

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALEM CHARTER COMMISSION**

33 GEREMONTY DRIVE  
SALEM, NH 03079

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING THURSDAY JUNE 18, 2009 7:00 PM**

The Charter Study Commission convened for their organizational meeting following the notification by Town Clerk Susan Wall in compliance with RSA 49-B:4.II.

**Present:** Robert Campbell, Stephen Campbell, William Ganley, Patrick Hargreaves, Michael Lyons, Cathy Ann Stacey, Arthur Barnes and Kevin Breen.

**Absent:** Annette Cooke

The meeting was called to order by Town Clerk Susan Wall at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Wall had a moment of silence for Staff Sgt. Lo who was killed in Iraq.

Ms. Wall had the Charter Commission members each take their oath of office. Ms. Wall stated that the first order of business was to elect a chairman, vice-chairman and secretary.

**MOTION BY Stephen Campbell to nominate Robert Campbell as Chairman.  
Motion was SECONDED by Michael Lyons.**

Ms. Wall asked if there were any other nominations

**VOTE: 8-0-0**

Robert Campbell was unanimously elected as Chairman. Ms. Wall then told Mr. Campbell that she was turning the meeting over to him.

Chairman Campbell asked if there were any nominations for Vice-Chairman.

**MOTION BY** Stephen Campbell to nominate  
**MOTION was SECONDED** by Cathy Stacey.

**VOTE: 8-0-0**

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Mr. W. H. Young, Jr., was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman.

C1

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1  
2 **MOTION BY Patrick Hargreaves to appoint Michael Lyons as Secretary.**

3 **MOTION was SECONDED by Stephen Campbell.**

4 **VOTE: 8-0-0**

5  
6 Mr. Lyons was unanimously elected as Secretary.

7  
8 Mike Lyons requested that the Town Clerk supply the Commission with a recording secretary.  
9 Mr. Hargreaves stated that regardless of whether we get a recording secretary or not, we need a  
10 secretary today.

11  
12 After taking care of some organizational issues, Chairman Campbell suggested the first public  
13 meeting be July 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were no objections.

14  
15 Mr. Stephen Campbell stated that we should finalize the new charter as soon as possible in order  
16 to allow for revisions and educating the public.

17  
18 Chairman Campbell suggested it might be possible to propose multiple amendments.

19  
20 Mr. Lyons suggested the Commission establish a schedule.

21  
22 Mr. Ganley suggested we invite the Local Government Center to come and give a presentation.

23  
24 Chairman Campbell stated he was concerned and said it would be better to meet with LGC after  
25 the public hearing.

26  
27 Chairman Campbell went through some of the governmental options. Chairman Campbell then  
28 went through some of the applicable RSAs.

29  
30 A preliminary meeting schedule was established for July and August as follows: July 2, 9,  
31 August 6, 13 & 27.

32  
33 Mr. Lyons said he would ask the town manager about getting the SCRC final report to everyone.

34  
35 Mr. Hargreaves stated that he wanted to know where other members of the Commission stood on  
36 issues.

37  
38 Mr. Ganley, Mr. Breen and Mr. Lyons wanted to wait until after the LGC attended a meeting.

39  
40 Mr. Stephen Campbell stated he was interested in minor changes and no trouble eliminating  
41 some items.

42  
43 Mr. Barnes suggested some issues and how the Town fared under the current form of  
44 government.

1 Ms. Stacey said she was frustrated with the lack of participation. Ms. Stacey further stated that  
2 she was also in favor of enhancements.

3  
4 Chairman Campbell said he wrote the first charter and was reluctant to change it. He further  
5 stated he was concerned also about the small representation at the 1<sup>st</sup> deliberative session.  
6

7 Chairman Campbell outlined some potential changes or the possibilities offered by a town  
8 council.  
9

10 Mr. Ganley expressed some concern over the lack of participation at town meeting.  
11

12 Mr. Stephen Campbell suggested some ideas about taking things of the 2<sup>nd</sup> deliberative session  
13 and putting the questions on the ballot.  
14

15 **MOTION BY Mr. Hargreaves to adjourn.**

16 **The Motion was SECONDED by Stephen Campbell.**

17  
18 **VOTE: 8-0-0**

20 Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.  
21

22 Notes/Minutes Taken by: Susan Wall/Michael Lyons  
23

24 Minutes Approved: Salem Charter Reform Committee  
25

26 Date: June 18, 2009