

The Meeting of the Charter Committee held on Thursday December 21, began at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Conference Room.

Members Present: Ms. Ribeiro Dahan, Mr. DeBarge, Mr. Pelletier, Ms. Aldworth, Ms. Collette, Ms. Green, Mr. Bylicki, Mr. Fanning, Mr. Costa, Ms. Breault

Members Absent: Mr. Rosenblum, Ms. Manganaro-Thompson

- I. 6:00 p.m. -Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Vote to approve the Minutes from December 7, 2023

Motion made by Ms. Collette to approve the Minutes from December 7, 2023. Mr. DeBarge second. All in favor. Motion passed 10-0.

III. Public Comment

- Comments are limited to three minutes.
- Written comments are welcome for submission at any time @ CharterCommittee@ludlow.ma.us

No public attended for comments.

IV. Debrief and Discussion on Q&A Discussions with Town Managers from 12/7/2023

Ms. Breault leaning towards Manager/Council vs. Mayor.

Ms. Ribeiro Dahan working to schedule meetings with Mayors possibly January 18.

Ms. Green agrees with Ms. Breault. Also suggested speaking with Town Councilors.

Ms. Aldworth was not at the meeting but wants to be sure Town is represented equally throughout town.

Mr. Bylicki read East Longmeadow and Bridgewater charters and they seem like good, basic plans. We can tighten one up. We can create our own districts for precincts that are contiguous and equal in population. He suggests 3 districts. One is precincts 2 & 4 combined. Another is 1 & 6 combined. Another is 3 & 5. That would be fine until population gets over 24,000.

Mr. Pelletier said not making the charter too specific and having flexibility was a good idea. He is leaning towards this model as well.

Mr. Fanning would like Council members to come in and wants to be sure there is enough representation. Thinks 9 should be limit for Town Council members. He would like to speak with people who have served on transition committees. He feels like he needs to speak with a mayor before he decides.

Mr. DeBarge would like to keep Council members to less than 9.

Mr. Bylicki suggested reaching out to the former first Mayor of Easthampton, Mike Tautznik.

Ms. Aldworth verified procedure is to go to Town Meeting, then legislature, then voted on in Town election.

Ms. Green would like a hard timeline for the next meeting.

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Mr. Bylicki would like budget for next meeting.

Mr. DeBarge said we are in budget season right now and numbers will be last years.

Ms. Breault said they should be ready to make a decision after the meeting with mayors.

Mr. Bylicki suggested inviting Town Meeting members to a meeting after town election in March.

Ms. Breault will add Ms. Ribeiro Dahan as an admin to the Facebook page so she can reply to questions on behalf of the committee.

Motion made by Ms. Breault to adjourn this meeting at 6:58 p.m. Ms. Aldworth second. All in favor. Motion passed 10-0.

Marissa Ribeiro Dahan Chairman
Judy Breault
John DeBarge
William Rosmi
Middle Mangano-Tyler
Linda Collette
John A. Aldworth
Martin Fanning
Brian O'Neil
Sam Clark
Judy Breault

Ludlow Charter Committee