting to order and the meeting shall choose a moderator. All business shall be conducted as provided by Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, as amended, and in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order - of latest revision. Unless otherwise provided by this Charter, action of all Town Meetings shall be by a majority of the members of the Town Meeting present and voting at the meeting or voting in a referendum held in accordance with this Charter.</p> <p>TC: "All business shall be conducted as provided by Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, as amended, and in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order - of latest revision. Unless otherwise provided by this Charter,"</p> <p>SC: This statement needs to be put in a general Section of the Charter, not solely specific to Town Meetings. Further upon election or appointment ALL MEMBERS (not just Chairpersons) of all boards, commissions, agencies and committees and subcommittees should receive a copy of the current Robert's Rules of Order and a copy of the booklet "How to Run a Meeting" which I believe was created by or for the Charter Revision Committee. There must be oversight to ensure that all meetings are conducted accordingly with a place for residents or members to report grievances, perhaps a town mailbox. A certain number of non-conforming actions should perhaps warrant an AUTOMATIC ethics review. There are meetings where Robert's Rules of Order are blatantly disregarded as well as some members who overtly/purposefully do not honor their oath of office, which in part includes respecting residents and acting in a manner consistent with their role. Some verbiage to eliminate bad behavior has to be included in the Charter as well as what the oversight is, and what the remedy is. Emphasis on community involvement and elector attendance at ALL public meetings must be a requirement in the Charter, so as to not allow Chairpersons to merely tolerate some public comments which is often the case. Hundreds if not thousands of residents feel this way. A Chairperson's remedy for an individual being out-of-order is to declare thus by Robert's Rules of Order, not by any other means(well unless something becomes illegal).</p> <p>SC: As part of the oversight a requirement to record all meetings must be part of the Charter. If recording equipment is not available, Zoom can be used solely for the purpose of recording and then the entire meeting can be posted and made public. We want Ridgefield to be a vibrant, cultural, historic center, with neighborhood areas, affordable housing and support for our esteemed elders, with recreational areas as deemed appropriate and at the same time maintain open space. We want to encompass the needs of many and be a community that engenders help to those of us in need. I have lived here over forty years and have met very few residents who do not say the same about how we envision Ridgefield. In my opinion, a major opportunity to accomplish this is by being open, transparent, and encouraging involvement. YES, I do feel it is the role of the Charter to state this succinctly. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline any recommended changes to Section 3.7 as recorded". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:33) |
| A - 18 | 3.4.23 via email | <p>Section 3-13 Creation of new boards, commissions. (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter)</p> <p>4.13.23 The current Charter language below is a sweeping sentence to address any boards, commissions, or groups not either enumerated in the Charter, appointed by the BOS, or created by Ordinance. Previously, the Commission received a list of every Board, Committee, and Commission in the Town of Ridgefield and none have been created using this clause. Adding language to the Charter to limit the times an appointed committee can be reappointed (like Risk Management or AHC) isn't realistic</p> <p>3.4.23 Charter Language / TC: "The creation of any permanent board, commission, department or agency not otherwise provided for in this Charter shall require approval by vote of the Town Meeting."</p> <p>SC: First, how is this enforced? And what is "permanent?" I would call the actions of the Affordable Housing Committee as establishing itself as a permanent committee. It has had the same Chairperson for approximately 25 years, is that not a qualifier for permanent? The Affordable Housing Committee was never approved by vote of a Town Meeting. It should automatically be dissolved now that its task is complete, just as the Charter Review Committee will sunset when your job is finished and another Committee charged with the same function will only be reconstituted when Charter revisions are required again as defined by the Charter itself.</p> <p>SC: The Charter must define an automatic dissolution time frame for any Committee that has not been approved by vote of a Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen may choose to appoint a different committee with a substantially similar charge, but it must be a new committee and it too would have to be dissolved automatically after it completes whatever its charged task is. There simply is no permanent Affordable Housing Committee or any other permanent committee unless voted on. The Charter already says this, but the Charter does not define how and when such a committee shall be dissolved. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline to recommend changes to Section 3.13 as referred by Ms. Noyes". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:39) |

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| A - 19 | 3.4.23 via email | <p>Section 3-14. Membership in regional organizations (TC= Town Charter: SC = Suggested Charter)</p> <p>4.13.23 All minutes from intergovernmental organizations are published which means Town of Ridgefield representatives will have their statements recorded. If there is a particular concern, it should be raised as a Public Comment during BOS meetings.</p> <p>3.4.23 Charter Language / TC: "The Town may, by ordinance approved by the Town Meeting and pursuant to provisions in the General Statutes, join, determine how it shall choose representatives, or discontinue its membership in any such regional, intergovernmental organization created by state law, in such a manner as is consistent with this Charter."</p> <p>SC: How is this monitored? I would suggest it is not monitored at all. Therefore the Charter needs to define oversight. That may be as simple as requiring public notification by members of all their affiliates once a year and the adoption of a Town media plan. No one should speak in any public forum as representing any positions for Ridgefield unless there has been a defined designation to be a town representative. I believe some neighboring towns have media plans and perhaps WesCog. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline recommended changes to Section 3.14" of . Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:45) |
| A - 20 | 3.4.23 via email | <p>Section 4 Elections and Elective Officers</p> <p>4.13.23 This has previously been discussed and the Commission does not see any needed changes. The Town Clerk and the First of Selectman's office monitor reappointments</p> <p>3.4.23 SC: For brevity, I will address this section in entirety.</p> <p>Re: Reappointment of individual members to all town Boards, Commissions, and Committees (BCCs)</p> <p>The reappointment or reconfirmation of individual members to various non-elected BCCs seems inconsistent or in some cases not defined at all. I suggest standardizing this process to make it equitable to all BCC members and for the benefit of the residents of Ridgefield.</p> <p>Some BCCs reappoint members at the beginning of each new term for that individual by requesting they make an in person statement to the Board of Selectmen as to why they should be reappointed (I understand that different BCCs and individuals within BCCs may have different terms so that reappointment years may vary by the persons' term).</p> <p>I feel there is inconsistency in the reappointment process. For example, my understanding is that members of some BCCs were not reappointed at all in 2023 and possibly in other years as well. One example is the Affordable Housing Committee (AHC). To be appointed to the AHC new members must be interviewed by the BOS. However none of the members whose terms expired were reappointed in 2023 by being interviewed by the BOS. I cannot find any information on reappointment or term length for the AHC.</p> <p>I realize the AHC was formed by the BOS and is not specified in The Town Charter. Regardless of how any BCCs are formed each should be defined in The Town Charter and all member reappointments should be standardized.</p> <p>I am using the AHC as an example only since according to the Charter it no longer exists. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Schirm moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded "a motion to decline". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:48) |
| A - 21 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 4-6 Minority representation. [(5)]</p> <p>4.6.23 It is the Commission's opinion that the Charter addresses this in Section 5-2 and therefore this suggested change is unnecessary. .</p> <p>3.3.23 Current Charter Language: Minority representation on any elective board or commission shall be determined in accordance with provisions of the General Statutes, unless otherwise specified in this Charter.</p> <p>The maximum number of any such board or commission who may be members of the same political party shall be as specified in the following table:</p> <p>Suggested Change: Minority representation on any elective board, or commission, or any appointive committee shall be determined in accordance with provisions of the General Statutes, unless otherwise specified in this Charter (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to "decline to recommend changing the Charter as presented by Mr. Tartaglia" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:19) |

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| A - 22a | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 4-11 Planning and Zoning Commission</p> <p>4.6.23 After discussion, the Commission agreed to address the three suggested changes independently. Tracker A-22a will address the first red line to strike out "include" and to add the words, "are limited to". Consensus is this might hamstring the Commission on address new State Statutes or other items as they come along.</p> <p>3.3.23 Current Charter Language:The functions and responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission include the preparation and adoption of a Plan of Conservation and Development, the designation of zoning districts in accordance with that plan, and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of zoning and subdivision regulations in furtherance of the Plan of Conservation and Development as specified in Chapters 124 and 126 of the General Statutes. To the extent provided by the General Statutes, and within the limits of its appropriations, the commission shall appoint, by vote of a majority of its members, a Director of Planning and a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and engage such employees as are necessary for its work and may contract with professional consultants.</p> <p>Suggested Changes: The functions and responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission include are limited to the preparation and adoption of a Plan of Conservation and Development, the designation of zoning districts in accordance with that plan, and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of zoning and subdivision regulations in furtherance of the Plan of Conservation and Development as specified in Chapters 124 and 126 of the General Statutes. To the extent provided by the General Statutes, and within the limits of its appropriations, the-commission the Board of Selectmen shall appoint, by vote of a majority of its members, a Director of Planning and a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and engage such employees as are necessary for its Planning and Zoning Commission work and may contract with professional consultants. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Ms. Christiansen seconded a motion that "we do not accept his change from 'include' to 'are limited to'". Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:23) |
| A-22b | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 4-11 Planning and Zoning Commission</p> <p>4.6.23 After discussion, the Commission agreed to address the three suggested changes independently. Tracker A-22b will address the suggested change to allow the BOS to appoint the Director of Planning and Zoning Enforcement Officer. Discussion focused on how close the Director and the Commission work and the importance of finding the right fit which means allowing the Commission to hire for the position. .</p> <p>3.3.23 Current Charter Language:The functions and responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission include the preparation and adoption of a Plan of Conservation and Development, the designation of zoning districts in accordance with that plan, and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of zoning and subdivision regulations in furtherance of the Plan of Conservation and Development as specified in Chapters 124 and 126 of the General Statutes. To the extent provided by the General Statutes, and within the limits of its appropriations, the commission shall appoint, by vote of a majority of its members, a Director of Planning and a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and engage such employees as are necessary for its work and may contract with professional consultants.</p> <p>Suggested Changes: The functions and responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission include are limited to the preparation and adoption of a Plan of Conservation and Development, the designation of zoning districts in accordance with that plan, and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of zoning and subdivision regulations in furtherance of the Plan of Conservation and Development as specified in Chapters 124 and 126 of the General Statutes. To the extent provided by the General Statutes, and within the limits of its appropriations, the-commission-the Board of Selectmen shall appoint, by vote of a majority of its members, a Director of Planning and a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and engage such employees as are necessary for its Planning and Zoning Commission work and may contract with professional consultants. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion" to decline this recommendation" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:27) |
| A-22c | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 4-11 Planning and Zoning Commission</p> <p>4.6.23 After discussion, the Commission agreed to address the three suggested changes independently. Tracker A-22c will address the suggested change of "its" to "Planning and Zoning Commission". This seems to be a grammar concern needed if A-22b was accepted but it ws not and therefore this change is no longer required. .</p> <p>3.3.23 Current Charter Language:The functions and responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission include the preparation and adoption of a Plan of Conservation and Development, the designation of zoning districts in accordance with that plan, and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of zoning and subdivision regulations in furtherance of the Plan of Conservation and Development as specified in Chapters 124 and 126 of the General Statutes. To the extent provided by the General Statutes, and within the limits of its appropriations, the commission shall appoint, by vote of a majority of its members, a Director of Planning and a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and engage such employees as are necessary for its work and may contract with professional consultants.</p> <p>Suggested Changes: The functions and responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission include are limited to the preparation and adoption of a Plan of Conservation and Development, the designation of zoning districts in accordance with that plan, and the preparation, adoption, and implementation of zoning and subdivision regulations in furtherance of the Plan of Conservation and Development as specified in Chapters 124 and 126 of the General Statutes. To the extent provided by the General Statutes, and within the limits of its appropriations, the-commission-the Board of Selectmen shall appoint, by vote of a majority of its members, a Director of Planning and a Zoning Enforcement Officer, and engage such employees as are necessary for its Planning and Zoning Commission work and may contract with professional consultants. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lansen moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion" to decline this recommendation" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:28) |

