

**Town of Perryville
Town Charter Review Meeting #3 Minutes
September 27, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor: Matthew Roath, Commissioners, Michelle Linkey, Timothy Snelling, Christina Aldridge, Town Administrator: George Patchell, Town Clerk: Jackie Sample.

The Charter Review Meeting in its entirety can be listened to on the Town's web site at www.perryvillemd.org.

The September 27, 2022, Charter Review Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Mayor Roath.

Remote Participation: Robert Taylor

Mayor Roath announced that we have a request for remote participation from Commissioner Taylor who will be attending via electronic means. Mayor Roath confirmed that Commissioner Taylor could hear him and that the board and those present could hear Commissioner Taylor. All votes taken during any meeting in which the Mayor and Commissioners participate remotely shall be by roll call vote. The presiding officer shall ask the remote participant for any comments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to approve the remote participation request. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge, Aye, Commissioner Snelling, Aye, Commissioner Linkey, Aye, Commissioner Taylor, Aye, Mayor Roath, Aye. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Approval of the Town Meeting Agenda

Mayor Roath asked for a motion for approval of the September 27, 2022, Town Charter Review Meeting #3 Agenda.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Aldridge to approve the September 27, 2022, Charter Review Meeting Agenda. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge, Aye, Commissioner Snelling, Aye, Commissioner Linkey, Aye, Commissioner Taylor, Aye, Mayor Roath, Aye. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Mr. Patchell stated that we are starting with Article VII, the first recommendation being §C7-2 the Authority to employ personnel, to remain consistent to read the Mayor and Commissioners and to add the section as he has highlighted that the Mayor and Commissioners shall appoint a Town Administrator, and the membership of all boards and commissions of the Town. All employees subordinate to the Town Administrator shall be employed and removed from employment consistent with law and in accordance with the rules and regulations of any personnel management system which may be adopted by the Mayor and Commissioners.

The board concurred with the above change.

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Mr. Patchell commented that we do have some question marks on §C7-3 along with a renumeration of this section, to make it §C7-4 and to include the proposed Town Administrator, Functions, Powers, and Duties to this section.

Two corrections were noted, to add Mayor to the section that is going to be §C7-4 and correct a typo on what will be §C7-3 that states Mayors.

The board concurred with the suggested changes to these sections.

The next item was §C11-3 Condemnation of property. The mayor did not see the need for anything to be changed for this one.

Commissioner Aldridge asked them to define property, specifically what they are talking about.

Mr. Patchell commented that it typically is dealing with your personal property in the corporate Town limits.

Commissioner Taylor believes that this means that if the Town Code Enforcement officer feels that the property is unsafe for habitation, we have the right to condemn it, legally forbidding people to live in it until it is repaired or has to be torn down.

Mayor Roath inquired what the processes are for that.

Mr. Patchell responded that the County would be notified because they have a building inspection department and could come out upon our request and condemn the property as unsafe limiting the owners ability to habitat the facility until it is deemed safe for occupancy, along with the Health Department.

Commissioner Aldridge inquired if we currently have any properties that should be condemned, Mr. Patchell responded that we do not.

No recommendation for changes for Article XII General Provisions §C12-3.

The next item was §C12-5 Word Usage, which currently states that wherever the masculine gender has been used in this Charter, it shall be construed to include the feminine gender, so we would make this section gender neutral.

Commissioner Linkey stated that if you made them all gender neutral then this would not be needed, Mr. Patchell concurred to eliminate the section.

Mayor Roath responded that it would be redundant except for the fact that you make changes in the future.

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Mr. Patchell responded that his notations made were to replace all gender specific in the document to gender neutral.

Mayor Roath inquired if they are suggesting to remove §C12-5 altogether.

Commissioner Linkey responded, yes because you will already have everything gender neutral in there so there will be nothing to discuss.

Mayor Roath was concerned for the future and when this entire board is no longer in place another change is requested, there is nothing that states that this is a gender-neutral document.

Commissioner Taylor responded that is a fair point, you may want to put verbiage in that all future amendments to the Charter be gender neutral.

Mayor Roath commented that then they could remove it at that point.

Mr. Patchell stated that if you want we could go over the Articles that we did not have any recommendations on specifically that you may see now that you may want to add something to.

Commissioner Aldridge questioned the fact that Article XII was on the agenda but we did not go over it.

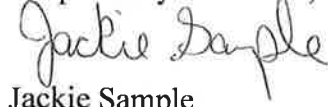
Mr. Patchell responded that there were no recommendations.

Commissioner Linkey asked for clarification that the next meeting that we have is to go over what we have already done.

Mr. Patchell responded that is what his vision was for it that we will look at all of the recommendations that are compiled at this point along with legal opinions. You will get a compilation of all of the recommendations for one final review before they are turned into an Ordinance then ultimately a Public Hearing to be introduced. He clarified that all of the items can be gone over at the next meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Linkey and seconded by Commissioner Snelling to adjourn the September 27, 2022, Town Meeting at 6:19 p.m. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioner Aldridge, Aye, Commissioner Snelling, Aye, Commissioner Linkey, Aye, Commissioner Taylor, Aye, Mayor Roath, Aye. **All in Favor: Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jackie Sample
Perryville Town Clerk

