

Law & Legislature Committee Meeting

August 19, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Present: Nick Smith, Mary Ellen DeBenedictis, William Carrow, Sean Valentine, Jonathan Burnett, and Recording Secretary Sue Muncey were in attendance.

Mr. Smith stated the purpose of the meeting was discuss the charter. He stated there is a total of 17 pages. During this meeting we will discuss Page 1. We will have a meeting per month. At the next meeting the next two (2) pages will be discussed. This would be a total of nine (9) meetings. Scott will review the changes. Sue will email Scott for his insight on the meetings. Mr. Smith stated Bill Brockenbrough reviewed the charter and had notes.

Mr. Smith read Section 1.1 in its entirety. He stated this was pretty cut and dry. He asked the council members if they had any issues with Section 1. There were none.

Mr. Smith read Section 1.2(a) in its entirety. He stated Mr. Brockenbrough changed the last word from acquired to annexed. If we changed the word, we would be limited. Mr. Carrow stated it needs to be continuous. Ms. DeBenedictis stated we need to ask Scott. Mr. Smith read Section 1.2(b) in its entirety. He asked if there were any issues. Mr. Burnett stated you would have to get a new survey of changes when annexing.

Mr. Smith read Section 1.3 in its entirety. He stated there was a question about 2/3 of the people who vote. Mr. Smith stated the first 2/3 refers to the property owner. Mr. Burnett stated “may” is the question. Mr. Brockenbrough prefers 3/5 of the council. Mr. Smith stated people should have a say. Mr. Carrow stated he has never seen anything go to the public when the property for Huntington Mills and Providence Crossing was annexed in. Mr. Burnett stated he likes just the council. You put on the agenda for people to comment. Mr. Carrow stated this gives you the option. Scott can clarify the “election”.

Mr. Smith read Section 2.1(a) in its entirety. Ms. DeBenedictis stated this is a State thing. There were no issues. Mr. Smith read Section 2.1(b) in its entirety. He stated this is more legal. There were no issues. Mr. Carrow stated he believes this is State mandated. Mr. Smith read Section 2.1(c) in its entirety. Everyone was okay with the wording. Mr. Smith read Section 2.1(d) in its entirety. Everyone was okay with the wording.

Mr. Smith read Section 2.2 in its entirety. There should be a comma after the word cooperation.

Mr. Smith stated at the next meeting we will discuss Section 3. He asked that all council review and make notes. He will have the meeting scheduled for the middle to the latter part of the month. Section 3 discusses council duties. He stated Mr. Brockenbrough’s recommendation was to put at the end to delegate duties to the town employees.

Mr. Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Recording Secretary,

Sue Muncey