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| A - 23 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 5-1 Appointive boards.</p> <p>4.6.23 Consensus by the Commission is that the minutes submitted to the Town Clerk address what actions are taken by each Board, Committee, and Commission.</p> <p>3.3.23 Current Charter Language: Annually, by January 31, all appointive boards shall submit a report on attendance at meetings held during the prior calendar year to the Town Clerk. Additional appointive boards may be created and their powers and duties specified by ordinance passed at a Town Meeting. Appointive boards authorized by this section may be abolished or consolidated, their powers and duties may be altered and the number or term of office of their members may be changed by ordinance.</p> <p>Suggested Changes: Annually, by January 31, all appointive boards shall submit a report on THEIR ACTIVITY, THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS AND attendance at meetings held during the prior calendar year to the Town Clerk. Additional appointive boards may be created and SHALL BE GIVEN A SPOECIFIC MANDATE AND their powers and duties specified by ordinance passed at a Town Meeting. Appointive boards authorized by this section may be abolished or consolidated, their MANDATE, powers and duties may be altered and the number or term of office of their members may be changed by ordinance. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lansen moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline". Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:38) |
| A - 24 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 5-2 Appointments to appointive boards and commissions.</p> <p>4.6.23 Consensus of the Commission is that this suggested change is already accomplished through existing Charter language. All Section 5 Appointed Boards have definitive terms and BOS appointed Boards expire when there is an election. The goal of the suggested change is already in the Charter</p> <p>Current Charter Language: All terms shall be established to expire as nearly as possible at regularly staggered annual or biennial intervals. A member shall continue to hold office until a successor has been appointed and has qualified. Membership on all appointive boards provided by this article shall be determined in accordance with the minority representation law as set forth in the General Statutes unless otherwise specified in this Charter.</p> <p>Suggested Changes: All terms shall be established to expire as nearly as possible at regularly staggered annual or biennial intervals. A member shall continue to hold office until a successor has been appointed and has qualified. EVERY MEMBER OF EVERY APPOINTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE A TERM OF OFFICE LIMITED TO THE TERM OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND SHALL BE -REAPPOINTED THEREAFTER BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMAN AND SHALL NOT OTHERWISE ACT IN ANY OFFICIAL CAPACITY UNLESS SO RE-APPOINTED. Membership on all appointive boards provided by this article shall be determined in accordance with the minority representation law as set forth in the General Statutes unless otherwise specified in this Charter.</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a "motion to decline this" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:43) |
| A - 25 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 5-4. Architectural Advisory Committee.</p> <p>4.6.23 Consensus of the Commission is to leave the word character as it is more comprehensive.</p> <p>3.3.23 The Commission accepted a Technical Change on 3/2/23 to reword 5-4 as per below with the red line: The Architectural Advisory Committee shall provide timely opinions and advice regarding architectural designs and materials of buildings, structures and/or other construction, landscape and site plans, lighting, and signage to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the purpose of assisting the Commission in its responsibility to ensure that the proposed exterior contained in applications pending before the Planning and Zoning Commission —architectural designs and materials of buildings, structures and/or other construction, landscape and site plans, lighting, and signage— harmonize with the New England village character of Ridgefield, including the Village District, its constituent neighborhoods, and surrounding uses; protect property values; and preserve and improve the Town's appearance and beauty.</p> <p>Mr. Tartaglia is further suggesting a change to the word character: Suggested further change: harmonize with the New England village character style of Ridgefield, including the Village District, its constituent neighborhoods, and surrounding uses; protect property values; and preserve and improve the Town's appearance and beauty. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline this as unnecessary" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:33) |
| A - 26 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 5-8 Economic and Community Development Commission.</p> <p>4.6.23 After Commission conversation the suggested change seems to be what ECDC is asking to have removed. The extra language seems cumbersome and unnccesary for the Charter.</p> <p>Current Charter Language: The Economic and Community Development Commission shall consist of seven members serving one-year terms. The Commission will seek to implement orderly and planned economic development in keeping with the character of the Town. The Commission will seek to involve all agencies, commissions, boards, and departments in the Town, which are involved in, or are affected by, economic development, as well as the residents of the Town, in its work to promote economic development.</p> <p>Suggested Change: The Economic and Community Development Commission shall consist of seven members serving one-year terms. The Commission wil OBTAIN, COLLECT AND SUMMARIZE AVAILABLE AND RELEVANT ECONOMIC DATA RELATED TO THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF THE TOWN, COLLECT SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING ECONOTHE PROMOTION , ENCOURAGEMENT AND GROWTH OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, MIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN, COORDINATE ITS COLLECTION OF DATA WITH OTHER TOWN AGENCIES AND REGULARLY REPORT ITS FULLY AND FAITHFULLY REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE BOS AT LEAST 4 TIMES PER YEAR. The Commission will seek to implement orderly and planned economic development in keeping with the character of the Town. The Commission will seek to involve all agencies, commissions, boards, and departments in the Town, which are involved in, or are affected by, economic development, as well as the residents of the Town, in its work to promote economic development. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Ms. Christiansen seconded a "motion to decline to recommend the change" revision to Section 5.8 of the Charter submitted by Mr. Tartaglia. Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:45) |

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| A - 27 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 5-16 Committees.</p> <p>4.6.23 After discussion, the Commission feels it is important to have continuity within Boards, Committees, and Commissions, and to allow conversations between outgoing incumbents and successors. This means deleting the suggested change would defeat that purpose.</p> <p>Current Charter Language: Appointments and terms: Except as otherwise provided by the ordinance or resolution establishing a committee, the term of office of appointees to committees shall terminate 30 days after the next regular Town election, and the Board of Selectmen shall act as the initial appointing authority, shall choose successors, and shall fill all vacancies, except that: If the committee was established by vote at a Town Meeting and the members of that committee were either elected or confirmed by the Town Meeting, the Selectmen shall call a special Town Meeting for filling any vacancy or choosing successors, and the incumbents may remain in office until their successors have been duly chosen in this manner.</p> <p>Suggested Change: Appointments and terms: Except as otherwise provided by the ordinance or resolution establishing a committee, the term of office of appointees to committees shall terminate 30 days after the next regular Town election, and the Board of Selectmen shall act as the initial appointing authority, shall choose successors, and shall fill all vacancies, except that: If the committee was established by vote at a Town Meeting and the members of that committee were either elected or confirmed by the Town Meeting, the Selectmen shall call a special Town Meeting for filling any vacancy or choosing successors, and the incumbents may remain in office until their successors have been duly chosen in this manner.</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Ms. Christiansen moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a "to decline this". Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:48) |
| A - 28 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 5-17 Removal for cause.</p> <p>4.6.23 The general language of "for cause" seems broad enough to manage through any concerns with any members of an appointive board or committee. The Commission believes this change is not necessary.</p> <p>Current Charter Language: A member of an appointive board or committee may be removed for cause by the Board of Selectmen, but no such removal for cause shall be effected unless the member...</p> <p>Suggested Change: A member of an appointive board or committee may be removed FOR ANY REASON AT THE SOLE DISCRETION BY VOTE OF THE BOS for cause by the Board of Selectmen, but no such removal for cause shall be effected unless the member:</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded "a motion to decline the recommended change" . Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:51) |
| A - 29 | 3.6.23 | <p>3.23.23 Speaking from his personal point of view, Mr. David Goldenberg, current Chair of the AHC stated, "I believe this proposal should be disregarded entirely ...as our recent plan clearly demonstrates there is a great need for additional affordable housing in Ridgefield...further it is not within the authority of the Charter Revision Committee to dissolve a committee appointed by the Board of Selectman".</p> <p>3.16.23 The Commission agreed this suggestion will be addressed as part of the 3.23.23 meeting.</p> <p>3.6.23 Now that the Affordable Housing committee has submitted its Affordable Housing Plan to the state, the committee should be dissolved and or report directly to PNZ. Affordable Housing and the management of our units regarding annual certification can be done within the PNZ ranks with help from former Affordable Housing Committee members. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline recommendations that the AHC be dissolved because it is not a Charter issue" (33:24). Motion carried 9-0. |
| A - 30 | 3.6.23 | <p>Section 4-6 Minority Representation 4-15 Board of Finance.</p> <p>3.16.23 State statute allows 4-1 representation for all 5-member Boards except the Board of Selectman. State statute allows towns to increase minority representation on any Board as desired but minority representation on a Board cannot be less than the State requirement. The Commission chose to decline any recommendations to</p> <p>3.6.23 The BOF having a 4-1 part allotment. Why not 3-2?</p> | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded to "decline to move forward with modifications to Section 4-6" (1:30, 3/16). Motion carried 7-1 with Ms. Welton opposing. |
| A - 31 | 3.6.23 | <p>Section 4-8 Election of the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p>3.16.23 General consensus of the Board is that this is not needed</p> <p>3.6.23 BOS all running for reelection at the same time.</p> | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Ms. Christiansen seconded a motion to decline to recommend Ms. Franceschini's change to Section 4-8 of the Charter. Motion carried 7-1 with Mr. Schrim opposing. |
| A - 32 | 3.6.23 | <p>Section 5-3 Commission on the Aging.</p> <p>3.16.23 This item and the recommendation from the Commission on Aging (Tracker Tab D, #1) address the same desire to change the term limit from 3 to 2 years. The requests are motioned together and both were approved.</p> <p>3.6.23 Changing term on the Commission on Aging from 3 to 2 years.</p> | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 5-3 of the Charter to incorporate the changes received from the Commission on Aging. Motion carried 8-0 |
| A - 33 | 3.6.23 | <p>3.16.23 The consensus of the Commission is this is not a Charter issue</p> <p>3.6.23 Various town committees not following FOIA meeting guidelines and not being properly noticed.</p> | 3.16.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Cascella to decline the request by Ms. Franceschini to address various Town committees not following FOIA guidelines. This is not a Charter issue. Seconded by Ms. Christiansen. Motion carried 8-0. |
| A - 34 | 3.6.23 | <p>3.16.23 The consensus of the Commission is this is not a Charter issue</p> <p>3.6.23 How would someone who's unaffiliated run for office without picking a side or being endorsed by the R or D party?</p> | | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Motion by Mr. Rettger to decline the request by Ms. Franceschini to answer the question on how someone who is unaffiliated runs for office. This is not a Charter issue. Seconded by Ms. Christiansen. Motion carried 8-0. |

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| A - 35 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 6-1 Organization.</p> <p>4.6.23 Mike L decline, Tom 9-0 similiar to A-28</p> <p>Current Charter Language: The First Selectman shall provide each person appointed to a board with a copy of the ordinance, or other source, which defines the duties of the office.</p> <p>Suggested Change: The First Selectman shall provide each person appointed to a board with a copy of the ordinance, or other source e and a specific mandate, which defines the duties and limitations of the office.</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Ms. Lordi moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded "a motion to decline to recommend changing Section 6.1". Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:52) |
| A-36 | 3.16.23 via email | <p>4.6.23 The Committee discussed and 'must' means a group cannot have a meeting unless it is broadcast or recorded. Many of the larger Committees, Boards, and Commissions already stream their meeting but the suggestion might be overly restrictive to every Board, Commission or Committee. The Town Clerk made a suggestion relative to Town Meetings which the CRC accepted. This suggestion might be best served to be part of the Guidelines.</p> <p>Article I: General Provisions Sect. 19-2 (Note: Not sure what Section 19-2 is)</p> <p>Current Charter Language: Broadcast meetings - "... proceedings of such body may be broadcast or recorded for broadcast..."</p> <p>3.16.23 Suggestion: Remove the word "may" and replace it with "must." In today's digital world, every town meeting should be broadcast and/or recorded for residents to view and/or watch at a later time, in the spirit of complete transparency. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Ms. Christiansen moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded "a motion to decline" Motion carried 9-0. (1:02) |
| A - 37 | 3.16.23 via email | <p>4.6.23 The Commission recognized it previously voted on the suggestion to permanently disband the Affordable Housing Committee (A-29) and that motion will apply here.</p> <p>3.16.23 Suggestion: in reference to the Affordable Housing Committee, which currently reports to the Board of Selectman.</p> <p>There is no mention of the Affordable Housing Committee in the current Town Charter, and as a result, should be permanently disbanded.</p> <p>The formation of the committee was never subject to a town hearing, and its' committee members, including the Chairperson, were never elected by the town residents. As a result, this committee has been operating without specific defined guidelines that are available for the public.</p> <p>*For example, this committee used the Chairperson's personal email for all correspondence until a town email address was established in June 2022. All correspondence before that date has never been available to the public, as it is not subject to FOIA. (even though it should be) This lack of transparency should disqualify this committee from being considered an authentic town body.</p> <p>*Anyone who is charged with creating affordable housing in our town should have background and experience in urban and suburban development, rather than simply a passion for a particular cause.</p> <p>*The Affordable Housing Committee developed a plan, as was required by the state of CT, which was approved by the BOS by a slim 3-2 margin. Their charge is complete, and the task and responsibility of any further development in town should now be moved to the Planning and Zoning Commission.</p> <p>**Any and all further development, whether considered "affordable" or not, should be moved to the purview of Planning and Zoning Commission.</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline recommendations that the AHC be dissolved because it is not a Charter issue" (33:24). Motion carried 9-0. |

