

To: Stony Creek Assoc. Executive Board
From: Stony Creek Charter Revision Review Committee
Date: 7 January 2020
Re: Preliminary Report

The Charter Review Committee was created by the Stony Creek Association Executive Board to review the existing Charter and to recommend what further action, if any, might be appropriate. The primary topics offered to the Committee by the Executive Board are: (1) updating the voting age from 21 years to 18 years to comport with current law and (2) examining terms of office; namely options for longer terms of office in lieu of the current one-year terms.

Background:

The original Stony Creek Association Charter is the product of a Special Act approved by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1909. On August 5, 1909, the Stony Creek Association was incorporated as the legal entity by approval of House Joint Resolution No. 447 (See Attachment A)

The Charter has since been amended twice.

The first amendment was approved on June 5, 1923 with the Connecticut General Assembly approving Substitute House Bill No. 218 (See Attachment B.)

Subsequently, on June 18, 1929, the Charter was

again amended by the Connecticut General Assembly's approval of House Bill No 100. (See Attachment C.)

On both occasions - 1923 and 1929 - Charter revisions were the result of action by the General Assembly, which was the exclusive body available at that time. On both occasions, Charter changes were modest.

The Current Charter: Does the vintage 1929 Charter serve the Community in 2020?

Despite having been updated twice, the current governing Charter for Stony Creek has remained unchanged for 90 years. Not having been updated, it is apparent that the current Charter is, in some ways, out of compliance with provisions of both State and Federal laws adopted since 1929. Moreover, after such a long time, the Charter may not reflect evolving priorities and values of the community as a whole.

There are two (2) key questions:

- (1) Does the community want to address only the rudimentary topics raised by the Executive Board (eg. voting age and term duration) or, alternatively, should a comprehensive review of the entire Charter document be done to modernize the document, making it reflect current community values?

(2) What mechanism should be used to accomplish Charter revision?

Value of a Complete Document Review

Since the Charter has not been reviewed and updated in almost a century, it may be prudent to do a complete document review at this time rather than cherry-pick topics of interest identified by the Executive Board, a small group compared to the village population.

To ensure that all in the community are afforded an opportunity to exchange ideas, a public meeting would allow all members of the Stony Creek Association to speak and offer input. A meeting would be transparent and give everyone an opportunity to give input, which could make the end product - a revised Charter - a more relevant document.

Options for Charter Amendment:

There are 2 options available for Charter Revision: (1) Special Act of the Legislature and (2) Charter Revision via Home Rule.

(1) Special Act of the Legislature

As a Special Act Charter, the Stony Creek Association may opt to bring a proposed revision

Package to the legislature as the Executive Board did in 1923 and 1929. This process would allow the Board to expedite the priority topics it has identified (eg. voting age and terms of office). It does not require any public input. It could be processed within the upcoming legislative session (Spring 2020) with little if any effort by anyone.

On the flip side, Charter amendment by the legislature is not well regarded by the legislature. In fact, in 1969, a Constitutional amendment was approved in Connecticut banning the creation of any special act governmental entities. While existing entities were not repealed, allowing those Charters to remain in effect, it was suggested that it was a burden to the legislature to address the needs of these groups. Moreover, given the changing nature of government business, the legislature could not be expected to move quickly for these small group special act projects. A recent example is the process used by Short Beach Association, which took some 2 years to complete Charter revision by Special Act of the legislature.

(2) Home Rule

As an alternative to the Special Act process

(5)

The State encourages these special act groups to adopt Home Rule, which uses the same process as municipalities to amend Charters. It involves 4 steps:

- (1) The district's legislative body or its voters initiate the process by resolution or petition
- (2) The governing authority appoints a Charter Commission, which must consider topics identified by either the authority or petition. That Commission may also consider any other items it chooses
- (3) The Commission and authority hold public hearings based on a statutory schedule. The authority may recommend changes to the Commission's proposal; however, the Commission does not have to accept them
- (4) When the Commission finalized the proposed Charter and its amendments, the authority may accept all or parts of it. The matter then goes to referendum of the voters

Home Rule moves the Charter revision process out of the legislature and into the hands of the community. It allows the community to act on its own as long as it complies with State and Federal law

To convert to Home Rule, a district meeting needs to be held and the change

(6)

approved by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the voters present at the meeting (See Attachment D)

Conclusion

Although the Review Committee is not offering a consensus as to the preferred route at this time, based on preliminary discussions to date, it is apparent that the Charter should be updated to more modern language; for example, boundary descriptors. To accomplish this, it seems that ⁽¹⁾ a full review of the Charter document might be the best option after a 90 year interval. ⁽²⁾ Also, the process should be transparent for the community as a whole, not simply the Executive Board as a spokesperson for the broader community. ⁽³⁾ A public hearing is essential.

