

**CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
RHODE ISLAND
JOURNAL CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
June 21, 2023**

Council Chamber, City Hall, 145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

Present: Commissioners John Faria, David Luiz, Valerie Perry, Bruce Rogers, Julie Silva, Michael Sullo, Joseph Tavares, Manuel Vinhateiro, Chairman Marc Furtado

Also in Attendance: Assistant City Solicitor Dylan Conley

Chairman Furtado called the meeting to order at 6:36 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. Vote for Resolution to City Council on up or down vote for Charter amendment

Chairman Furtado withdrew his request for a vote on the Resolution.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes

1. April 19, 2023
2. April 26, 2023
3. May 10, 2023

Mr. Vinhateiro moved to bundle the minutes and approve all as written. Seconded by Mr. Faria and passed unanimously.

**B. Question for City Solicitor Regarding Charter Commission Procedure (Bruce Rogers)
Mr. Rogers clarifies that his agenda request did not include question for City Solicitor.**

Mr. Rogers spoke on the establishment of bylaws for the Charter Commission. Following discussion, *Mr. Rogers moved to put the bylaws item on the next agenda. Ms. Silva seconded for discussion. The motion was defeated on an 6-3 vote*

Ayes: Rogers, Silva, Tavares

Nays: Faria, Luiz, Perry, Sullo, Vinhateiro, Furtado

C. Vote On Changes from May 10 Meeting

Article I Basic Provisions

1-1 Change the word “town” to “city” (also in Preamble)

First sentence – change “not” to “now” *

Strike “and Providence Plantations”

Ms. Silva moved to accept changes in 1-1. Seconded by Mr. Vinhateiro and unanimously passed.

Article II City Council

2-2 - First sentence – add “shall” after Council members*

Eliminate brackets around “a.”

Ms. Silva moved to accept changes in 2-2. Seconded by Mr Sullo and unanimously passed.

2-4 - Powers of the Council President: To set the City Council agenda with the assistance of city clerk and law department.

Ms. Silva moved to accept language in 2-4. Seconded by Mr. Sullo and unanimously passed.

2-6 - Change City Clerk to Canvassing Clerk

Mr. Rogers moved to accept language in 2-6. Seconded by Mr. Sullo and unanimously passed.

2-7 - Conflicts with 11-14

The first meeting of a newly elected Council shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following a City general election.

~~Sec. 11-14.—Terms of office.~~

~~All elected and appointive officers elected or appointed for a definite term, shall enter upon their term of office upon the first Tuesday after the first Monday in December next following a City of East Providence general election, or as soon thereafter as may be, and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.~~

Ms. Silva moved to approve 2-7 and strike 11-14. Seconded by Mr. Vinhateiro and unanimously passed.

2-8 - A quorum of (3) members of the city Council shall be necessary for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may adjourn from time to time. *

Mr. Rogers moved to approve 2-8 and add the word “three” after (3). Seconded by Mr. Sullo and unanimously passed.

2-9 - Powers

(2) Establish administrative departments and distribute the work of divisions.

Explanation: Conflicts with 3-12

Mr. Vinhateiro moved to amend 2-9 to read “Establish administrative departments” and strike “and distribute the work of divisions”. Seconded by Mr. Sullo and unanimously passed.

D. Discussion Article II City Council

2-11 Canvassing Authority

No change

2-12 – **City Clerk** - discussion on the City Clerk appointment and reasons for the Clerk to be appointed by the Mayor. The Solicitor was asked to draft language for the City Clerk and a Clerk of the City Council. Mr. Vinhateiro suggested adding 2-12 (I) and 2-12 (J). The topic will be brought back at the next meeting.

2-13 – Planning Board

No change

2-14 – Zoning Board

No Change

2-15 – Independent Audit

Deferred until Finance Director present to answer questions

2-16 – Procedure of the City Council with regard to ordinances

The Solicitor was asked to recommend what should be stricken or changed in 2-16.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Faria moved to adjourn and Mr. Sullo seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Attest:

Valerie A. Perry
Secretary