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| A - 38 | 3.16.23 via email | <p>Article IV: Elections and Elective Officers Sect. 4-6 Minority Representation</p> <p>4.6.23. As it relates to Minority representation, on 3.16.23, in relation to Tracker Item A-30, the Commission voted 7-1 to decline any modifications to Section 4-6 in it's entirety. The 3/16 recording reflects that Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded, to "decline to move forward with modifications to Section 4-6" (1:30, 3/16). Motion carried 7-1 with Ms. Welton opposing. Initially the Commission believed this motion applied but ultimately chose to motion Ms. More's suggested change independently after further discussion.</p> <p>3.16.23 The maximum number of any such board or commission who may be members of the same political party shall be as specified in the following table (see table in Charter):</p> <table><tr><td>Total Membership</td><td>Maximum One Party</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>5*</td><td>4*</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>More than 9</td><td>2/3 of total membership</td></tr></table> <p>*However, in accordance with the General Statutes, the maximum number of members of a five-member Board of Selectmen who may be members of the same political party shall be three.</p> <p>Suggestion: When the Total Membership is 5, change the Maximum of One Party to 3. Remove the *4 and the "However, in accordance with the General Statutes" statement. When the Total Membership is 9, change the Maximum of One Party to 5, rather than 6.</p> <p>I suggest these changes in order to promote a more fair and balanced membership.</p> | Total Membership | Maximum One Party | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5* | 4* | 6 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 | More than 9 | 2/3 of total membership | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to "decline tomaking changes to Section 4-6" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6 1:15) |
| Total Membership | Maximum One Party | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5* | 4* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| More than 9 | 2/3 of total membership | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A-39 | 3.20.23 via email | <p>4.6.23 Ms. Thompson is asking for a more efficient process for Town Meetings. Towns are constrained by State Statute as to how Town Meetings can be managed and this is not a Charter issue. From a procedural perspective, the Board of Selectman must wisely choose where to host Town Meetings. This might become an operational task if the Town decides to explore a Town Administrator role</p> <p>3.20.23 My concern is with the Town Meeting process. A long time Ridgefield resident, I regularly attended Town Meetings when I first moved here in the early 1990's. I did not find the meetings conducive to participatory democracy. When the topic was of interest to town residents, the auditorium was overcrowded, it was difficult to understand all that was being said, and the paper voting process was cumbersome and lengthy. Because the timing for the meeting is always in the evening and the venue is of limited capacity, it is difficult, if not impossible, for all of our town's residents to attend.</p> <p>Perhaps in the ensuing years the process has been streamlined and become more effective. I know longer try to attend. Given the constrictions imposed by the COVID pandemic and the advancement of technology, it seems to me that a more efficient and effective process is certainly possible and should be considered. (crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lansen moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded to "decline making recommendations to the town meeting process that is not a Charter issue but an operational issue for the Board of Selectman". Motion carried 9-0 (4/6 18:30) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| A - 40 | 3.20.23 | <p>4.8 Election of the Board of Selectmen</p> <p>4.13.23 After discussion, the Commission believes this suggestion might be best considered during the Town Administrator research as multiple sections of the Charter would need to be amended to accomodate a Drop Down voting process and the Commission does not have enough time to fully research this suggestion. In the Commission's final report back to the BOS, a note will be made to research and form a recommendation on reinstituting the Drop Down voting process as part of any future plans to form a committee to investigate how a Town Admin can serve Ridgefield.</p> <p>3.20.23 Lets bring back the "Drop Down" - Years ago, the race for Selectman was far more exciting and uncertain than it is now due to the "drop down" rule. The Selectmen candidates ran against each AND, indirectly, against the other opponent, the First Selectman candidates. The loser to the first selectman race may not have garnered enough votes to become Ridgefield's' First Selectman, but they may have enough votes to beat one of the other candidates. For example, the 1st Selectman candidate received 400 votes. The rest of the slate looks as follows:</p> <p>(D)1st winner, 400 votes R. Runner up, 380 votes D Ms. Jones, 300 votes R Mr. Smith, 310 vote D Ms. Brown, 350 votes R Mr. White, 320 votes D Ms. Black,345 votes</p> <p>In a regular election, the winners would be : D 1st Selectman, D Brown, D Black, R White & R Smith.</p> <p>If the dropdown was used, it would change the outcome to: (D)1st Selectman, (R) Runner Up, (D)Brown, (D)Black & (R)White.</p> <p>This changes the complexion of the ballot and would force the under-ticket to work harder, as they have greater competition now. Instead of four candidates running for a sure slot, there IS no sure slot when the four candidates must run including the top of the ticket. The minority representation rules still exist, which adds another layer of uncertainty to the slate.</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.26 | 4.13.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Zagorec seconded a motion" to decline but incorporate the suggestion about a Drop Down election process in the recommendation to the BOS regarding the form of town government". Motion carried 5-2. Mr. Schirm and Ms. Welton opposed. (4/13, 2:20) |
| | | More competition means more diversity of candidates, the potential for a greater range of appeal to voters and hopefully, a greater turnout of the public. | | | | | |
| A - 41 | 3.27.23 | <p>4.13.26 After discussion, the Commission came to the same conclusion it had previously. Continuing education can be encouraged but someone is elected or appointed cannot be required to take classes; what is the recourse if they don't complete any ongoing training or continuing education classes?</p> <p>4.6.23 is this addressed under Town Clerk suggestion about mandatory training?</p> <p>3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended to require any person elected or appointed to a Commission or Board that requires specialized knowledge or that makes decisions that could be appealed to the Superior Court take mandatory state-approved education classes once elected (and before being seated), including continuing education annually for their entire term.</p> | 4.13.26 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline recommended changes to the Charter that would incorporate mandatory educational processes". Motion carried 7-0 (4/13, 2:23) |
| A - 42 | 3.27.23 | <p>4.13.23 This fringes on a Freedom of Speech issue. Elected or appointed officials can post as they wish on their personal social media accounts.</p> <p>3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended to prohibit elected or appointed officials from spreading misinformation, including on social media. "Misinformation" should be defined as "any information the official knows or should know is incorrect based on public information and includes misinformation by omission of important facts." The purpose is to provide a clear ethical standard about online behavior.</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion "to decline recommendations to the Charter that would incorporate restrictions on misinformation". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:27) |
| A - 43 | 3.27.23 | <p>4.13.23 This does not appear to be a Charter issue.</p> <p>3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended to require any group or "spokesman" for any group, when appearing at a public meeting of the Town of Ridgefield to disclose the name and address of its membership. This is the same requirement as we have for individuals who speak at public meetings. Without this requirement, an agency and those who appear before the agency lack the information necessary to determine whether there is an unethical or illegal conflict of interest between the organization and members of that board or committee.</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to "decline to recommend the changes put forward as it is not a Charter issue". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:30) |
| A - 44 | 3.27.23 | <p>4.13.23 This is addressed in the Charter in Section 9-15.</p> <p>3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended so that Boards and Commissions are required to cooperate with each other and prohibit legal action between them unless approved by the Board of Selectmen or, if the Board of Selectmen is a party, the Board of Finance. The brewing kerfuffle between the PZC and Selectmen over Inclusionary Zoning is a warning sign.</p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline the proposed change as it is already covered by the existing Charter". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:33) |

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| A - 45 | 3.27.23 | 4.13.23 Adding language to the Charter that something illegal should not be acted upon is not going to prevent it from happening in the below scenario. 3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended so that Boards and Commissions are prohibited from acting in any way they know or should know is in violation of applicable law, even as part of a lawful strategy. | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Schirm moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion "to decline this". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:34) |
| A - 46 | 3.27.23 | 4.16.23 Article XI does not specify penalties directly although the Board of Ethics, in the newly rewritten Standards of Conduct, can recommend appropriate penalties against the offending officials. Adding direct penalties to the Charter probably isn't appropriate. The Commission also believes this is not a direct Charter issue as defining penalties in the Charter is not allowed per the State Constitution. 3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended so that the Board of Ethics has the power to remove elected officials for serious ethical violations or repeated ethical violations, including failure to satisfy the suggested continuing education standard above. | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to decline because we don't believe the State Constitution permits it". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:45) |
| A - 47 | 3.27.23 | 4.13.23 The updated Article XI, Standards of Conduct, now requires a notarized signature on any submitted ethics complaints. While this is not a sworn affidavit as suggested by Mr. Jewell, the intent of ensuring legitimacy has been addressed. 3.27.23 Suggested Change: The Charter should be amended so that the Board of Ethics is only required to accept ethics complaints that are supported by a sworn affidavit by the complainant, including a statement of the specific ethical standard that was allegedly violated and the basis of the complainants' knowledge. The Board can promulgate a form affidavit for this purpose. | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to accept this referral as it is already incorporated in Article XI" Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:37) |
| A - 48 | 3.28.23 | 3.30.23 The Commission believes this is not a Charter issue. 3.28.23 Suggested Change: I want to propose that park and recreation or maintenance or some other Town Department that is most appropriate maintain the bathrooms and facilities associated with the town baseball fields. I think it's appropriate to charge a fee to Ridgefield Baseball Association but the town should maintain and clean the facilities. I've been a baseball parent for many years and travel to other town baseball fields. They are generally well maintained and clean. The Ridgefield facilities are run down, dirty, often not work and generally look like no one cares. Given the amount of property taxes that we pay, I feel that having baseball field facilities (bathrooms, snack shack, dugouts) that are working, clean and presentable is a pretty basic request. | | | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Lansen moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to decline to recommend changing the Town Charter to incorporate the maintenance of bathrooms and facilities associated with the town baseball fields, as suggested by Ms. Adams. Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. |
| A-49 | 3.29.23 | 5.4.23 Correspondence was received from the Ridgefield Fire Chief in response to Mr. Cascella sending him proposed language for an appointed Fire Commission. The Fire Chief would like the opportunity to speak with the Charter Revision Commission and will attend the 5.11.23 meeting. In light of this, further discussion on this topic was tabled. 4.27.23 Mr. Cascella reviewed draft language to create an appointed Fire Commission. Additionally he also raised additional changes to the initial language he would like to make based on feedback sent to him from Commission members. The Commission agreed to discuss updated draft language at the next meeting. In the meantime, Mr. Cascella also agreed to share the draft language and secure feedback on his Fire Commission proposal from Fire Department leadership. 4.20.23 Mr. Cascella reviewed the findings of his research on the status of fire commissions in other towns comparable to Ridgefield in size. Data from 14 surrounding towns show each town has a Fire Commission (or something similarly called) with half being appointed and the other half made up of Fire Department Leadership. None of the 14 towns have their Board of Selectman also act as their entire Fire Commission. After questions, Mr. Cascella offered to draft a more specific C73 proposal for creating an appointed Fire Commission in the Charter, for review and possible consideration at the next meeting. The current Charter language in Sections 9-10 and 9-11 identify the BOS as the Fire Commission and appoint the Fire Marshall. 4.13.23 Mr. Sexton, a 14-year Ridgefield Firefighter who recently resigned, spoke to the Commission about his suggested change to provide more voice to the Fire Department and eliminate the perceived conflict of interest in having the Board of Selectmen also act as the Fire Commission. Mr. Cascella volunteered to investigate how surrounding towns are managing their fire department, to research options for Ridgefield, and try to figure out why Ridgefield has a Police Commission but not a Fire Commission. As a note, at a previous meeting, Mr. Marconi made a comment about creating a joint Public Safety Commission in a few years. 3.29.23 Submitted Change: I would like the charter revision committee to consider making the fire commission an elected position. The brave men and women of the Ridgefield Fire Department deserve a board who is dedicated to their mission and success. The current set up of the board of selectman operating as the fire commission is a blatant conflict of interest. The police get their own commission why not Ridgefield Bravest. As a former member of the Ridgefield Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of a nearby town fire department now, I can tell you how much the department needs this. | 4.13.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion "to table further review the issue of the Fire Commission" until a later meeting. Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:03) | 4.20.23 Mr. Cascella moved and Ms. Christiansen seconded a motion to table discussion of the topic to the next meeting. Motion carried 8-0 in favor. 5.4.23 Mr. Cascella moved and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion to table discussion of the proposal to establish a Fire Commission until the following meeting, when the Fire Chief is available to meet in person and discuss his thoughts with the Commission Motion carried 7-0. (Mr. Lansen had not yet joined the meeting.) | | | |
| A-50 | 4.4.23 | 4.6.23 After discussion and amending the original motion to accept Mr. Lordi's suggestion, the Commission agreed all references to Chairman, Chairwoman, or Chairperson be changed to simply Chair in the Charter. 4.4.23 I recommend that the title Chairman be replaced with Chairperson in the Charter. | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to change all references to Chairman, Chairwoman, and Chairperson to Chair". Motion carried 9-0 (20:01) |