ATTACHMENT A

Frank B. Weeks and cause the same to be placed in the capitol, and the comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his order on the treasurer for the expense thereof.

Approved, August 5, 1909.

[House Joint Resolution No. 447.]

[411.]

INCORPORATING THE STONY CREEK ASSOCIATION.

Resolved by this Assembly: SECTION 1. That all the proprietors of real estate and all electors residing within the limits hereinafter specified, in the locality known as Stony Creek, in the town of Branford, are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of The Stony Creek Association, and by that name they and their successors shall be a corporation in law, capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded in all courts of whatever nature, and also of purchasing, holding, and conveying any estate, real or personal; and shall have a common seal, with the privilege of altering it at pleasure; and shall be vested with and possess the powers hereinafter specified.

SEC. 2. The object of said association shall be to provide for the improvement of the lands in said district, and for the health, comfort, and convenience of persons living therein.

SEC. 3. The limits and territory of said association are hereby defined and established as follows: Beginning at the junction of Jairus creek and the line of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford railroad known as the Shore Line, thence running northwesterly along the line of said railroad to Stony Creek river or Pine brook; thence in a southerly direction along said creek to Long Island sound; thence southerly in an irregular line along the shore line of said Long Island sound, to and including the point of land owned by the Stony Creek Oyster Company, which is at the extreme end of the western projection known as Flying Point; thence easterly in an irregular line along the shore of Long Island sound to Jairus creek; thence northerly in an irregular line along the center of the brook known as Jairus creek to point of beginning.

SEC. 4. Every member of said association of the age of twenty-one years or over, so long as he or she continues to own real estate in said district, shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of said association, and any male person of such age, being a member or holding a proxy from a female member, shall be eligible to any office provided for in this resolution. Any female member may, by writing signed by her and filed with the clerk, authorize any person to act for her

and vote in her place at any meeting, and such writing once filed with the clerk shall hold valid for the year in which it is filed unless earlier revoked in writing.

SEC. 5. The first meeting of said association shall be held at such time and place as the following persons, or a majority of them, shall appoint: F. E. Smith, W. J. Clark, T. A. Coe, F. McGinn, C. Madeira, W. C. Hinkley, F. E. Brainerd. Said meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing an executive board which shall consist of nine members of said association, or their proxies as provided in section four, who shall hold office until the first day of October, 1910, or until others shall be chosen in their places. Notices of the time and place appointed for said meeting shall be signed by at least five of the above-named persons and shall be sent by mail to each member at least five days before the time appointed for said meeting. Said executive board shall be elected by ballot, and the polls for the election of said executive board shall be opened at four o'clock in the afternoon and remain open until seven o'clock of the same evening. Annual meetings of said association shall be held on the Monday after the first Wednesday in July at such hour and place within said district as the executive board shall select, which executive board shall be elected annually at such meeting. Special meetings of said association may be held and warned in such manner as the by-laws shall prescribe; provided, that the notice shall specify the object for which any such meeting is to be held. Not less than five of the members of said association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting.

SEC. 6. Notices of the annual and all special meetings of said association shall be signed by the president or vice-president and by two other members of the executive board, and may be given by mail or personally. In case such notices are given by mail, written notice of the time and place of such meetings shall be sent at least five days before the time appointed, by letter mailed in New Haven county and addressed to each member of said association at his legal residence, or, if he is at the same time dwelling within the limits of said district, at such dwelling. Personal notice may be given by leaving with such member a written notice of said time and place of meeting, at least three days before the time of such meeting.

