
ARTICLE I

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

§1-1 Title.

The title of this Act shall be the Charter of the City.

§1-2 Definitions and Titles Generally.

The definitions contained in the General Statutes govern the interpretation of this Charter. Articles and Sections are for the purpose of ready reference and shall not be held to limit, extend or effect the interpretation and meaning of the text.

§1-3 Time of Appointments and Meetings Generally.

Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, any appointment to office or election by the Common Council to fill a vacancy required herein to be made on or before a certain day shall be, if made after that day, as valid and effective as if made on the day specified. If the day on which any meeting specified to be held shall be a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the meeting shall be held on the first business day following. Any meeting required by this Charter to be held on a certain day shall be deemed, for all purposes, to be a regular meeting. The Mayor shall designate the place of all meetings provided for in this Charter, unless the place of meeting is specified herein or fixed by Ordinance. However, in the absence of any such designation by the Mayor, the person responsible for calling the meeting shall designate the place thereof.

§1-4 Definitions.

Whenever used in this Charter:

(a) "Board". For the purposes of this Charter and except as otherwise provided by law, the term "Board" shall include all public appointed Boards, agencies, Commissions, authorities or like entities of the City.

(b) "Capital Project" means (1) any physical betterment or improvement or any preliminary studies or surveys relative thereto; (2) the acquisition of real property or other property of a permanent nature; (3) the purchase or acquisition of equipment for any public betterment or improvement when first erected or acquired which cost exceeds an amount set by the Common Council, from time to time; (4) major alterations and repairs to existing buildings, structures or equipment which cost exceeds an amount set by the Common Council, from time to time; or (5) any lease which commits the City to more than one year of aggregate payments in an amount set by the Common Council, from time to time.

(c) "Code of Ordinances" or "Ordinances" shall mean the powers of the municipality in order to (1) establish rules or regulations of general municipal application, the violation of which may result in the imposition of a fine or other penalty; (2) create a permanent local law of general applicability; or (3) accomplish other objectives permitted by the General Statutes.

(d) "Data" includes all public books, records, papers, files, correspondence, other recorded information and such computer records, as may be further defined by Ordinance, pertaining to the affairs of the City, in the custody of any person holding public office or employment or in the custody of any department or agency as otherwise defined in the General Statutes.

(e) "Department or Agency" shall include, but not be limited to, any department, office, bureau, Board, Commission, Authority, agency, program, or part thereof, within the government of the City created by this Charter or Ordinance.

(f) "Effective Date" unless otherwise specified in this Charter shall mean "July 1, 2001".

(g) "Elector" shall have the meaning contained in the General Statutes.

(h) "General Statutes" shall mean the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut as amended from time to time.

(i) "Law" includes, but is not limited to, decisions of courts and administrative bodies, federal or state legislative enactments, rules and regulations and local ordinance and regulations.

(j) "Municipality and/or City" means the City¹.

(k) "Non-Capital Project" means any project for which indebtedness is incurred pursuant to Article XII of this Charter that is not a Capital Project as defined by this Charter.

(l) "Officer" or "Office" means any Officer or Office in this City.

(m) "Public Notice" means a notice published in a daily newspaper of general circulation distributed in the City. A Public Notice of a meeting or hearing shall state the time and place thereof, and shall be published at least once not more than thirty days nor less than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting or hearing unless otherwise provided in this Charter or prescribed by the laws of the State of Connecticut.

(n) "Special Acts" or "Special Laws" shall mean the acts of the General Assembly pertinent to the City.

(o) Where reference is made to "Action to be taken by a Department Head," the specified action may be taken by that Department Head or his or her designee.

(p) Where reference is made to "Mayor or designee," the identity of the designee shall at all times be determined, in the sole discretion, of the Mayor.

§1-5 Term of Office².

The officers of the City, whether appointed or elected, shall hold their offices for their respective terms and until their successors shall be chosen and shall have qualified, unless removed for cause as specified in this Charter³.

§1-6 Officers and Appointees as Electors, Requirement⁴.

No person other than an elector of the City shall be appointed to membership on any Board or Commission in the government of the City. Any person who ceases to be an elector of said City while serving on any Board or Commission in the City government shall forthwith forfeit membership thereon and there shall be deemed to be a vacancy on such Board or Commission.