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| A-51 | 3.23.23 (via invitation) | <p>4.13 The Commission reviewed and discussed the suggested languages submitted by Mr. Rettger including a slight wording change (in blue font) suggested by Mr. Goldenberg who provided feedback after Mr. Rettger shared the detail with him.</p> <p>4.12.23 From Mr. Rettger: <i>My suggested language is shown below. I have developed this from the original BOS charge document, but have also looked to offer wording consistent in tone and length/specificity with other similar-role committees already enumerated, such as the Commission on Accessibility and the Commission on Aging.</i> <i>Section 5-xx Affordable Housing Committee</i> <i>The Affordable Housing Committee shall be composed of nine members, each serving three-year terms ending April 1. Three members shall be appointed each year, subject to a transition period in which three members each are appointed to initial terms of one, two, and three years, respectively.</i></p> <p><i>The Affordable Housing Committee shall study the needs for and the availability of affordable housing in Ridgefield, build community awareness of the issue, and recommend policies, and programs, and initiatives that promote the availability of affordable housing to the Board of Selectmen and other boards. The Committee shall have such additional powers and duties as may be established in the General Statutes and applicable ordinances.</i></p> <p>4.6.23 Mr. Rettger offered to create possible draft Charter language for the Commission to react to</p> <p>3.23.23 Mr. Dave Goldenberg was invited to speak before the CRC. Per Ms. Mucchetti, " <i>The referrals have been almost uniform in their language. The recommendation is the Affordable Housing Committee that currently reports to the Board of Selectman, appointed by the Board of Selection, and the recommendation is the line of reporting should now go to Planning & Zoning</i>" (20:27)</p> <p>In addressing the P&Z question, Mr. Goldenberg states, "<i>The second proposal, that oversight of the committee be moved from the BoS to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), may serve to advance the work of the AHC and deserves serious consideration, for the following reasons</i> (23:00):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• The PZC oversees matters of land use and therefore shares the AHC's area of concern. It would be a natural home for the AHC.</i><i>• Currently, the AHC must seek approval from the BoS before engaging in activities with the PZC. This would eliminate that step and thus streamline the process. Further, the PZC is less susceptible to broader politics.</i><i>• Under the PZC, we could take advantage of their existing staff resources when they are made available to us. And we could serve as a resource to them, providing, for example, support in reviewing affordable housing applications and assisting with compliance.</i><i>• Most importantly, incorporating the AHC into Section 5 of the Charter would ensure that the AHC continues in perpetuity its work to create housing opportunities—and would end the calls for dissolution from those determined to undermine the committee's work.</i> <p><i>Last night, at our monthly affordable housing meeting, the Affordable Housing Committee voted unanimously, 9-0, to support the concept of moving oversight of the Affordable Housing Committee to the PZC, pending further discussion and details" (25:34).</i></p> | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Ms. Mucchetti moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded "a draft motion to approve making the AHC a permanent Commission in the Charter based on language to be drafted for review at our next meeting". (54:30) Motion carried 6-2. Ms. Welton and Mr. Lordi opposed | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to move forward with recommending that the Affordable Housing Commission be enumerated in the Charter with the language as drafted and presented this evening" Motion failed 3-4. Ms. Mucchetti, Mr. Schirm, and Mr. Rettger agreed. Ms. Welton, Mr. Lordi, Mr. Zagorec, and Mr. Cascella opposed (4/13, 33:39) |
| A-52 | 4.6.23 | <p>Term limits on Committees or Commissions</p> <p>4.13.23 After dicussion, the Commision believes implementing term limits might negatively impact Board work as additional volunteers may not step up to serve.</p> <p>4.6.23 A note from Ms. Mazzola: <i>After reviewing the current Charter, I am requesting the following changes be considered with respect to Commissions and Committees:</i> <i>1) Term limits should be instituted in all commissions and committees. Chairperson must rotate every 2 years or length of term.</i></p> <p><i>Reasoning: Rotating the head of a commission or committee will ensure that the focus is on the work and growth of the group and not of the chair.</i></p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline the recommendation" Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:48) |
| A-53 | 4.6.23 | <p>Recording of Meetings</p> <p>4.13.23 The Commission has already addressed this.</p> <p>4.6.23 A note from Ms. Mazzola: <i>After reviewing the current Charter, I am requesting the following changes be considered with respect to Commissions and Committees:</i> <i>2) All meeting of boards, committees or commissions must be recorded (filmed, zoomed, etc.) for the entirety of the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Reasoning:</i></p> <p><i>1. Access to a meeting's recording provides the town resident's to view a meeting in its entirety. Meeting minutes and motions do not always capture the discussions behind decisions.</i> <i>2. Many residents are still uncomfortable attending events on public forums.</i> <i>3. Will eliminate the reliance on unauthorized and edited videos that are rebroadcast.</i></p> | 4.13.23 | | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion "to decline because it has already been considered". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:49) |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Public Comments"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|--------|---|---|--|------|------------------|--|
| A-54 | 4.3.23 | <p>Oversight of the Town Charter</p> <p>4.20.23 Mr. Rettger presented suggested Charter language to Article VI, expanding it to include reference to the <i>Town of Ridgefield Information and Guidelines for Boards, Committees, and Commissions</i>. Under Section 6.2, language will read: All boards and board members shall execute their powers and duties in a manner consistent with the "Guidelines for Boards, Committees and Commissions" adopted by the Board of Selectmen on December 7, 2022, and as may have been amended subsequently.</p> <p>4.13.23 In general, the Commission has addressed the open item about oversight of the Town Charter. The only remaining question is how we fold the <i>Town of Ridgefield Information and Guidelines for Boards, Committees, and Commissions</i> adopted by the BOS on Dec 7, 2022 into the Charter. Mike R will work on this.</p> <p>4.3.23 Letter from Ms. Noyes: <i>This is a continuation of my previous letter dated March 4, 2023. I have continued going through the Town Charter Section by Section noting changes whether they are simple wording suggestions or more significant organization or policy suggestions. However, given the waning timeframe for residents to make suggestions, I am going to focus on my top line issues without necessarily referencing the applicable Town Charter Section.</i></p> <p><i>A town charter is only as good as the management and oversight of the organizations and policies set forth in it. I suggest specific wording on exactly what oversight of the Ridgefield Town Charter means and who does it. I see and have put in writing various non-compliance of the Charter. For the most part my comments have been disregarded or minimally responded to. Is there an appeals board for questions about compliance or does the BOS have the final say? Should the Charter include such an appeals board? I understand residents can file Ethics Complaints. I am referring to continuous failure to follow Charter rules, each of which may not warrant an Ethics Complaint, but in total make it clear there is minimal if any oversight of the Ridgefield Town Charter.</i></p> <p><i>Some examples are various Committees or Commissions not posting scheduled meetings or meeting minutes, Chairpersons (acting in that capacity, not as a private person) making public comments or being interviewed without involving or informing their Committee, not answering FOIA requests promptly, spending or planning to spend money granted to the town for a specific project on other projects without proper review or approval, and more. Sometimes these offenses are human error, others appear to be purposefully ignoring the Town Charter. Right now other than complaining to the BOS or filing a Town or State ethics complaint, residents have little assurance that the Town Charter is being followed or that interpretation of a specific Section is not subjective.</i></p> <p><i>Another suggestion is to make the recently published guidelines on how to run a Committee, Commission or Board an official part of the Town Charter.</i></p> | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a "motion to defer discussions on Oversight of the Town Charter until a future meeting". Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 1:56) | | | 4.20.23 | Mr. Cascella motioned and Mr. Larsen seconded to accept amendments to Sec 6-1, 6-2, and 6-3, as proposed. Motion carried 7-0 |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Board of Finance"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| B - 1 | 2.24.23 | <p>Section 4-15 Board of Finance</p> <p>Request #1 (Requested changes identified in red)</p> <p>Current Charter Language: (c) Annual Town report. [(17)] The Board of Finance shall prepare and publish the annual Town report electronically. The Board of Finance budget shall include an appropriation for the publication of the annual Town report.</p> <p>Suggested change: add the word Financial to annual Town Report. [1]</p> <p>Section 4-15 (c) This change is intended to clarify that the document described in this section of the Charter is a financial report, and not something broader and more open-ended. See also [7]</p> <p>Recommended wording: The Board of Finance shall prepare and publish the annual Town Financial Report electronically. The Board of Finance budget shall include an appropriation for the publication of the annual Town Financial Report.</p> | 3/9/2023 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 4-15c and 4-15d as amended of the Charter to incorporate the changes received from the Board of Finance as revised. Motion carried 7-0, with Mr. Rettger abstaining |
| B - 2 | 2.24.23 | <p>Section 4-15 Board of Finance</p> <p>Request #2 (Requested changes identified in red)</p> <p>Current Charter Language: (d) Annual financial report. [2]</p> <p>Suggested change: (d) Annual financial audit and report. [2]</p> <p>Rationale: Section 14-5 (d) This change is tied to Request #1 and is intended to clarify that the second key responsibility of the BOF is to oversee the annual financial audit of the Town, and to provide a report of the audit results to the public.</p> | 3/9/2023 | | | 3.16.23 | |
| B - 3 | 2.24.23 | <p>Section 4-15 Board of Finance</p> <p>Request #3 (Requested changes identified in red)</p> <p>Current Charter Language: After the annual audit by an independent public accountant as provided by the General Statutes, the certification of such public accountant as to the scope of the audit shall be included in the Town's annual report.</p> <p>Suggested change...After the annual audit by an independent public accountant as provided by the General Statutes, the certification of such public accountant as to the scope of the audit shall be included in the Town's annual financial report</p> <p>Rationale: Section 4-15 (d) This change clarifies that the vehicle for delivery of the findings of the audit is the annual town financial report defined in subsection (c).</p> | 3/9/2023 | | | 3.16.23 | |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Board of Finance"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| B - 4 | 2.24.23 | <p>Section 10-1 Budget. Request # 4 (Requested changes identified in red)</p> <p>Current Charter Language: The budgets shall be prepared in such manner as the Board of Finance shall prescribe. The individual budget requests of each department, board or commission shall be signed by the Chair or department head and submitted to the Board of Selectmen and/or Board of Education for submission to the Board of Finance.</p> <p>Suggested change: The budgets shall be prepared in such manner as the Board of Finance shall prescribe. The individual budget requests of each department, board or commission shall be signed by the Chair or department head and submitted to the Board of Selectmen and/or Board of Education for submission to the Board of Finance.</p> <p>Rationale: Section 10-1. We do not see that this requirement for formal signed submissions serves any effective control purpose within the budget process. If it is important, it is a process control that should be established and administered by the respective operating units. We recommend that this requirement be dropped as a specific element of the Charter.</p> | 3/9/2023 | | | 3.16.23 | |
| B - 5 | 2.24.23 | <p>Section 10-2 Additional appropriations.</p> <p>3.16.23 This item should not be identified as a technical change but instead may be a stand alone question for voting purposes.</p> <p>Request #5 (Requested changes identified in red)</p> <p>Current Charter Language: If both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance approve the petition, the Board of Selectmen shall call a Special Town Meeting to be held within 45 days of approval by the Board of Selectmen. If either or both Boards vote to deny the petition or fail to act within said forty-five days of receipt of the verified petition, the Board of Selectmen shall remove the matter from the Town Meeting and submit the matter to referendum. Said referendum shall be held within 45 days of the denial or failure to act by either Board.</p> <p>Suggested change to be added to 10-2 (b)...If both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance approve the petition, the Board of Selectmen shall call a Special Town Meeting to be held within 45 days of approval by the Board of Selectmen. The Special Town Meeting may approve individual requests made by verified petition up to the amount of \$3,000,000 in aggregate for the year. If the amount of the request exceeds \$3,000,000, either as a single request or the request would bring the aggregate amount approved for that year to more than \$3,000,000, the request shall, after public hearing, also be submitted to referendum.</p> <p>Rationale: Section 10-2 (b) This wording is proposed to clarify that additional appropriation requests of more than \$3,000,000 a year arising from a petitioned town meeting would be subject to a referendum in addition to the town meeting. This would make the voter ratification requirement for such large amounts consistent with the requirements for other large additional appropriation requests established earlier in this section. The present Charter is silent on this question, making the process unclear.</p> | 3/9/2023 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Ms. Christiansen |

