

# Town of Johnston Charter Review Commission

*Richard DelFino, Jr. Chairman*  
*Fred Iafrate, Vice- Chairman*  
*Charles I Ainabe*  
*Joseph Andriole*  
*Ronald Bianchi*  
*Karen Clark, Esq*



*Nicole Corbin, Esq*  
*Stephen Mandarelli*  
*Susan Mansolillo*  
*Robert Piscione*  
*Taylor Russo*  
*Randy Urena*  
*Arnold Vecchione*

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## Johnston Charter Review Commission

### Minutes

**March 21, 2024**

at the

**Johnston Senior Center, 1291 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919**

#### **I. Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call**

Chairperson Richard DelFino, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM

Roll Call Taken: All members were present except for Charles Ainabe, Karen Clark and Susan Mansolillo. Also present were Vincent P. Baccari, Jr., Alan Fung, Esq. and Michael Lepizzera III, Esq.

#### **II. New Business**

##### **Approval of Minutes from the March 14, 2024 Meeting**

A motion was made by Joseph Andriole and Seconded by Ron Bianchi to Accept Minutes.  
Motion carried by unanimous vote

- **Continued discussion and consideration of Salaries, Term Limits, and membership for the Mayor, Town Council and School Committee**

A discussion ensued regarding the salary for the position of Mayor

Options discussed were: a salary of \$110,000, another option of \$100,000 with a 3% increase capped at \$110,000, a proposal for \$105,000 with a 2% increase and \$110,000 with any increases left to the discretion of the Town Council

A discussion also ensued regarding if the mayoral position is placed in the Rhode Island Retirement System

Fred Iafrate made a motion to set the salary for the position of mayor to \$110,000 based on the data previously presented to the board, to take effect beginning on the next mayoral term

The motion was seconded by Steven Mandarelli

A Roll call vote was taken of the present members and unanimously passed 10-0

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A discussion ensued regarding the salaries of the Town Council, suggestions included raising the salary to \$10,000 and also proposals of a \$500 to \$1,000 increase were discussed

The Chairman discussed that the positions of Councilmembers and School Committee Members are more of a civic service positions rather than being monetary positions and that he has not seen any data to call for an increase

A discussion also ensued regarding if the commission previously voted to make the School Committee positions non-partisan, but it was determined that it had been discussed only and not voted upon

The Commission took no action pertaining to recommending increases to the stipends for Town Council and School Committee members

- **Continued discussion and consideration of appropriate date for introduction of proposed budget and final enactment of budget**

A discussion ensued regarding which dates should be set for the presentation and adoption of the Town's budget

Dates of June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup> were discussed as deadlines for the mayor to present the budget to the Council and a deadline for adoption of June 30<sup>th</sup>

Fred Iafrate made a motion to change Section 8-3 pertaining to the date that the mayor needs to present the budget to June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year removing the old date of April 1<sup>st</sup> and to also change the date for when the budget ordinances need to be adopted by to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, removing the current date of May 1<sup>st</sup>

The motion was seconded by Robert Piscione

A Roll call vote was taken of the present members and unanimously passed 10-0

- **Continued discussion and consideration of any other proposals that were continued for to the next meeting (Votes may be taken)**

It was discussed to possibly entertain the option of requesting that a special Town Council meeting be held for the Commission to present their recommendations to the Town Council

Chairman DelFino thanked all of the Commission members for all of their work and commitment to the Charter Review Commission

### **III. Adjournment**

A motion was made to Adjourn by Fred Iafrate and seconded by Steven Mandarelli  
Motion carried by unanimous vote

The meeting adjourned at 7:54PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Vincent P. Baccari, Jr., Town Clerk