

CITY OF STAMFORD 19TH CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION FINANCE COMMITTEE

Shelley Michelson, Chair

Members

Susan Halpern
Steven Kolenberg
Alex Martinez
Clemon Williams

MEETING REPORT

Thursday, March 23, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. In attendance were Commissioners Halpern, Martinez, Michelson and Lane. Commissioner Williams joined the meeting at 7:24 P.M.

Attorney Mednick joined the meeting in progress, presenting his Action Items language and the Reorganization of the Budgetary Process with the goal of presenting it in a logical progression based on what occurs and when it occurs. He will continue to work on this document, accepting comments, from Committee members, improving organization and presenting a revised version at the Finance Committee's next meeting on April 13th. However, language already approved by the Committee will be presented to the Commission for approval at the Commission's April 12th meeting. Thereafter, another draft will be available for review by both the Charter Commission and the Board of Finance. The Finance Committee and other interested members of the Commission will meet with the Board of Finance the evening of April 20th via Zoom at 7:00 P.M.

Discussions included Committee approved language and/or concepts for:

- Action Item #5 Golf Commission Revenue Stream
- Action Item #6 Tax for Sanitation
- Revisions to C8-20-5 to permit the public to participate at Planning Board Capital Budget hearings
- Remove the 5% cap on the City's Rainy Day Fund in Section C8-30-3
- Amending and streamlining language, currently inaccurate, regarding Board of Finance's Actions of the Board of Education's budget by eliminating its line item cutting authority and conforming the procedure to State law which specifies only reductions in amount, not by line item
- Inserting the ability, previously approved by the Commission, of the Board of Representatives to restore budgetary cuts, in whole, or in part, made by the Board of Finance
- New provisions were added covering Required Cooperation, Fiscal Records, Reporting Requirements, Opinions and Reports
- Additional amendments will include a requirement that both the Mayor's budget and the Board of Education budget should contain the same required information

These specific changes, as well as the reorganized budgetary process will be presented to the full Charter Commission at its meeting on April 12, 2023.

With the City's permission, Attorney Mednick will confer with the City's Bond Counsel regarding Charge # 82, which relates to presentation of the City's full debt service schedule in its bond offering documents as well as a more transparent disclosure of litigation pending against the City and report back to the Committee. In addition, new language will be proposed for taxation of properties after the imposition of eminent domain.

A motion was made by Commissioner Halpern to approve the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting of March 1, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Martinez which passed with unanimous approval. There being no other business, Commissioner Halpern made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Martinez to adjourn the meeting. With unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Commissioner Michelson

This meeting is available on [video](#).