As of 5.7.23

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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Board of Finance"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Commission for Accessibility"
As of 5.7.23

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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Commisson on Aging"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| D - 1 | 3/7/23 | <p>Section 5-3</p> <p>3/7/23 Current Charter Language: "The Commission on the Aging shall consist of nine members serving three-year terms ending April 1. Three members shall be appointed each year. The Commission on the Aging shall study the needs of the elderly and coordinate municipal programs to meet those needs; and shall have powers and duties in accordance with the General Statutes and applicable ordinances."</p> <p>To effectuate the CoA's proposed revision described above, the CoA suggests deleting the first and second sentences of section 5-3 in their entirety and replacing them with the following:</p> <p>Suggested Change: "The Commision on the Aging shall consist of nine members serving two-year terms ending April 1. Four members shall be appointed in even years and five members shall be appointed in odd years."</p> | 3/16/23 | | | 3/16/23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 5-3 of the Charter to incorporate the changes received from the Commission on Aging. Motion carried 8-0 |
| D-2 | 4/18/23 | <p>4.20.23 The Commission reviewed the request and identified two places in the Charter where the word 'the' appears before Aging. The suggestion is to change both places.</p> <p>4/18/23 See below, which was excerpted from the Town Charter.</p> <p>Current Charter Language: There, under Section 5.3, the Commission on which I serve is referred to as the 'Commission on <u>the</u> Aging'.</p> <p>Suggested Change: On the Town's website and amount the Commissioners, the Commission is referred to as the 'Commission on Aging'. While a small matter, we propose unifying the description of the Commission and, in keeping with common parlance, drop the article 'the' before the word 'Aging' in Section 5.3 of the Charter. Thus, going forward, the Town Charter, the Town website, and common parlance will all be unified in referring to the commission as the 'Commission on Aging'.</p> | 4/20/23 | | | 4/20/23 | 4.20.23 Motion by Mr. Cascella to accept the request from the Commission on the Aging to modify Sec 5.3 to make the name of the entity "Commission on Aging" and to adjust all other title references in the section accordingly. Seconded by Tom Lansen. Motion carried 7-0. |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on ECDC

As of 5.7.23

| Item # DATE | | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code |
|-------------|---------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|
| E - 1 | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 The Commission can only address the Charter revisions as requested and not the Town Code and approved the updates to reflect the change in the number of members and their terms for the ECDC | 3.30.23 | | |
| | 3.8.23 | <p>3.8.23 Section 5-8 Economic and Community Development Commission.</p> <p>Current Charter Language: The Economic and Community Development Commission shall consist of seven members serving one-year terms. The Commission will seek to implement orderly and planned economic development in keeping with the character of the Town.</p> <p>3.8.23 Initial Comment: The Ridgefield Economic & Community Development Commission respectfully requests that portions of both the Town Charter and the Town Code are revised in relation to economic & community development. The ECDC's requested revisions are in RED below.</p> <p>Suggested Change: The Economic and Community Development Commission shall consist of seven nine members serving one-year two-year terms. The Commission will seek to....</p> <p>Note: In addition to Charter Changes, the ECDC submitted Town Code Changes not recorded here.</p> | | | |
| E-2 | 4.3.23 | <p>4.6.23 The Commission agrees this is not a Charter issue but instead an Ordinance issue. This does not need to be motioned again as it reflects the same request as in E-2. The Commission does not have authority to change Town Ordinances.</p> <p>This appears to still be the Town Code:</p> <p>4.3.23 In section 19-64, paragraph B Powers and Duties on page 3. That is the paragraph we would like to remove since we do not have the resources or staff to track all that inventory. Thanks</p> <p>On Wed, Mar 8, 2023 at 5:23 PM Geoffrey Morris <gjmorris555@gmail.com> wrote: Good afternoon. ECDC voted on Monday to suggest the following changes to our section of the town charter. BOS approved last year our increase to nine commissioners for two-year terms. The other section about tracking commercial properties is not feasible given our limited budget so we would like to remove it. Thank you</p> | 4.6.23 | | N/A |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Finance and Taxation"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | CODE | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|------------------|--|--------------------|---|------|---------------|--|
| F - 1 | 2.20.23 | <p>10.1 C</p> <p>4.2.23 Per Mike Lordi: I withdraw the recommended change I proposed to Section 10.1 (c), original email below.</p> <p>3.30.23 Mike L thinks he will withdraw this and will send a letter stating the same as the Charter approved a motion to change 10.1 C as oart if Tracjer L-3, a change to the same language as submitted by the Board of Selectman</p> <p>3.14.23</p> <p>Suggested wording from Mike Lordi: The annual capital and operating budgets of the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen, as recommended by the Board of Finance, shall be brought to the Annual Town and Budget Meeting for discussion and then sent to referendum. The Mmeeting shall have the power to decrease-or delete any line item as a whole, without regard to any specific item, the Board of Education, and the Board of Selectmen's budgets.,-but-# The Meeting may not increase or add to any line item or establish any additional line item of either budget.</p> <p>3.9.23: <i>Updated Comment:</i> Per Dave Ulmer, the Board of Finance is comfortable with this recommendation.</p> <p>2.20.23 <i>Original Comment:</i> Revise Section 10.1 (c): The Annual Town and Budget meeting shall have the power to decrease the operating budgets of the Board of Education and the Board of Selectman as a whole and shall not address specific items.</p> <p>The current language allows the meeting to decrease or delete any line item.</p> <p>The budgets submitted by the BOE and BOS have been developed over many months with considerable input and analysis. Line-item reductions may have unintended consequences, including reducing or eliminating funding for State mandated programs. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 3.9.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to table the discussion of Mr. Lordi's recommended change to Section 10.1 (c) of the Charter until a later meeting. Motion carried 8-0. (39:50) | | | |
| F - 2 | 3.1.23 | <p>3.16.23 Further Commission Discussion</p> <p>3.9.23 <i>Updated Comment:</i> Mike L will investigate further how other towns manage the cycle and process of a 3-vote option.</p> <p>3.1.23 Currently the Charter requires a vote on the annual budget. If the vote is No the budget can only be reduced. Brookfield does not have this limitation. Their charter allows people to vote Yes or No on the budget but allows No voters to indicate if the budget is too high or too low. I believe our charter should do the same. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 3.9.23 | | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Ms. Welton seconded a motion to decline to recommend Mr. Wehking's change to Section 10.1 (d) of the Charter regarding the annual budget referendum. Motion carried 8-0. (47:13) |
| F - 3 | 3.3.23 via email | <p>Section 10-1 Budget.</p> <p>4.6.23 The Commission doesn't believe this is required for the Charter.</p> <p>3.3.23 (a) Preparation of the budget for the coming fiscal year. [(17)]</p> <p>Suggested Change: Add: NO BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO IMPOSE ANY EXACTION, PENALTY, FEE OR OTHER FORM OF IMPOSITION OR DUTY TO PAY ON ANY ONE EXCEPT AS MAY BE APPROVED AT THE TOWN MEETING OR OTHERWISE AS MAY BE PERMITTED UNDER THIS CHARTER BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, AND NO OTHER. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded "a motion to decline" Motion carried 9-0. (4/6, 1:55) |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Finance and Taxation"

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | CODE | Decision Date | Final Decision |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Information Technology

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion on Submission | Additional Discussion on Submission | CODE | DISPOSITION /DATE | Reason for Decision |
|--------|---------|--|----------------------------------|---|------|--------------------|--|
| G - 1 | 2.10.23 | 5.3.23 A note with regard to this suggested update. This idea has been captured indirectly in the Guideline updates identified as part of the Accepted Proposal Summary, specifically Technical Update #11. | 3.2.23 | 3/9/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to table the discussion of Mr. Neblett's suggested changes related to the use of Town email addresses to the Charter. Motion carried 9-0. | | 4.13.23 | 4.13.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion "to decline as it is not a Charter issue" Motion carried 7-0. (4/13, 2:55) |
| | | 4.20.23 The Commission agreed to changes to Section VI incorporating feedback as part of Tracker Item I-54. The Charter will state: All boards and board members shall execute their powers and duties in a manner consistent with the "Guidelines for Boards, Committees and Commissions" adopted by the Board of Selectmen on December 7, 2022, and as may have been amended subsequently. This allows for any specific proposals related to electronic communication to be managed through the Guidelines. . 4.13.23 After discussion, consensus is the below is not a Charter issue but instead ties to the Guideline book and should be incorporated there. 3.9.23 The Committee would like to see what the Board of Selectman recommends, if anything, before further exploring this proposal. Electronic Communication Proposed Charter Addition All Town of Ridgefield employees, elected officials, volunteers, and temporary workers shall conduct all electronic communication using a Town-provided email account with appropriate multifactor security measures. This fulfills the Town of Ridgefield's compliancy with cybersecurity insurance, Federal encryption and State/Federal standards. Reasoning This will protect the aforementioned personnel's personal email and electronic devices from FOIA requests, guarantee full transparency, fulfill record retention requirements, ensure cybersecurity protections are enabled and updated, and FIPS/other encryption. (rev'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | | | | | |
| G - 2 | 2.11.23 | 3.23.23 Following-up with the amended and approved wording for the IT Commission as of last week's meeting: The Information Technology Commission shall consist of 5 members serving 2-year terms each. 2 members shall be appointed in even years and 3 members appointed in odd years. The Information Technology Commission shall provide advice and guidance on Town information technology matters, including, but not limited to: (i) administration of fast, reliable, and secure internet access for all Town offices; (ii) maintenance and replacement of all Town IT hardware; (iii) procedures regarding Town's cyber security practices; (iv) Town's website; (v) data storage (including cloud-based backup and disaster recovery); and (vi) outsourced IT professionals. Note for redline: the following sections after the insert of the IT Commission will need to be renumbered. 3.16.23 Per Tom, here is our actual proposal for the establishment of the IT Committee in the Charter. As I mentioned last week, I can't make tonight's meeting. Derick will be there and I have no objection to the CRC voting on this matter without me. Derick can lead any related discussion: Insert for 5-16...The Information Technology Commission shall consist of five members serving two-year terms ending April 1. Three members shall be appointed in even years and two members shall be appointed in odd years. The Information Technology Commission will advise on matters, including, but not limited to: (i) administration of fast, reliable, and secure internet access for all Town offices; (ii) maintenance and replacement of all Town IT hardware; (iii) procedures regarding Town's cyber security practices; (iv) Town's website; (v) data storage (including cloud based backup and disaster recovery); and (vi) outsourced IT professionals. 3.9.23 Discussion: The Committee has asked Mr. Schirm and Mr. Larsen to create final draft wording for the Chater. Consensus is the bullets below are tactical in nature and would be part of the deliverables the Commission would work through. 3.9.23 Updated Recommendation: The creation of an Information Technology commission (of potentially five members, appointed to staggered two year terms) to provide advice and guidance on Town internet/broadband resources, town hall and various department hardware, backup emergency systems, cyber security practices, personal data privacy protection, town website and communications management, and advising town hall IT staff. Representative IT commission functions may include (but not be limited to) providing guidance and advice for the purpose of assisting the Town with respect to: (NOTE: The bullets are the same) 3.1.23 Updated Recommendation: | 3.2.23 | 3/9/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion to table the discussion of Mr. Larsen's and Mr. Schirm's - Proposed creation of an IT Oversight Committee. Motion carried 9-0. | | 3.16.23 | 3.16.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to recommend Mr. Larsen's and Mr. Schirm's proposed creation of an Information Technology Commission with language as amended. Motion carried 8-0 |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on "Insurance and Risk Mgmt"
 As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion on Submission | Additional Discussion on Submission | CODE | DISPOSITION | REASON FOR DECISION |
|--------|---------|--|---|---|------|-------------|---|
| H - 1 | 2.24.23 | 3.30.23 After discussion, the Commission feels this is an unnecessary change to the Charter. Many commissions, committees, and boards are not enumerated in the Charter. 2.24.23: From Insurance and Risk Management Committee: I note that the Charter does not include any overview of the existing committees, including the Insurance and Risk Management Committee that I am involved with. Is this done purposefully or should there be an overview of those committees and their responsibilities that should also be included? If the committees provide a value to the town, explaining what they do could be beneficial to the reader.(rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org) | 3/2/23: Mr. O'Brien responded to an email from Ms. Mucchetti. Mr. O'Brien recommended that the CRC review why existing committees are not enumerated in the Town Charter. | 3.30.23 | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Lansen seconded a motion to "decline the suggestion to enumerate.... as it is an unnecessary change" Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3.30.23 1:22:23) |
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NEW (in blue print)