SEC. 7. The executive board shall hold its first regular meeting in each year on the evening of the Monday next following the annual meeting of said association, and notice of the time and place of meeting shall be given by the clerk of said association in the manner hereinafter provided; and said board shall elect by ballot, from its own members, a president, vice-president, treasurer, and clerk of said association, who shall hold office for one year from the first day of October next succeeding, or until their successors shall be appointed, and such officers shall also be president, vice-president, treasurer, and clerk

of said executive board. The duties of each of said officers shall be as defined by the by-laws of said association. It shall be the duty of the president or clerk, on the signed written request of any four members of said board, to call a meeting of said board. Notices of such meeting shall be given by leaving with or at the usual place of abode of each member a written notice, signed by the president or clerk, specifying the time and place of such meeting, or by sending such notices by mail at least twenty-four hours before said meeting. A majority of said executive board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting thereof.

SEC. 8. The executive board shall have the care, custody, and management of all funds and property of said association, and, when assembled according to law, shall have power to make regulations for the management and control of such property and its transfer and conveyance; also to make regulations concerning the time and place of meetings of said executive board and of said association, so far as they are not inconsistent with any of the special provisions of this resolution, also to regulate the method of assessment and collection of taxes for association purposes; also to prescribe the duties and compensation of all officers and employes of said association. The president, vice-president, and treasurer shall serve without compensation except that they shall receive their actual expenses.

SEC. 9. Said executive board shall possess power, when legally assembled, to pass, amend, or repeal by-laws, regulations, and ordinances to accomplish the objects specified in section two of this resolution, and particularly for the purposes of assisting the fire department and for the fire apparatus, and for the establishment of wells and cisterns and waterworks for fire or domestic use, and to make rules for their preservation and safe-keeping, to regulate the erection of all lamp posts, telegraph, telephone, and electric light poles and the wires and fixtures thereof; to provide for the public lighting and watering of the streets, and the improvement of docking facilities; to regulate the planting, removal, protection, and preservation of trees in the streets; to keep the streets in all public places within the limits of said association quiet from all undue noise, and to prohibit the crying of newspapers and other wares on Sunday or at any unusual hours upon the streets of said association; to regulate and prohibit the running of animals at large in said district; to prevent and summarily abate every kind of nuisance and public annoyance; to regulate the use and construction of cesspools, drains, sewers, and privies, and the place and method of discharge of the same; to regulate the use of pigpens and the deposit of rubbish within the limits of said association; to compel the removal from any place in said association of all nuisances injurious to health or offensive or annoying to the public, at the expense of the owner of the premises where such nuisance exists; to prevent and regulate the removal of any offensive

manure, swill, night soil, or other substance upon the streets of said association; to prevent and regulate the carrying on within said association limits of any business prejudicial to the public health or dangerous to or constituting an unreasonable annoyance to those living or owning property in the vicinity thereof; to regulate the naming of the public streets; to establish building lines; and said executive board may also prescribe fines and penalties for violation of any of such by-laws, ordinances, or regulations, not exceeding ten dollars for any one offense, and the penalties may be recovered, in any proper action brought for that purpose in the name of The Stony Creek Association before any court having jurisdiction, for the use and benefit of said association; and the violation of any of the said by-laws or ordinances imposing a fine shall be a misdemeanor, and may be prosecuted by grand juror or prosecuting attorney of the town of Branford as in other criminal cases.

SEC. 10. The executive board shall have control of all sidewalks, crosswalks, and footpaths in the streets of said association, but not of the construction and repairs of the highway. It is also empowered to lay out sidewalks, establish their grade and curb lines and building lines; to designate what streets shall have sidewalks constructed thereon; to pass ordinances requiring the building of sidewalks and the proper care of the same, and regarding the removal of ice, snow, rubbish, ash heaps, piles of lumber, and other obstructions and incumbrances. Whenever the executive board shall lay out and construct any sidewalk on any street, the adjoining property, or the owners thereof, shall be assessed for one-half the cost of the same; and in case any adjoining property, or the owners thereof, shall refuse to pay such assessment, it shall be and remain a lien or real incumbrance on said property in favor of said association, and the payment thereof may be enforced by said association in a civil action in the name of the treasurer of said association, or by foreclosure, or by any other proper remedy; provided, that such lien shall not be good for a longer period than sixty days after such assessment or lien shall be made unless a certificate in writing, made and signed by the president or treasurer of said association, describing the premises, the amount claimed as a lien, the date of the ordinance requiring the sidewalk to be built, the date of the completion of the sidewalk by said association, and the date of the assessment thereof, shall be lodged with the town clerk of Branford. Whenever the executive board shall require, by ordinance, that any sidewalk shall be cleared of ice and snow, and the owners of adjoining property shall fail or neglect or refuse to clear the same within the time and in the manner required by said ordinance, then the executive board or other proper officer or authority shall cause such snow or ice to be removed, and the cost of such removal, and such fine as the executive board may by ordinance impose, shall be and remain a lien upon the adjoining

property, and may be collected in the same manner as is provided herein for neglect to build a sidewalk.

