

JULY 26, 2022

A special meeting of the City Council was held on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 7:14 p.m. in the Board of Education Auditorium, 129 Church Street, Bristol. Present: Mayor Caggiano; Council Members Howe, Lusitani, Olsen, Panioto, Tyler, and Thibeault.

The call of the meeting was presented:

*“City Council Members
City Hall
Bristol, Connecticut*

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

There will be a Special Meeting of the Bristol City Council to be held on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 immediately following the City Council Public Hearing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Auditorium, 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut.

REVISED AGENDA

1. *To authorize the Mayor or Acting Mayor to execute the Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan on behalf of the City of Bristol for the “Moving to Work” program, and to take any action as necessary.*
2. *To consider the proposed amendments to the City Charter as referenced in the Report of the Charter Revision Commission as follows and take any action as necessary:*
 - a. *To approve/reject increasing the membership of the City Council from two (2) to three (3) members per district through multiparty representation and increasing the membership of the Board of Finance from eight (8) to eleven (11) members.*
 - b. *To approve/reject increasing the term of the Office of Mayor from two (2) to four (4) years.*
 - c. *To approve/reject expanding the types of punishable misconduct by elected and appointed officials and the penalties for such misconduct.*
 - d. *To approve/reject changing the process for the creation of the City Council Districts from the Charter to the Registrars of Voters.*
 - e. *To approve/reject various technical changes to the Charter to provide consistency in capitalization and terminology.*
3. *To adjourn.*

*Per Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano, Chairman
DATED this 19th day of July, 2022.*

*Join Zoom Meeting
<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/81699423958?pwd=MmV0UDFWSDh3Y0FLWElsbmE4T21oUT09>*

*Meeting ID: 816 9942 3958
Passcode: 123456
Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)”*

JULY 26, 2022

1. MAYOR OR ACTING MAYOR AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN ON BEHALF OF CITY OF BRISTOL FOR “MOVING TO WORK” PROGRAM.

Communication from the Assistant Corporation Counsel regarding the “Moving to Work” program.

Council Member Olsen requested an explanation of the program.

Melissa Green, Deputy Director Bristol Housing Authority explained that the program is designed to help people become self-sufficient and own a home.

On motion of Council Member Thibeault and seconded, it was unanimously voted: To authorize the Mayor or Acting Mayor to execute the Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan on behalf of the City of Bristol for the “Moving to Work” program.

2. RECOMMENDATION REFERRED BACK TO CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION TO REMOVE FROM THEIR FINAL REPORT INCREASING MEMBERSHIP OF CITY COUNCIL FROM TWO TO THREE MEMBERS PER DISTRICT AND INCREASING MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD OF FINANCE FROM EIGHT TO ELEVEN MEMBERS.

Council Member Olsen stated she did not want to increase the size of government. More was not better. The public can vote for whoever they want with respect to minority representation.

Council Member Lusitani noted this proposal required voting for an increase in the members on both the City Council and Board of Finance. Smaller government was better.

Council Member Panioto stated this proposal would give more power to town committees rather than the voters. The election process was for choosing candidates. Six City Council members were sufficient.

Council Member Tyler stated this was not the perfect solution to address minority representation. This proposal would take away power from voters.

Council Member Howe agreed that minority representation takes power away from the voters in the voting booth.

Council Member Thibeault preferred to send the matter to the voters. She noted though that large groups can make it difficult to come to decisions and it could create stalemates.

Mayor Caggiano stated that eleven members on the Board of Finance can be challenging to manage and meetings could be long.

JULY 26, 2022

On motion of Council Member Olsen and seconded, it was voted: To reject the proposal increasing the membership of the City Council from two to three members per district through multiparty representation and increasing the membership of the Board of Finance from eight to eleven members and recommend the Charter Revision Commission remove the proposal from their Final Report.

(Council Member Thibeault voted “No”.)

3. INCREASING TERM OF OFFICE OF MAYOR FROM TWO TO FOUR YEAR TERM APPROVED FOR INCLUSION IN CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION FINAL REPORT.

A brief discussion was held by the Council Members to send this proposal to the voters to decide.

On motion of Council Member Howe and seconded, it was unanimously voted: To approve inclusion of the proposal increasing the term of office of the mayor from a two year to a four year term in the Charter Revision Commission Final Report.

4. EXPANDING TYPES OF PUNISHABLE MISCONDUCT BY ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND PENALTIES FOR SUCH MISCONDUCT APPROVED FOR INCLUSION IN CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION FINAL REPORT.

A brief discussion was held by the Council Members regarding the process and rules to implement this proposal and make local officials accountable for their actions.

Jon FitzGerald, Charter Revision Commission Chair clarified that the Ordinance Committee could create an ordinance to implement this change.

On motion of Council Member Olsen and seconded, it was voted: To approve inclusion of the proposal expanding the types of punishable misconduct by elected and appointed officials and the penalties for such misconduct in the Charter Revision Commission Final Report.

5. CHANGING PROCESS FOR CREATION OF CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS FROM CHARTER TO REGISTRARS OF VOTERS APPROVED FOR INCLUSION IN CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION FINAL REPORT.

A brief discussion was held by the Council Members regarding the process.

Registrar of Voters Sharon Krawiecki stated her office requested the change so that the map utilized for local voting districts would be the map filed with the Town Clerk's office after redistricting. If the voters voted against the local districting map that was revised every ten years, there would be some voters that would have different voting locations for local versus state and federal elections. By utilizing the map on file in the Town Clerk's

JULY 26, 2022

office it would keep as many voters as possible within the voting districts they were accustomed to. The purpose was to limit the disruption to voters as much as possible.

Registrar of Voters Kevin McCauley explained further that this Charter change would avoid a vote on the map every ten years. It was important to keep the maps as consistent as possible.

On motion of Council Member Olsen and seconded, it was unanimously voted: To approve for inclusion in the Charter Revision Commission Final Report the proposal changing the process for the creation of the City Council Districts from the Charter to the Registrars of Voters.

6. CONSISTENCY IN CAPITALIZATION AND TERMINOLOGY APPROVED FOR INCLUSION IN CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION FINAL REPORT.

Mayor Caggiano stated this proposal was not an urgent question. The ballot for the November election will be large with State and local questions. This issue could be included in a future Charter Revision Commission proposal.

On motion of Council Member Thibeault and seconded, it was voted: To approve inclusion of the proposed technical changes to the Charter to provide consistency in capitalization and terminology in the Charter Revision Commission Final Report.

(Mayor Caggiano voted "No".)

7. ADJOURNMENT.

At 8:23 p.m., on motion of Council Member Thibeault and seconded, it was unanimously voted: To adjourn.

ATTEST:_____

**Therese Pac
Town & City Clerk**