ON HOLD

PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN

PROPOSAL DECLINED

PROPOSAL APPROVED

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Technical Changes
As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|---|--------------------|--|------|---------------|--|
| I - 1 | 2.11.23 | Sections 9.1 and 9.9 of the Charter identifies the "Director of Civil Preparedness". The Town now has an "Emergency Management Operations" team led by the Direct of Emergency Management (rec'd via 2.11.23 Public Hearing) | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to table the discussion of revising Section 9-1 and Section 9.9 of the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 3/30/2023 | 3.30.23 Mr. Schirm moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion "to change the name of the "Director of Civil Preparedness" to "Director of Emergency Management." Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3.30.23 1:28:55) |
| I - 2 | 2.11.23 | 3.30.23 Motion by Todd to update the changes to the CT Statutes as drafted by Todd updating and correcting refernces to the CT Statutes; Bob C second: 8-0 favor Suggested Change: We should ask the Town Attorney to review the various references in the Charter to State Statutes to make sure the references are still correct – that is, the state statute sections have not been amended in such a way as to change the intended section reference. Also, some Charter sections cite specific sections of Connecticut General Statutes, while other section say something like "prescribed by law". Is there a reason that more general reference is used in some cases? | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to table the discussion of Mr. Rettger's suggested review of the various references in the Charter to Connecticut General Statutes as drafted by Mr. Zagorec to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 3/30/2023 | 3.30.23 Mr. Zagorec moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion that "my draft changes to the Charter updating and correcting references to the CT General Statutes should be adopted, approved" Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3.30.23 1:08:17) |
| I - 3 | 2.11.23 | 4.6.23 The Commission reviewed the draft, aka "the clean version" for the suggested changes as it relates to clarifying the use of the terms Board, Agency, Department, Commission, and Committees. A note: A footnote must be added to the Final Report that a change to Section 5-16 may or may not be needed pending the outcome of the change to make Tax Collector, Town Clerk, and Town Treasure non elected positions 3.20.23 From Mike R: Attached is a final draft of the proposed changes to clean up the wording in the Charter to boards, Town agencies and related. This version is substantially the same as was circulated previously, but has a few additional corrections of these terms that we found in our final review. Note to Charter Commission - the 3.20.23 doc has been added to the Tracker folder 3.16.23 The Commission reviewed the docs submitted by Mike R, Todd, and Tom. The group will continue to review the suggestion of: Agency (an umbrella term) will reflect all boards, departments, and elected officials. Board will incorporate all boards, commissions, and committees. Department will reflect operating units of the Town. 2.11.23 The terms "agency" and "department" are used inconsistently in the Charter. In some cases, they are used seemingly interchangeable to mean the same thing, in other areas, they seem to imply different types/levels of organizational entities. There is a definition of "Town agency", but it is very broad and confusing. It might be helpful to add more specific definitions of the terms in the Charter and then align the Charter language to the definitions where needed. (For example, Sec 7-3 (j) references budget transfers between "any Town agency". Sec 10-2 references budget transfers between and within Town "departments".) | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to table the discussion of Mr. Rettger's suggested review of the terms "agency" and "department" in the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 4.6.23 | 4.6.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Rettger seconded a motion "that we accept the amendments that come in front of us this evening and that we have them brought back to us, not for vote but for clarity, as a black line version and move forward with it and correcting the reference to Section 5-16" (6:30) Motion was futher amended to "accept the changes as presented and amended" Motion carried 9-0 (9:33) |
| I-3c | 4.10.23 | 4.20.23 The Commission reveiwed the minor updates to Sections Sec 8-3(b), 10-3 (para 2 and 3) and agreed with the edits. 4.10.23 From Mike R: <i>Having distributed the "clean" version of the board, department and agency language last weekend, Todd and I then reviewed that version and found a couple of cases where we had not made an intended change to confirm with the new wording model. There are only two or three of these, which you will find highlighted and mainly toward the back half of the document.</i> <i>The other change we noticed was the need to capitalize the word Board in the sections dealing with Board of Selectmen matters, and a few other cases. These are also highlighted throughout the document.</i> <i>Overall these changes were minor but we thought we should share these in the interest of completeness.</i> | 4.20.23 | | | 4.20.23 | |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Technical Changes
As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|---|--------------------|---|------|-------------------|--|
| 1 - 4 | 2.11.23 | <p>Sec 4-17:</p> <p>4.18.23 From Mike R: <i>I wish to withdraw my suggestion to delete Sec 4-17 of the current Charter (Tracker item I-4). From the minutes and correspondence it appears that I had not communicated this change previously</i></p> <p>3.1.23 Final Recommendation:</p> <p>[2]Delete the ability for an elected board/commission not enumerated in the Charter to be created by ordinance/town meeting.</p> <p>Section 4-17. Additional elective boards and commissions- [(7)]- By ordinance submitted to and approved by the Town Meeting, additional elective boards may be established, as provided for in the General Statutes. Such ordinance shall specify the board's powers and duties, enabling statute, terms of office, and method of filling vacancies.-</p> <p>2.11.23 Initial Comment:</p> <p>5)Sec 4-17 Authorizes the creation of additional elective boards not specifically defined by the Charter. This authorization appears to be open-ended as to time/duration. Should we consider language that would somehow require such new elective boards to be presented to voters at the next Charter revision? Two options would seem to be available:</p> <p>a.Add language to Sec 4-17: Any such board established pursuant to this section which is not recommended for inclusion in the Charter in the next Charter revision process and approved by the voters shall sunset and cease to continue in operation upon completion of that next Charter revision cycle</p> <p>b.Delete Sec 4-17 in its entirety, with the implicit result that additional elective Boards could only arise through the Charter revision process. (Note that under this option, the Town could still establish appointive boards/committees for urgent matter meriting such attention between Charter revision cycles, under Sec 5-16.)</p> | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to table the discussion on Mr. Rettger's suggested deletion of Section 4-17 of the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | withdrawn 4.18.23 | |
| 1 - 5 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 Final Recommendation</p> <p>Consolidate Charter language establishing the cycle of overlapping terms of election for various elective boards.</p> <p>Section 4-10. Board of Education. The Board of Education shall consist of nine members, who shall serve four year terms each. Five members and four members shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18 Four members shall be elected in 1993 and every four years thereafter. Five members shall be elected in 1995 and every four years thereafter. Electors may vote.....</p> <p>Section 4-11. Planning and Zoning Commission. [(11)(17)(18)] The Planning and Zoning Commission shall consist of nine members, who shall serve four year terms each. Five members and four members shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18. Effective with the election of 1995 the two-year term for a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be eliminated, converting all nine members to four-year terms with either four or five members elected every two years amending (this) Section 4-11. Four members shall be elected in 1995 and every four years thereafter and five members shall be elected in 1997 and every four years thereafter.-</p> <p>Section 4-12. Board of Appeals on Zoning. The Board of Appeals on Zoning shall consist of five members, and three alternates who shall serve five year terms each. Two regular members and two regular members shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18. Alternate members shall be elected as provided in Section 4-18. Such Board shall have the powers{Remainder of Section unchanged}</p> <p>Section 4-13. Board of Assessment Appeals. The Board of Assessment Appeals shall consist of three members who shall serve four year terms each. Two members and one member shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18. Electors may vote for the same number of candidates.....{Remainder of Section unchanged}</p> <p>2.11.23 Initial Comment: Some of the sections in Article IV contain staggered term initialization schedules, that were intended to get the terms of the board/committee seats set up so as to be staggered in alternating elections with the adoption of the original Charter or the ceation of the particular board/commission. (See, for example, Sec 4-10, 4-11, 4-16.).</p> <p>However, governing sections in this Article for other charter-defined boards do not have such language, but instead the staggering of terms is defined in Sec 4-</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to recommend revising Article IV of the Charter to establish the cycle of overlapping terms of elections for various elective boards as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Technical Changes
As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------------|--|
| 1 - 6 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 <i>Final Recommendation</i></p> <p>Consolidate Charter language establishing the cycle of overlapping terms of election for various elective boards.</p> <p>Section 4-14. Board of Police Commissioners. The Board of Police Commissioners shall consist of five members who shall serve four year terms each. Three members and two members shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18.(Remainder of Section unchanged)</p> <p>Section 4-15. Board of Finance. (a) Composition. The Board of Finance shall consist of five members who shall serveing four year terms each. Three members and two members shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18. The members shall choose a chairman from its members annually at the first meeting in January. (Remainder of Section unchanged)</p> <p>Section 4-16. Inland Wetlands Board. [(18)3] The Inland Wetlands Board shall be comprised of seven members who shall each serving four-year terms each.. Four members and three members shall be elected at alternating Town elections, as provided in Section 4-18.Of the seven members first elected at the November 2019 general election, four members shall be elected for an initial term of four years and three members shall be elected for an initial term of two years. Thereafter, all members shall be elected for terms of four years. In accordance with Section 4-3 of the Charter.... (Remainder of Section unchanged)</p> <p>Section 4-18. Alternating Terms of office, Election Schedule and transition. [(16)] The number of members officers elected to boards other than Board of Education and Planning and Zoning Commission at regular Town elections during each successive four year interval shall continue to be as follows: {Commission Note: see Tech Changes Appendix for red line grid}</p> <p>2.11.23 <i>Initial Comment:</i> Some of the sections in Article IV contain staggered term initialization schedules, that were intended to get the terms of the board/committee seats set up so as to be staggered in alternating elections with the adoption of the original Charter or the ceation of the particular board/commission. (See, for example, Sec 4-10, 4-11, 4-16.).</p> <p>However, governing sections in this Article for other charter-defined boards do not have such language, but instead the staggering of terms is defined in Sec 4-18. All of the initialization language is now history given the passage of time. Article IV could be simplified and made easier to read if Sec 4-18 were expanded to cover all referenced boards/committees, and the corresponding "set up" language deleted from the applicable sections.</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to recommend revising Article IV of the Charter to establish the cycle of overlapping terms of elections for various elective boards as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |
| 1 - 7 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 This comment mirrors Item #8 submitted by the Town Clerk and will be tracked there.</p> <p>2.11.23 <i>Initial Comment:</i></p> <p>Handling the term of office for board/committee chairs and other officers seems inconsistent – in some cases the Charter specifies that these are set annually, in others it is unclear if they need to be re-established annually or if the positions continue indefinitely until someone leaves or steps down. Sec 6-1 already provides for certain organization aspects. Should this be amended to specify a requirement that board/committee officers be chosen annually, as a clarification?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | Withdrawn 3/1/23 | Withdrawn |
| 1 - 8 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 <i>Final Recommendation</i></p> <p>Section 4-7. <i>Vacancies; elective boards, offices and commissions.</i></p> <p>{Last paragraph of the section} : <i>Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the Board of Selectmen or board or commission, as the case may be, from commencing the process set forth herein to fill an elected office, or vacancy on a board or commission, once the resignation has been tendered, in writing, to the Town Clerk. [Note comma deleted after "office" and comma added after "commission" in the last line]</i></p> <p>2.11.23 <i>Initial Comment:</i> Minor technical amendments.</p> <p>a.Sec 4-7: This section could probably use a comma after the word "commission" in the last line of this section.</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 4-7 of the Charter to incorporate technical changes as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Technical Changes
As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|----------------------|--|
| I - 9 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 <i>Final Recommendation</i></p> <p>Section 4-11. Planning and Zoning Commission. [(11)(17)(18)] Delete: The Architectural Advisory Committee shall provide timely opinions and advice to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the purpose of assisting the Commission in its responsibility to ensure that the proposed exterior contained in applications pending before the Planning and Zoning Commission — architectural designs and materials of buildings, structures and/or other construction, landscape and site plans, lighting, and signage — harmonize with the New England village character of Ridgefield, including the Village District, its constituent neighborhoods, and surrounding uses; protect property values; and preserve and improve the Town's appearance and beauty.</p> <p>Amend: Section 5-4. Architectural Advisory Committee. The Architectural Advisory Committee shall provide timely opinions and advice regarding architectural designs and materials of buildings, structures and/or other construction, landscape and site plans, lighting, and signage to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the purpose of assisting the Commission in its responsibility to ensure that the proposed exterior contained in applications pending before the Planning and Zoning Commission — architectural designs and materials of buildings, structures and/or other construction, landscape and site plans, lighting, and signage — harmonize with the New England village character of Ridgefield, including the Village District, its constituent neighborhoods, and surrounding uses; protect property values; and preserve and improve the Town's appearance and beauty.</p> <p>2.11.23 <i>Initial Comment</i>: Eliminate redundant wording regarding the Architectural Advisory Committee.</p> <p>6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>b.Sec 4-11 (last paragraph) and Sec 5-4 are redundant (as well as awkwardly worded). Can we delete the last paragraph of 4-11 and then clean up the wording of 5-4 to be more readable?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 4-11 and Section 5-4 of the Charter to incorporate technical changes as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |
| I - 10 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 <i>Final Recommendation</i>:</p> <p>1)Change the use of "officers" to "members" when referring to members of elected boards and commissions. (See also [7])</p> <p>Section 4-18. The number of members officers elected to boards other than Board of Education and Planning and Zoning Commission at regular Town elections during each successive four year interval shall continue to be as follows: ***** (bottom of Section) *Members Officers elected to a deferred term of office, starting on the succeeding year.</p> <p>2.11.23 <i>Initial Comment</i>: Minor technical amendment</p> <p>c.Sec 4-18 (Terms of office and transition).uses the word "officer" instead of "member" as is used throughout the rest of Article IV. Should this be modified for consistency?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 4-18 of the Charter to incorporate technical changes as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |
| I - 11 | 2.11.23 | <p>2.23.23 After discussion among the Commission, the existing wording works</p> <p>6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>d.Sec 4-16 mentions the requirement that members of the Inland Wetlands Board meet statutory requirements for subject-matter training in that area. I think there are similar statutory requirements for members of P&Z and ZBA. Should those sections also have similar training/certification language if so?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | Withdrawn 2/23/23 | Withdrawn |
| I - 12 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 <i>Final Recommendation</i>:</p> <p>Section 5-14. Water Pollution Control Authority. (Last paragraph of the section) The Water Pollution Control Authority shall be responsible for supervision of the Town's sewer plant(s) and system of sewer pipes and mains.</p> <p>2.11.23 <i>Initial Comment</i>: Minor technical amendments.</p> <p>e.Sec 5-14: This section defines the WPCA's responsibility as being supervision of the "Town's sewer plants." Should this language be modified to also include something like "and system of sewer pipes and mains"?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 5-14 of the Charter to incorporate technical changes as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Technical Changes
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| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------|---|
| I - 13 | 2.11.23 | <p>2.23.23 Mike L. will continue any further disuccsion on this topic within the Youth Commission and submit any changes.</p> <p>6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>f.Sec 5-15: Youth members were added to the Youth Commission some time ago. Has that commission considered amending the Charter to require a minimum membership of adults vs minors (e.g., that at least 1/3 of the members be minors), to assure adequate representation of each group?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | Withdrawn 2/23/23 | Withdrawn |
| I - 14 | 2.11.23 | <p>2.23.23 After discussion among the Commission, the existing wording works</p> <p>6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>g.Sec 7-1: The sentence in this section dealing with political party representation is redundant with Sec 4-6 and could be eliminated.</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | Withdrawn 2/23/23 | Withdrawn |
| I - 15 | 2.11.23 | <p>2.23.23 After discussion among the Commission, the existing wording works</p> <p>6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>h.Sec 9-1: Does the Town have any constables, or is this a historical artifact?</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | Withdrawn 2/23/23 | Withdrawn |
| I - 16 | 2.11.23 | <p>2.23.23 After discussion among the Commission, the existing wording works</p> <p>6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>i.Operationally (and budget-wise), there is a minor inconsistency between Sec 4-10, which makes the BOE responsible for the maintenance and operation of "buildings... and other property used for school purposes", and Sec 9-13, which gives the Director of Public Services responsibility for "maintenance of all ... Town buildings." In practice, the Town currently budgets for and maintains the exterior and grounds of the schools, with the interior space being the responsibility (and budget) of the BOE.</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | Withdrawn 2/23/23 | Withdrawn |
| I - 17 | 2.11.23 | <p>3.1.23 Final Recommendation:</p> <p>Section 9-17. Transition; effective date. Except as otherwise set forth in this Charter, mandated by State statute, or provided by contract, all terms of office for appointed officers and department heads that currently extend beyond January 1, 2019, shall expire on January 1, 2019, and such appointed officers and department heads shall continue thereafter to serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority as provided in Section 9-2.</p> <p>2.11.23 Initial Comment: 6)Minor technical amendments. In addition to these broader suggestions above, there are some potential wording changes that might aid clarity in the Charter, as follows:</p> <p>j.Sec 9-17: Adding the word "thereafter" following "to serve" in the last line of this section might be good clarification of the intent here.</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 9-17 of the Charter to incorporate technical changes as drafted by Mr. Rettger. Motion carried 6-0. |
| I - 18 | 2.11.23 | <p>Section 4-17</p> <p>4.20.23 Mr. Rettger confirmed his withdrawal of amendments regarding Sec 4-17 as the suggestion he raised at the Public Hearing was additionally drafted in his 'technical change' email and addressed as part of that correspondence. This can be withdrawn as it is a duplicate</p> <p>2.11.23 allows the Town Meeting to establish additional elective boards beyond what is enumerated in the Charter. Currently, there is no requirement to add these boards to the Charter. Mr. Rettger suggested that one way to address this issue is to amend Section 4-17 to add language that any such elected board created by a Town Meeting would need to be incorporated into the next Charter revision. The board would be dissolved if it was not incorporated in the revision.(rec'd via 2.11.23 Public Hearing)</p> | 4.20.23 | | | withdrawn 4.18.23 | Withdrawn |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Town Clerk