SEC. 11. Said executive board, before establishing any building line, shall cause notice thereof, and of the time set for the hearing thereon, to be signed and served, in the manner prescribed for notices of meetings of said association, upon all owners of lands to be affected by said proposed building line. Said board, after hearing, may determine the benefits and damages due to each of said owners by reason of the establishment of such building line, and, in case the damages shall exceed the benefits, such excess of damages shall be paid by said association. If the benefits shall be found to exceed the damages, such excess of benefits over damages shall be paid by the owner of such land to said association. The amount of such excess shall be a lien in favor of said association upon the land affected by said order, from the time of the determination of said amount and the service of notice thereof on said owners in the manner hereinbefore required.

SEC. 12. Any party that may be aggrieved by any order of the executive board making any assessment of benefits or damages, or requiring the construction of any sidewalk, curb, or gutter, or the payment of any part of the expense thereof, may appeal therefrom in the manner prescribed in sections 1956, 1957, 1958, and 1959 of the general statutes, and with like effect.

SEC. 13. Said executive board may appoint police officers, to act within the limits of said association, who shall have all the powers of constables in said district for the purpose of making arrests for violation of law or of the regulations and by-laws of said association, and said executive board may fix the compensation of such police officers.

SEC. 14. Said executive board shall establish a public signpost within the limits of said The Stony Creek Association, and may make, establish, and adopt forms of orders and notices to be used under this resolution.

SEC. 15. No by-law or ordinance shall take effect or be enforced until the same has been posted at least three days on the public signpost of said association; nor shall any by-law or ordinance take effect until fifteen days after its passage. A certificate of the clerk of the said association of the due posting of any by-law or ordinance shall be prima facie evidence of such posting.

SEC. 16. Said executive board shall not, within any one year, incur any pecuniary liability exceeding in amount five mills on the dollar of the assessed value of the real estate within said The Stony Creek Association, as appears by the assessment list hereinafter provided for.

SEC. 17. It shall be the duty of the clerk of said board, on or before the first day of June of each year, to prepare an assessment

list according to the town assessment list. Where any piece of land so assessed on the list of the town of Branford shall be partly within and partly without said district, said clerk shall assess said part within the district in the proportion which the part within the district bears to the whole tract so assessed, using his best judgment as to such value. Said clerk shall, on or before the fifth day of June, report said list to the executive board, which shall revise said list, and if said board finds that in any particular it does not correspond with the last assessment list of the town of Branford, or if said board shall find that there are any errors in the proportional valuation of such parts of any piece of property as are partly within and partly without the territory of said The Stony Creek Association, said board shall correct the same, and said list, when so revised and corrected, shall be adopted by said executive board, and shall then be and constitute the assessment list for said The Stony Creek Association; said list so revised and completed shall be recorded by the clerk in the books of the association on or before the fifth day of July, and said assessment list shall be open to inspection by any member of the association.

SEC. 18. Any person claiming to be aggrieved by any such proportional valuation by said board may appeal to the superior court in the manner provided in the general statutes for appeals from boards of relief.

SEC. 19. The executive board, on or before the fifteenth day of July, annually, may lay a tax, for the purposes hereinbefore specified, of not exceeding five mills on the dollar of the total value of said real estate as shown by the assessment list hereinbefore provided for, and shall appoint a collector to collect said tax, and rate bills shall be made out and signed by said board and warrants may be issued for the collection of money due on such rate bills, pursuant to the provisions of section 2381 of the general statutes.

