Prospect Town Council
Special Meeting
Approved Minutes
August 11, 2016

Chairman Thomas J. Galvin called to order the Special Meeting of the Prospect Town Council @ 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Prospect Town Hall, 36 Center Street and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: T. Galvin, Jeff Slapikas, Al Delelle, D. Merriman, C. Graveline, Pat Geary, Carla Perugini-Erickson and L. Fitzgerald

Members Absent: S. Pilat

CRC Members in Attendance: Paul Krisavage

Also in Attendance: Attorney John Yarbrough

Public Participation: None

T. Galvin began the meeting by advising that the Town Council would be voting at the regular Town Council meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 2016, to accept or delete the actual Charter Revision, which will be returned to the CRC by Wednesday, August 17, 2016. T. Galvin also stated that the Council would need to determine the type of election, either by general or special election, with a deadline date of September 17, 2016.

T. Galvin asked Attorney John Yarbrough to continue. Attorney Yarbrough gave new handouts to the Council of the suggested changes to the Charter Revision Referendum Questions that the Council requested. Attorney Yarbrough stated that he had inserted terms (4 year and 2 year) and stricken 'assisted by a search committee', to the '1st' question. Other changes that were noted, 'Audit' was inserted to question '2' and commas were added to question '4'; while question '5' was left in place. Attorney Yarbrough stated that he had checked on the procedure for rejecting some questions while accepting others. Attorney Yarbrough advised that if the 'Section' stood alone such as Section 6.15 Tax Collector, or Section 6.17 Treasurer, it could be rejected or approved but not edited.

Attorney Yarbrough continued the discussion with timeframes as to the questions, if approved as proposed, then the questions would be sent to the Town Clerk by September 8th, which is 60 days prior to the election and then to the Secretary of State by September 23rd, which is 45 days prior to the election. Attorney Yarbrough stated that if any part was rejected and someone felt inclined to have it on the ballot, they could petition, which would shorten the timeframe and risk the possibility of being on the November ballot.

The Council continued with the discussion of the questions including question '1', 'Elected vs. Appointed'. T. Galvin continued in advising that the CRC after much

discussion, changed their vote from 6-3 in favor, to all 9 members voting unanimously to change Section 2.01, the positions of Tax Collector, Town Treasurer and Town Clerk, 'from Elected positions to Appointed/'Hired' positions' and encouraged the Town Council to do so as well. J. Slapikas advised that the Town Council voted unanimously to keep as stated in the Charter the positions of Tax Collector, Town Treasurer and Town Clerk as 'Elected' positions and stated that he did not have problem with sending the questions, including question '1' to the voters. J. Slapikas also raised his concern that if the '1st' question was answered with 'No', the voters could vote 'No' for 'all' the questions. Concerns were raised as to the order of the questions and Attorney Yarbrough stated that he did not think the order was a problem, but he would look into it.

The discussion continued on the wording of the Referendum questions (Schedule A). Attorney Yarbrough commented that a portion of a sentence for Section 2.02 Town Clerk had been deleted. A discussion took place on the change that this could cause to the Town Clerk's term that begins on January 1st after the election, but could be changed to the term that affects the elected officials. Attorney Yarbrough stated that he didn't recommend deletion of Section 2.02 and to leave as is. Paul Krisavage, 11 Stonefield Drive commented that he felt, after the effort the CRC put into the document, the questions should go to the voters and the voters should make the decision. Council members continued to discuss language of the questions. C. Perugini-Erickson commented that she had a concern with the remainder of question '6' 'recommended.....August__2016' and requested to have it deleted. P. Geary complimented the CRC on their work, but had a concern with Section 7.02 Fire Department and the wording of 'making their own rules and bylaws, electing their own Chief, officers and members'. C. Perugini-Erickson commented that she felt the clause should be left intact. After discussion, Council members advised of the following:
1- omit '2nd' shall from question '1'
2-omit question '5' altogether
3-omit 'recommend...August_____2016' from question 6.
T. Galvin stated that there will be a vote taken on the document on August 16, 2016 at the regular Town Council meeting. Jeff Slapikas commented that if the wording for question '6' changed and question '5'was eliminated, then he disagreed with question '1', but agreed that the Charter Revision Referendum questions should be sent to the voters. A motion was called for to set a special meeting for August 16, 2016 @ 6:30 with the regular meeting to follow @ 7:00 p.m. **Motion** made by J. Slapikas, seconded by A. Delelle to approve the Special meeting of August 16, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m. with the Town Council regular meeting to follow @ 7:00 p.m. **Unanimous.**

Public Participation: None

Adjournment: **Motion** made by D. Merriman, seconded by L. Fitzgerald to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous.** The meeting adjourned @ 7:53 p.m.

Thomas J. Galvin
Thomas J. Galvin, Chairman