



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

TEL 860-870-3100 FAX 860-870-3102

www.ellington-ct.gov

LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

DAVID E. STAVENS
Deputy First Selectman

JAMISON J. BOUCHER
MARY B. CARDIN
JAMES M. PRICHARD
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

MATTHEW REED
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, August 19, 2024

Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Meeting Hall and via ZOOM Conferencing

Selectmen Present: Lori Spielman, David Stavens, John Turner, Ronald Stomberg, Jamison Boucher, Mary Cardin

Selectmen Absent: James Prichard

Town Staff Present: Matthew Reed, Town Administrator; Walter Lee, Emergency & Risk Management Director; Donna Hosey, Town Clerk; Tiffany Pignataro, Finance Officer/Treasurer; Thomas Modzelewski, Director of Public Works

Other Elected Officials Present: *Douglas Harding, Board of Finance Chairman; *Peg Busse, Library Board of Trustees; Tom Palshaw, Chairman, Charter Revision Commission

*Attended via ZOOM

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

First Selectman Spielman opened the public hearing at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. She asked Mr. Turner to read the following legal notice:

The Town of Ellington will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., prevailing time, at the Ellington Town Hall, Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Meeting Hall, 55 Main Street, Ellington, CT for the purpose of allowing citizens to comment upon the proposed revisions of the Ellington Town Charter.

The proposal is available for review in the Town Clerk's Office, First Selectman's Office and on the Town website at ellington-ct.gov.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Individuals will have the opportunity to provide their name, address and comment either in person or via ZOOM.

Dated at Ellington, Connecticut, this 13th day of August, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, Lori L. Spielman, First Selectman

Journal Inquirer: August 14, 2024

First Selectman Spielman asked if there was any public comment.

First Selectman Spielman reviewed the purpose of the proposed changes to the Town Charter. She said that the Board of Selectmen is working to set the Town up for the future with the addition of the Town Administrator. She added that going forward it is important to have consistency throughout the Town leadership. Ms. Spielman said that the Town could have a change in First Selectman every two years and it takes that amount of time just to get acquainted with the job. She said that the addition of the Town Administrator has added to the much-needed consistency in

government that she sees as important and necessary. Ms. Spielman said that the Town Attorney has reviewed and approved the proposed changes several times.

Mr. Reed said that these proposed revisions deal with the transfer of authority from the First Selectman to the Town Administrator. He said that his experience in municipal government has been helpful in working with the Charter Revision Commission (CRC) to propose revisions to the Charter. He agreed with Ms. Spielman that consistency is important; otherwise projects start and stop with every change in elected leadership. He added that his goal over the past year was to take care of the administrative end of government. Mr. Reed added that he has been in his position for a year and it has been beneficial to the Town to have someone who understands the complexities of government who can help guide the Town toward the future. Mr. Reed said that feedback from Town residents has been positive about the addition of the Town Administrator position as it relates to the future of the Town.

Mr. Palshaw said that the CRC report is the work of all of the members of the Commission and they did not rely on any one particular piece of information in the preparation of their recommendations. The CRC members spoke with just about every Town Department Head. He said Rebecca Einsiedel did a terrific job as Recording Secretary for the CRC and without her efforts none of this would have been possible. Mr. Palshaw said that this was a true team effort.

Hearing no further comments, First Selectman Spielman declared that the Public Hearing was closed at 6:12 pm and thanked everyone for coming.

Respectfully submitted,

LouAnn Cannella

LouAnn Cannella, Acting Recording Secretary

Lori Spielman

Lori Spielman, First Selectman