SEC. 20. Written notice of the rate of such tax and of the amount apportioned to each member of the association shall be sent by the clerk of the executive board within ten days from the laying of said tax, and said tax shall be due and payable within thirty days of the sending of said notice, and if such tax be not paid when due it shall bear interest at the rate of nine per centum per annum from the date when it is so payable. The collector shall have all the powers of collectors of town taxes, and shall be accountable to the executive board in the same manner as town collectors are accountable to selectmen, and shall pay over the taxes, as soon as collected, to the treasurer. Every such tax shall be a lien upon the property upon which it shall be laid, for one year from the time of the laying of said tax, and may be collected by suit in the name of the association, or by foreclosure of said lien. Said lien may be continued by certificate recorded in the land records of the town of Branford, pursuant to the provisions of section 2403 of the general statutes.

Sec. 21. The executive board may, by a three-quarters vote of those present at any meeting, abate the taxes assessed as aforesaid upon any such person or persons as are poor and indigent and unable to pay the same, causing a proper entry to be made on its records.

Approved, August 5, 1909.

[Substitute for House Joint Resolution No. 248.]

[412.]

AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE TOKENEKE WATER COMPANY.

Resolved by this Assembly: SECTION 1. That section one of the resolution incorporating The Tokeneke Water Company, approved May 14, 1907, be and the same is hereby repealed, and the following substituted in lieu thereof: That Miner D. Randall, Frank A. Branda, Thomas Alsop, and Charles D. Burnes, with such persons as may be duly associated with them, and their successors, are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate under the name of The Tokeneke Water Company, for the purpose of supplying with water for public, domestic, and other purposes, such property in the town of Darien as is now, was formerly, or may hereafter be owned, or which is contiguous to the property now owned, by The Tokeneke Corporation, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of this state and located in said town of Darien: and also such property as abuts upon the following public highways and roads in the town of Darien, to wit: The public highway from Contentment island to Five Mile river bridge; the public highway along said Five Mile river known as West Side avenue; the public highway known as Raymond street from said Five Mile river bridge to its junction with Old King's highway; and by that name said corporation is hereby empowered to purchase, receive, hold, possess, and enjoy lands, tenements, goods, chattels, stocks, choses in action, real and personal estate of every description, and to sell, convey, grant, and dispose of the same, to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in all courts, and to adopt and use a seal and change the same at pleasure.

Sec. 2. Section six of said resolution is hereby repealed, and the following substituted in lieu thereof: Said company is hereby authorized and empowered to construct, repair, and maintain such reservoir or reservoirs as it may deem expedient and necessary upon any property in said town of Darien: and to take and use the water of any spring or springs, stream or streams, lakes, ponds, watersheds, or other waters located and situated within the town of Darien and

ATTACHMENT B

[Substitute for House Bill No. 218.]

[379.]

AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE STONY
CREEK ASSOCIATION.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:*

SECTION 1. Section three of a resolution incorporating The Stony Creek Association, approved August 5, 1909, is amended to read as follows: Beginning at the junction of Jairus creek and the line of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad known as the Shore Line, thence running northwesterly along the line of said railroad to Stony Creek river or Pine Rock brook; thence in a southerly direction along said creek to Long Island sound; thence southerly in an irregular line along the shore line of said Long Island sound, to and including the point of land owned by the Stony Creek Oyster Company, which is at the extreme end of the western projection known as Flying Point; thence easterly in an irregular line along the shore of Long Island sound to Jairus creek; thence northerly in an irregular line along the center of the brook known as Jairus creek to point of beginning; and beginning at a point where the Shore Line Division of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company crosses Jairus creek, thence in a direct line intersecting the highway leading to Leete's island and the tracks of the Victoria White Granite Company; thence three hundred feet north on said tracks; thence in an irregular line in a westerly direction keeping three hundred feet north of the highway to a point on Chestnut hill road, three hundred feet north of said highway; thence in a direct line to the north boundary of the Woods property; thence in a westerly direction along said boundary to Stony Creek river or Pine Rock brook, following the center of said brook to the main tracks of the Shore Line Division of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company.

SEC. 2. Section four of said resolution is amended to read as follows: Every member of said association of the age of twenty-one years or over shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of said association, and any person of such age, being a member of said association, shall be eligible to any office provided for in said resolution and in this act.