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|--------|---|--------------------|---|------|---------------|---|
| J - 1 | 2/8/23 | <p>Section 3-2</p> <p>3.30.23 The Commision discussed and reviewed the additional correspondence received 3.29.30 (noted below) submitted by Wendy after consultation with Counsel. Counsel has suggested further revised wording to address nonresident trustees and their ability to vote at Town Meetings or Referenda.</p> <p>3.29.23 Update from Wendy with suggested language from Counsel: Section 3-2 Members of the Town Meeting.</p> <p>Suggested Change: Except as otherwise provided herein, Mmembers of the Town Meeting shall be electors of the Town or property owners entitled to vote at Town Meetings as prescribed in the General Statutes.,except in the case of a Town Meeting considering a recall referendum, when it shall be restricted to electors of the Town. Nonresident trustees holding title to property in Town in their capacity as a trustee shall not be entitled to vote at Town Meetings or Referenda.</p> <p>3.15.23 update: From Wendy. "In a discussion with Rudy and Town Counsel Jason Buchsbaum yesterday we reviewed this issue and decided that the Charter should address it to clarify the Town's position. Jason will be forwarding suggested language to me that I will send on to the CRC for consideration."</p> <p>3.9.23 update: Based on research conducted by Wendy and Mike R's conversation with her, this proposal is now withdrawn. Per Wendy (via email), "If you view the video ([https://www.ridgefieldct.org/board-selectmen/pages/meeting-videos Meeting Videos Ridgefield CT]), at 1:00:54 in the Selectman's Report Rudy states that in 2020 the legislature passed a law stating that if a trustee does not have tax liability for the trust, they don't qualify to vote in a referendum according to State Statute 7-6 that says you must have at least \$1,000 of tax liability to vote."</p> <p>2.8.23 Current Charter Language: Section 3-2 Members of the Town Meeting. Members of the Town Meeting shall be electors of the Town or property owners entitled to vote at Town Meetings as prescribed in the General Statutes, except in the case of a Town Meeting considering a recall referendum, when it shall be restricted to electors of the Town.</p> | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to table the discussion on Ms. Lionetti's suggested change to Section 3-2 of the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Ms. Christiansen moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion "to accept the change from Wendy Lionetti as written by Counsel to accept the wording on Non Trustee voting status in Section 3-2" Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3.30.23 42:10) |
| J - 2 | 2/8/23 | <p>Section 3-7 Organization and procedure meeting.</p> <p>2/8/23 Meetings shall be electronically taped recorded. Such tape electronic recordings shall not eliminate the customary written minutes of the meeting,..... (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org)</p> | 2/23/2023 | | | 3/2/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Lordi seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 3-7 of the Charter to incorporate Ms. Lionetti's suggested change, as amended. Motion carried 6-0. |
| J - 3 | 2/8/23 | <p>Section 4-3 Town elections:</p> <p>3.9.23; After further Commission discussion, the following is suggested (Tom has confirmed this is acceptable to Wendy as well)</p> <p>"Except as otherwise provided by this Charter or the General Statutes, all elective Town officers shall take office on the second Tuesday following the day of the regular Town election at which they were elected, and they shall continue in office until their successors have been chosen and qualified. Officers who are elected for a deferred term of office shall take office the following year, on the second Tuesday following the day of the regular state elections. Except as otherwise expressly provided for by this Charter, the Town Clerk, Registrars of Voters, and Judge of Probate shall take office as provided for by General Statutes."</p> <p>3.9.23 <i>Updated Comments</i> (from Wendy) I think the suggested revision to 4-3 as shown below is appropriate and a logical solution to the issue.</p> <p>Suggested change to be: Officers who are elected for a deferred term of office shall take office the following year, on the second Tuesday following the day of the regular state elections; Judge of Probate shall take office on the first Monday of January succeeding their election. Except as otherwise expressly provided for by this Charter, the Town Clerk and the Registrars shall take office as provided by General Statutes.</p> <p>3.9.23 <i>Updated Comments</i> (from Tom): Re: your comment to 4-3, do you think it would work if we reworked the 2nd paragraph as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the last sentence, only refer to Judge of Probate, and delete the references to Town Clerk and Registrars of Voters; and Add a new sentence to the end of the paragraph to simply state: "Except as otherwise expressly provided for by this Charter, the Town Clerk and Registrars of Voters shall take office as provided for by General Statutes." <p>2.8.23 <i>Initial Comment</i>: Per the Charter, "Registrars of Voters and Judge of Probate shall take office on the first Monday of January succeeding their election."</p> <p>Feedback: This is inconsistent with state statutes Sec 9-189a: Per Sec. 9-189a. Four-year terms for town clerks, registrars and treasurers. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9- 189 and 9-190a, any town or municipality may, by charter or ordinance, provide that the treasurer or the town clerk of said town or municipality, or the registrars of voters of said town, or any of such officers, shall, at the next succeeding regular election for such office and thereafter, be elected for a term of four years. In such event, such four-year term shall begin on the first Monday of January succeeding an election for treasurer or town</p> | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Ms. Christiansen seconded a motion to table the discussion on Ms. Lionetti's suggested change to Section 4-3 of the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 3/9/2023 | 3/9/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 4-3 of the Charter to incorporate Ms. Lionetti's suggested change as drafted by Mr. Larsen. Motion carried 9-0. |

Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Town Clerk

As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
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| J - 4 | 2/8/23 | <p>Section 4-4 Board of Admission of Electors</p> <p>3.9.23 <i>Updated Comments from Wendy:</i></p> <p>Regarding the certification requirements, I have been researching other town charters ([https://www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/ordinances.htm CT Ordinances and Charters by Town - CT Judicial Branch Law Library Services]) and haven't found any that specify certification as a requirement for Town Clerks and Tax Collectors. Jane and I may be the only elected officials wanting it! But just because it doesn't exist yet doesn't mean it shouldn't. I will leave that decision up to the CRC.</p> <p>2.8.23 <i>Initial Comment:</i> The Charter states, "The Town Clerk and the registrars of voters shall constitute the board of admission of electors in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-15a of the General Statutes".</p> <p>Feedback: Include certification requirements of Town Clerk and Tax Collector within the first term (Town Clerk shall achieve certification of the CT Town Clerk Association as soon as possible upon taking office; Tax Collector shall achieve certification from CT Tax Collector Association as soon as possible upon taking office (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org))</p> | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Ms. Christiansen seconded a motion to table the discussion on Ms. Lionetti's suggested change to Section 4-4 of the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 3/9/2023 | 3/9/23: Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to decline to recommend revising Section 4-4 of the Charter. Motion carried 9-0. |
| J - 5 | 2/8/23 | <p>Section 4-5 Eligibility for election to Town offices.</p> <p>3.9.23 Updated wording as suggested by Mr Zagorec:</p> <p>Suggested Charter Change: A person who at the time of his or her election is not both an elector and resident of the Town shall not be eligible for election to any Town office, and any person ceasing to be either an elector or resident of the Town shall immediately notify the Town Clerk, in writing. Such person shall and thereupon cease to hold elective office in the Town and the office shall be deemed vacant as of the date such person ceased to be either an elector or resident of the Town and such vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Section 4-7.</p> <p>2/8/23 Per the Charter: "A person who at the time of his or her election is not both an elector and resident of the Town shall not be eligible for election to any Town office, and any person ceasing to be either an elector or resident of the Town shall immediately notify the Town Clerk, in writing, and thereupon cease to hold elective office in the Town and the office shall be deemed vacant and filled pursuant to Section 4-7."</p> <p>Feedback: Ambiguous language regarding when the replacement process begins (see 2022 Ken Sjoberg BOE resignation: sold house 6/14/22 & moved to FL; Town Clerk received resignation ltr 8/15/22 (ltr was dated 7/25/22) & K Sjoberg stated resignation effective 7/30/22, giving BOE only 14 days to appoint replacemt. (rec'd via crc@ridgefieldct.org))</p> | 2/23/2023 | 3/2/23: Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to table the discussion on Ms. Lionetti's suggested change to Section 4-5 of the Charter to a future meeting. Motion carried 6-0. | | 3/9/2023 | 3/9/23: Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to recommend revising Section 4-5 of the Charter to incorporate technical changes drafted by Mr. Zagorec. Motion carried 9-0. |

