

## Killingworth Charter Revision Commission

~~Revised Agenda~~ MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, June 7, 2021  
7:00 PM

- Call to Order
  - a. W. Adametz, J. Gay, N. Gorski, C. Jacob, M. Meixell, R. Rimmer, K. Zandi
  
- Public Input
  - a. Eileen Unger-Pleines
    - i. In favor of a Town Manager
  - b. R. Pleines
  - c. Annie Sterna
    - i. In favor of a Town Manager
    - ii. Tax Collector as an appointed position
    - iii. Broader pool, including people who own property but don't live here, non-US citizens, renters who pay taxes on vehicles
  - d. Ed Sirignano
  - e. E. Blewitt
  
- Approval of June 1, 2021 minutes
  - a. W. Adametz motioned, C. Jacob seconded, J. Gay, M. Meixell, K. Zandi abstained – Motion carries 4-0-3
  
- Review and Discussion of Current Charter and Revisions to Charter.
  - a. Reference to zoning by-laws. Could be replaced with zoning regulation? Charter §4-12.
    - i. Motion J. Gay motioned to revise to zoning regulations, in items 2 (replace bylaws with regulations and 3 (zoning ordinances and regulations) in that paragraph, C. Jacob seconded – Motion withdrawn
    - ii. J. Gay motioned to update 4-12 item 2 to replace bylaws with regulations, W. Adametz seconded – Motion carries 7-0-0
    - iii. J. Gay motioned to update 4-12 item 3 to delete bylaws and changing the order to zoning regulations or ordinances, C. Jacob seconded – Motion carries 7-0-0

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- Add “political” to Town Committees; Consider Town Clerk publication of vacancy announcement. Charter §5-4(c).
  - a. J. Gay motioned to change the language to town political party committees in §5-4(c) as well as to other sections in the document as appropriate, C. Jacob seconded – Motion carries 7-0-0
  - b. J. Gay motioned to recommend the deletion of “shall at the same time publish an announcement as prescribed by law and at his/her option, other newspapers or media in such a way as to bring the resignation or vacancy to the attention of the town.” – Motion withdrawn
    - i. J. Gay to speak with D. Mooney and review the statutes.
- Should the Charter include a glossary?
  - a. Add items to Section 1-2 Definitions without the use of a glossary
- Should BOS terms of office be staggered?
  - a. C. Jacob presented options for staggered terms based on the current minority representation. N. Gorski introduced State Statute 9-188 when a 5-member BOS shall have no more than 3 members from the same political party. Legal review is necessary before moving forward. R. Rimmer to send C. Jacob’s analysis of staggered terms.
- Review of compensation for appointive boards and commissions. Charter §5-6©
  - a. The commission reviewed §4-6(c) and §5-6(c) with no changes recommended.
- Should the Charter allow online participation at town meetings?
  - a. Subject to legal and Registrar of Voters review
    - i. Attempts to be made to make the charter more contemporary for the future
    - ii. Needs additional wordsmithing
    - iii. C. Jacob motioned to the principle that draft modifications to the charter will not preclude the use of online or hybrid town meetings, M. Meixell seconded – Motion withdrawn
    - iv. Statutory language to provide guidance on how town meetings are to be conducted

RECOMMENDATION: Modify Charter language so that if electronic participation becomes possible in the future, our charter will not prevent it: The Moderator of all Town Meetings shall determine, by majority ~~voice~~-vote of the participating voters-~~present~~, the method to be used for voting on agenda items. The method determined ~~shall~~ may be one of the following: voice, show of hands, or checklist and ballot.

ocuments/2011/KillingworthCharter  
2009.pdf

**Ed Sirignano to Everyone** 7:50 PM

Why would we not use a 3/2  
minority representation with 5  
selectman?

**Ed Sirignano to Everyone** 7:56 PM

[https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/  
chap\\_146.htm#sec\\_9-188](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_146.htm#sec_9-188)

**Me to Everyone** 8:11 PM

Thanks, Ed.

**Building Official to Everyone** 8:11 PM

I feel it appears, though you already  
voted that the position of Town  
Manager is very short sighted.  
Politicks need to be taken out of the  
day to day business. If elections  
change the Selectmen every two  
years then we will have no  
experiance in town hall. It seems  
you are spending allot of time  
rewriting existing. There seems to  
be no thought as to the long term  
future of the town. The commitee  
seems to want to keep things status  
quo. You may have well stop now  
and leave the charter as is.

**Building Official to Everyone** 8:11 PM

Richard Pleines

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- Discussion of Request for Written Comments Related to Suggested Revisions.
  - a. An additional survey will not be done so as not to be perceived as a referendum
  - b. Provide email address to receive written comments after we present the draft to towns people
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule
- 9:25 adjournment

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KILLINGWORTH, CT

2021 JUN 22 A 9:31

*Dawn Paul Mooney*  
TOWN CLERK