SEC. 3. Section 5 of said resolution is amended to read as follows: The first meeting of said association shall be held at such time and place as shall be appointed by the following-named persons, or a majority of them: F. E. Smith, W. J. Clark, T. A. Coe, F. McGinn, C. Madeira, W. C. Hinkley and F. E. Brainerd. Said meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing an executive

board which shall consist of nine members of said association, who shall hold office until the first day of October, 1910, or until others shall have been chosen in their places. Notice of the time and place appointed for said meeting, signed by at least five of the above-named persons, shall be sent by mail to each member at least five days before the time appointed for said meeting. Said executive board shall be elected by ballot, and the polls for such election shall be open between four o'clock p. m. and seven o'clock p. m. Annual meetings of said association shall be held on the Monday after the first Wednesday in July in each year, at such hour and place within said district as the executive board shall select. At said annual meeting the members of said association shall elect by ballot the following officers: A president, two auditors and an executive board which shall consist of ten members of said association, five of whom shall reside or own property south of the tracks of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Company, and five of whom shall reside or own property north of said tracks. All of such officers shall hold office for one year from the date of their election or until others shall have been chosen in their stead. The president shall preside at all meetings of said association and of said executive board, and at all meetings of the executive board the president shall vote only when necessary to dissolve a tie. The auditors shall have authority to examine all accounts, records, documents, securities and bank books of said association and of all officers thereof. For this purpose they may take into their possession all such accounts, records, documents, securities and bank books and shall make written report of their doings to the annual meeting of said association. Special meetings of said association may be warned and held in such manner as the by-laws shall prescribe, provided the notice shall specify the object for which such meeting is to be held. Not less than five of the members of said association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting.

SEC. 4. Section six of said resolution is amended to read as follows: Notice of the annual and of any special meeting of said association shall be signed by the president or vice-president or by two other members of the executive board, and may be given by mail or personally. In case such notice shall be given by mail, written notice of the time and place of such meeting shall be mailed in New Haven County at least five days before the time appointed, addressed to each member of said association at his legal residence, or, if any member shall be at such time dwelling within the limits of said district, at his residence therein. Personal notice may be given by leaving with such member a written notice of the time and place of meeting, at least three days before the time of such meeting.

Sp. No. 379

SEC. 5. Section seven of said resolution is amended to read as follows: The executive board shall hold its first regular meeting in each year on the evening of the annual meeting as provided in section three of this act, after the result of such election shall have been determined, and no special notice thereof to the members of the executive board shall be required. Said executive board shall, at this meeting or any adjournment thereof, elect by ballot from its members, a vice-president, treasurer and clerk of said association, who shall hold office for one year from the date of the annual meeting, or until their successors shall be elected, and such officers shall also be vice-president, treasurer and clerk of said executive board. The duties of said officers shall be defined in the by-laws of said association. The president or clerk of said executive board shall, on the signed written request of four members of said executive board, call a meeting of said board. Notice of such meeting shall be given by leaving with or at the usual place of abode of each member of said executive board a written notice, signed by the president and clerk, specifying the time and place of such meeting, or by sending such notice by mail, at least twenty-four hours before such meeting. A majority of said executive board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting thereof.

SEC. 6. Section sixteen of said resolution is amended to read as follows: Said executive board shall not, within any one year, incur any pecuniary liability exceeding in amount five mills on the dollar of the assessed value of the real estate within said The Stony Creek Association, as shall appear by the assessment list hereinafter provided for, provided nothing herein shall be construed to prevent said executive board from expending or contracting to expend any funds or unexpended balances which may have accumulated from previous years, and provided all money collected from the members north of the tracks of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, less one-half of the running or common expenses of said association, shall be expended north of said tracks, and the money collected from members south of said tracks, less one-half of the running or common expenses of said association, shall be expended south of said tracks.

SEC. 7. Section twenty of said resolution is amended to read as follows: Written notice of the rate of such tax and of the amount apportioned to each member of the association shall be sent by the clerk of the executive board within ten days from the laying of such tax, and such tax shall be due and payable within thirty days of the sending of such notice, and, if such tax shall not be paid when due, it shall bear interest at the rate of nine per centum per annum from the date when it shall be payable. The collector shall have all the powers of collectors of town taxes, and shall be accountable to the executive board in the same manner as town collectors are accountable to the selectmen, and shall, on or

before the fifth day of every month, pay to the treasurer all moneys collected by him previous to the first day of that month, as taxes and interest thereon, and shall, at the same time, deliver to said treasurer a complete list of the names of all persons from whom such moneys were collected, stating therein the amount of principal and interest paid by each person named in such list and the time of such payment. Every such tax shall be a lien upon the property upon which it shall be laid for one year from the time the same shall be payable and may be collected by suit in the name of the association or by foreclosure of such lien. Such lien may be continued by certificate to be recorded in the land records of the town of Branford, pursuant to the provisions of the general statutes relating to the continuance of tax liens.