As of 5.7.23

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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Water Pollution Control
As of 5.7.23

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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Board of Selectman
As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Motion recited during Meeting |
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| L - 1a | 3/16/23 | <p>Article III Section 3-5 Petitioned Town Meetings</p> <p>3.30.23 After conversation about the Board of Selectmen's request to change certain thresholds as it relates to petitioned Town Meetings, the Commission agreed to address each of the three suggestions independently.</p> <p>This tracker item (L -1a) will address the first of three items suggested by the Board of Selectman, "a. Increase the verified signatures from 2%-4% (non-appropriations)".</p> <p>3.16.23 The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>a. Increase the verified signatures from 2%-4% (non-appropriations) b. Up to \$250K from 2%-4% c. Over \$250K from 5%-7%</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Schirm seconded a motion to decline the Board of Selectman's change to increase the verified signatures from 2% to 4%, as per Article III, Section 3-5 of the Town Charter. Motion carried 5-3 with Ms. Christiansen, Mr. Lansen, and Mr. Zagorec opposing. Mr. Rettger was absent. |
| L - 1b | 3/16/23 | <p>Article III Section 3-5 Petitioned Town Meetings</p> <p>3.30.23 After conversation about the Board of Selectmen's request to change certain thresholds as it relates to petitioned Town Meetings, the Commission agreed to address each of the three suggestions independently.</p> <p>This tracker item (L -1b) will address the second of three items suggested by the Board of Selectman, "b. Up to \$250K from 2% - 4%"</p> <p>3.16.23 The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>a. Increase the verified signatures from 2%-4% (non-appropriations) b. Up to \$250K from 2%-4% c. Over \$250K from 5%-7%</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Schrim moved, and Mr. Cascella seconded a motion to decline the Board of Selectman's change to increase the verified signatures from 2% to 4% for expenditures up to \$250K, as per Article III, Section 3-5 of the Town Charter. Motion carried 5-3 with Ms. Christiansen, Mr. Lansen, and Mr. Zagorec opposing. Mr. Rettger was absent. |
| L - 1c | 3/16/23 | <p>Article III Section 3-5 Petitioned Town Meetings</p> <p>3.30.23 After conversation about the Board of Selectmen's request to change certain thresholds as it relates to petitioned Town Meetings, the Commission agreed to address each of the three suggestions independently.</p> <p>This tracker item (L -1b) will address the second of three items suggested by the Board of Selectman, "c. Over \$250K from 2% - 4%"</p> <p>c - Motion to accept the change from 5% to 7% Mike L, Tom 9-0</p> <p>3.16.23 The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>a. Increase the verified signatures from 2%-4% (non-appropriations) b. Up to \$250K from 2%-4% c. Over \$250K from 5%-7%</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | 3.30.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Lansen seconded a motion to accept the Board of Selectman's change to increase the verified signatures from 5% to 7% for expenditures over \$250K, as per Article III, Section 3-5 of the Town Charter. Motion carried 9-0. |

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| L - 2 | 3/16/23 | <p>Article IX - Administrative Offices</p> <p>4.7.23 From Mike R: <i>Below is an update to the proposed language that would be included in the Commission's report on the proposed change of the several Town offices from elected to appointed positions.</i></p> <p><i>Note that in updating this, I realized that the existing Charter is silent as to the detailed duties of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector...</i></p> <p>Sec 9-zz Town Clerk</p> <p><i>A Town Clerk shall be appointed by the First Selectman, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen.</i></p> <p><i>The Town Clerk shall be qualified by training and/or experience in the management of public records and related public record-keeping. The Tax Collector shall be responsible for all municipal public record-keeping and for the operation of the Town Clerk's office. The Town Clerk shall have such other powers and duties as prescribed by town ordinance and state statute.</i></p> <p>3.30.23 A suggested change to appoint rather than elect the Town Treasurer and the Tax Collector were received via Public Comment in February and are being tracked as Item A-2 and A-3, respectively. Motions and votes for these two positions have been recorded on the Public Comment tab although the Commission recognizes the Board of Selectman have also made a similar suggestion.</p> <p>This tracker item will address solely the Town Clerk position and the Board of Selectman's suggestion to change it from an elected position to an appointed position.</p> <p>Like with the Town Treasurer and the Tax Collector position, it is the Commission's recommendation that the credentials and qualifications of the Town Clerk be explicitly stated in the Final Report and follow the 2014 proposed Charter language as it relates to the professional nature of the role.</p> <p>3.16.23 The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>Current elected positions held by the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer all be considered to become appointed positions. This would allow for an interview process to ensure the Town employee is proficient in the position being considered.</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | <p>3.30.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Lansen seconded a motion "to accept the proposal to change from elected to appointed". Motion carried 7-1 with Mr. Cascella opposing. Mr. Rettger was absent. (3.30.23 19:50)</p> |
| L - 3 | 3/16/23 | <p>Article X Section 10-1 Budget</p> <p>3.30.23 There are two suggested changes before the Commission as it relates to Article X Section 10-1. Tracker Item L-4 from the Board of Selectman and Tracker Item F-1 from Mr. Lordi. After discussion, Mr. Lordi indicated he would withdraw his proposal leaving the Commission the task of addressing only the Board of Selectman's suggested change.</p> <p>3.16.23 The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>Suggestion to delete below section in paragraph C:</p> <p>The annual capital and operating budgets of the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen as recommended by the Board of Finance shall be brought to the Annual Town and Budget Meeting for discussion and then sent to referendum. The meeting shall have the power to decrease or delete any line item, but it may not increase or add to any line item or establish any additional line item.</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | <p>3.30.23 Mr. Lordi moved, and Mr. Lansen seconded a motion to accept the Board of Selectman's change to Article X Section 10-1 of the Town Charter. Motion carried 6-2 with Mr. Cascella and Ms. Welton opposing. Mr. Rettger was absent.</p> |

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| L - 4 | 3/16/23 | <p>3.30.23 After conversation, the Commission believes the Charter should be reviewed every 4 years (as it is today) but that language should be added to the Charter allowing the Board of Selectmen the opportunity to convene a Charter Revision Commission as needed at any time before the 4 year period.</p> <p>Extending revision timing past the 4 years, could result in Charter Revision public votes being too small as off year voter turn out is low. Per Town Counsel (rec'd 3.29.23):</p> <p><i>The manner in which a Charter is amended is set forth in Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 7-191. Subsection (f) of that statute reads as follows: "The proposed charter, charter amendments or home rule ordinance amendments shall be prepared for the ballot by the appointing authority and may be submitted in the form of one or several questions; and, if approved by a majority of the electors of the municipality voting thereon at a regular election or if approved by a majority which number equals at least fifteen per cent of the electors of the municipality as determined by the last-completed active registry list of such municipality at a special election, such proposed charter, charter amendments or home rule ordinance amendments shall become effective thirty days after such approval unless an effective date or dates are specified therein, in which event the date or dates specified shall prevail." (Emphasis added.)</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, at a regular election, such as the November election, a majority vote is required to approve a charter change. However, at a special election, such as adding the Charter questions to a budget referendum ballot, the majority must consist of at least 15% of the electorate. Given voter turnout in budget referenda, it is unlikely the turnout would be sufficient to approve any charter changes, even if a majority of the voters at the referenda approved of the change.</i></p> <p><i>For this reason, I would recommend that the Charter questions appear on the November ballot.</i></p> <p>Article XIII Section 12-5 Amendment of this Charter</p> <p>The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>Proposing to extend the Charter Revision from the current (4) years to (5) years.</p> <p>a. In addition, to insert language recognizing that the BOS is authorized by State Statute to call a Charter Revision Commission to be established at any time.</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | <p>3.30.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Zagorec seconded a motion to decline to recommend extending the Charter Revision from the current four years to five years and recommended changing the Town Charter to recognize that State Statute authorizes the Board of Selectman to establish a Charter Revision Commission at any time. Motion carried 8-0. Mr. Rettger was absent</p> |
| L - 5 | 3/16/23 | <p>Town Manager/Administrator</p> <p>3.30.23 After discussion the Commission feels this might be a good idea to explore but at the moment, it is not a Charter issue. The Commission believes the next step is for an exploratory discovery committee to be convened by the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p>3.16.23 The Board of Selectmen discussed and put forth the below Charter Revision referrals at their March 15, 2023 BOS meeting.</p> <p>Begin research and possible recommendation to create a position of Town Manager/Administrator.</p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | <p>3.30.23 Mr. Cascella moved, and Mr. Larsen seconded a motion to decline the Board of Selectman's recommendation to begin research to create a position of Town Manager/Administrator as it is not a Charter concern at the moment. Motion carried 9-0</p> |

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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Pension Committee
As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
|--------|---------|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| M - 1 | 3.16.23 | <p>3.30.23 After discussion, the Commission agrees with Mr. Christiansen's explanation that the Pension Commission does not actually manage the day-to-day administration of the pension</p> <p>3.16.23 Section 5-13 Pension Commission.</p> <p>Current Charter Language: The Pension Commission shall be responsible for the administration, management, and oversight of the investment activities of those trusts that fund the retirement-related benefit programs for Town employees and elected officials, as are assigned from time to time to its purview by resolution of the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p><i>The Pension Commission would like to make the following change to Section 5-13 of the Town Charter. We are proposing to only change the second sentence from:</i></p> <p>Suggested Change: The Pension Commission shall be responsible for the administration, management and oversight of the investment activities of those trusts that fund the retirement-related benefit programs for Town employees and elected officials, as are assigned from time to time to its purview by resolution of the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p><i>The reason for the change is to clarify that the Pension Commission's responsibilities do not include the day-to-day administration of the pension and OPEB plans. Those responsibilities lie with the Plan Administrators which are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. I would also add that I met with the Board of Selectmen last night and they agreed that we should make the proposed change.</i></p> | 3.30.23 | | | 3.30.23 | <p>3.30.23 Mr. Lansen moved, and Mr. Schrim seconded a motion to approve the change as requested by the Pension Committee to delete the word 'administration' from Section 5-13. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Ms. Christensen abstaining and Mr. Cascella and Mr. Rettger absent. (Tracker Item M-1)</p> |
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Charter Revision Commission 2023 - Change Request Tracker - Tab on Youth Commission
 As of 5.7.23

| Item # | DATE | PROPOSAL/ISSUE | Initial Discussion | Additional Discussion on Submission | Code | Decision Date | Final Decision |
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| N - 1 | 4.4.23 | <p>Section 5-15. Youth Commission.</p> <p>4.6.23 During discussion Mike R recommended two slight changes to the suggestion by Mr. Lordi; "two alternates each serving...." to be consistent with the other parts of the Charter.</p> <p>4.2.23 Suggested Change: The Youth Commission shall consist of 46 twelve members and two alternate serving two-year terms ending July. Six members and one alternate shall be appointed every two years.</p> <p>1. Eight members shall be appointed each year.</p> <p>The Youth Commission shall act as an advocate for the youth of Ridgefield, and ensure participation, planning, and development by the community of youth services, and shall have powers and duties in accordance with the General Statutes. Minors/youth are permitted to be members of the Youth Commission.</p> | 4.6.23 | | | 4.6.23 | <p>4.6.23 Mr. Rettger moved, and Mr. Lansen seconded "a motion to adopt as amended" changes to Section 5-15 of the Charter to incorporate the changes received from the Youth Commission. Motion carried 8-0-1. Mr. Lordi abstained. (4/6, 23:37)</p> |
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