

# Meeting of the Wells River Charter Review Committee

Thursday September 30, 2021

This was the first meeting of the committee. All committee members -- Brian Emerson, Richard Roderick and Chip Conquest – were present.

The committee was formed and members appointed by the Wells River Board of Trustees in order to review the village charter and recommend changes where the charter is in conflict with state law or the constitution, and propose other changes the committee deems appropriate.

Meeting called to order at 4:20. Richard Roderick was appointed Chair. Chip Conquest was appointed reporter.

The Committee will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 4:00 in the Village Office. The work of the committee will be publicized and public input solicited.

The committee began a section by section review of the Charter with members proposing changes or noting significant questions. Proposed changes are unanimously agreed upon unless noted. (Charter sections are noted by only the final section number).

Sec. 2 Alteration of boundaries: Village attorney will be asked to clarify understanding of process for altering Village boundaries.

Sec. 5 Annual and special Village meetings: change “Village Hall” to Village Office. Change posting of meeting notice from “four public places” to 3 public places, to comply with current law. Residency requirement of one year in order to vote is unconstitutional and violates state election law. Village attorney will be consulted for proposed language change.

Sec. 6 Village Officers: Brian and Chip propose changing Treasurer and Tax Collector to appointed positions. Richard disagrees. [*Can't remember if proposed change after discussion included appointing clerk.*] Strike “and a Chief Engineer of the Fire Department”. This is now a function of the Town.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled for Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 PM in the Village Office.