Approved, June 5, 1923.

[House Bill No. 844.]

[380.]

AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE ANTHONY TRUST ASSOCIATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Any member of The Anthony Trust Association, of New Haven, incorporated by resolution approved June 25, 1874, may, by a written proxy, authorize any other member of said association to act for him in voting upon any amendment to any provision of the constitution or by-laws of said association.

Approved, June 5, 1923.

[Substitute for House Bill No. 661.]

[381.]

AN ACT INCORPORATING THE OWENOKE COUNTRY CLUB.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

SECTION 1. Colby M. Chester, Jr., Charles D. Lanier, James H. Perkins, Calvin Truesdale, Alfred L. Ferguson, William W. Heaton, H. Arnold Jackson, Frederick K. Rupprecht, Theodore E. Blake, John D. Chapman, Carl B. Ely, Clifford D. Mallory, Marshall C. Bacon, Leavitt J. Hunt, Frederick M. Lincoln, W. V.

ATTACHMENT C

[House Bill No. 1000.]

[481.]

AN ACT REVISING THE CHARTER OF THE STONY CREEK ASSOCIATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

SECTION 1. All the proprietors of real estate and all electors residing within the limits hereinafter specified, in the locality known as Stony Creek, in the town of Branford, are constituted a body corporate by the name of The Stony Creek Association, and by that name they and their successors shall be a corporation in law, capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded in all courts of whatever nature, and also of purchasing, holding and conveying any estate, real or personal; and shall have a common seal, with the privilege of altering it at pleasure; and shall be vested with and possess the powers hereinafter specified.

SEC. 2. The object of said association shall be to provide for the improvement of the lands in said district and for the health, comfort and convenience of persons living therein.

SEC. 3. The limits and territory of said association are defined and established as follows: Beginning at a point where the shore line division of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Company crosses Jairus Creek; thence in a direct line intersecting the highway leading to Leete's island and the tracks of the Victoria White Granite Company; thence three hundred feet north on said tracks; thence in an irregular line in a westerly direction keeping three hundred feet north of the highway, to a point on Chestnut Hill road, three hundred feet north of said highway; thence in a direct line to the north boundary of the Woods property; thence in a westerly direction along said boundary to Stony Creek river, or Pine Rock brook; thence in a southerly direction along said brook to Long Island sound; thence southerly in an irregular line along the shore line of said Long Island sound, to and including the point of land owned by the Stony Creek Oyster Company, which is at the extreme end of the western projection known as Flying Point; thence easterly in an irregular line along the shore of Long Island sound to Jairus creek; thence northerly in an irregular line along the center of the brook known as Jairus creek to point of beginning.

SEC. 4. Every member of said association of the age of twenty-one years or over shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of said association, and any person of such age, being a member of said association, shall be eligible to any office provided for in the resolution incorporating said association as herein amended.

SEC. 5. The first meeting of said association shall be held at such time and place as shall be appointed by the following-named persons or a majority of them: F. E. Smith, W. J. Clark, T. A. Coe, F. McGinn, C. Madera, W. C. Hinkley and F. E. Brainerd. Said meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing an executive board which shall consist of ten members of said association, who shall hold office until the first day of

Sp. No. 481

October, or until others shall have been chosen in their places. Notice of the time and place appointed for said meeting, signed by at least five of the above named persons, shall be posted in a public place at least five days in advance of the meeting, and published at least once in a newspaper circulating in the town. Said executive board shall be elected by ballot, and the polls for such election shall be open between four o'clock p. m. and seven o'clock p. m. Annual meetings of said association shall be held on the Monday after the first Wednesday in July in each year, at such hour and place within said district as the executive board shall select. At said annual meeting the members of said association shall elect by ballot the following officers: A president, a treasurer, a tax collector, two auditors and an executive board which shall consist of ten members of said association. All of such officers shall hold office for one year from the date of their election or until others shall have been chosen in their stead. The president shall preside at all meetings of said association and of said executive board, and at all meetings of the executive board the president shall vote only when necessary to dissolve a tie. The auditors shall have authority to examine all accounts, records, documents, securities and bank books of said association and of all officers thereof. For this purpose they make take into their possession all such accounts, records, documents, securities and bank books and shall make written report of their doings to the annual meeting of said association. Special meetings of said association may be warned and held in such manner as the by-laws shall prescribe, provided the notice shall specify the object for which such meeting is to be held. Not less than five of the members of said association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting.

SEC. 6. Notices of the annual and all special meetings of said association shall be signed by the president or vice president or by two other members of the executive board, and may be given by mail or personally. In case such notices shall be given by mail, written notice of the time and place of such meetings shall be mailed in New Haven county at least five days before the time appointed, addressed to each member of said association at his legal residence, or, if any member shall be at such time dwelling within the limits of said district, at his residence therein. Personal notice may be given by leaving with such member a written notice of the time and place of meeting, at least three days before the time of such meeting.

SEC. 7. The executive board shall hold its first regular meeting in each year on the evening of the annual meeting as provided in section five of this act, after the result of such election shall have been determined, and no special notice thereof to the members of the executive board shall be required. Said executive board shall, at this meeting or any adjournment thereof, elect by ballot from its members, a vice president, treasurer and clerk of said association, who shall hold office for one year from the date of the annual meeting, or until their successors shall be elected, and such officers shall also be vice president, treasurer and clerk of said executive board. The offices of treasurer, tax collector and auditor shall not be held by the same person. The duties of said officers shall be defined in the by-laws of said association. The president or clerk of said executive

board shall, on the signed written request of four members of said executive board, call a meeting of said board. Notice of such meeting shall be given by leaving with or at the usual place of abode of each member of said executive board a written notice, signed by the president and clerk, specifying the time and place of such meeting, or by sending such notice by mail, at least twenty-four hours before such meeting. A majority of said executive board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting thereof.

SEC. 8. The executive board shall have the care, custody and management of all funds and property of said association, and, when assembled according to law, shall have power to make regulations for the management and control of such property and its transfer and conveyance; to make regulations concerning the time and place of meetings of said executive board and of said association, so far they are not inconsistent with any of the special provisions of the charter of said association or of this act; to regulate the method of assessment and collection of taxes for association purposes and to prescribe the duties and compensation of all officers and employees of said association. The president, vice president and treasurer shall serve without compensation, except that they shall receive their actual expenses.

SEC. 9. Said executive board shall possess power, when legally assembled, to pass, amend or repeal by-laws, regulations and ordinances to accomplish the objects specified in section two of this act, and particularly for the purposes of assisting the fire department and for the fire apparatus, and for the establishment of wells and cisterns and waterworks for fire or domestic use, and to make rules for their preservation and safe-keeping, to regulate the erection of all lamp posts, telegraph, telephone and electric light poles and the wires and fixtures thereof; to provide for the public lighting and watering of the streets and the improvement of docking facilities; to regulate the planting, removal, protection and preservation of trees in the streets; to keep the streets in all public places within the limits of said association quite from all undue noise, and to prohibit the crying of newspapers and other wares on Sunday or at any unusual hours upon the streets of said association; to regulate and prohibit the running of animals at large in said district; to prevent and summarily abate every kind of nuisance and public annoyance; to regulate the use and construction of cesspools, drains, sewers and privies, and the place and method of discharge of same; to regulate the use of piggens and the deposit of rubbish within the limits of said association; to compel the removal from any place in said association of all nuisances injurious to health or offensive or annoying to the public, at the expense of the owner of the premises where such nuisance exists; to prevent and regulate the removal of any offensive manure, swill, night-soil or other substance upon the streets of said association; to prevent and regulate the carrying on within said association limits of any business prejudicial to the public health or dangerous to or constituting an unreasonable annoyance to those living or owning property in the vicinity thereof; to regulate the naming of the public streets and to establish building lines; and said executive board may also prescribe fines and penalties for violation of any of such by-laws, ordinances or regulations, not exceeding ten dollars for any one offense, and

SP. No. 481

the penalties may be recovered, in any proper action brought for that purpose in the name of The Stony Creek Association before any court having jurisdiction, for the use and benefit of said association; and the violation of any of the said by-laws or ordinances imposing a fine shall be a misdemeanor, and may be prosecuted by any grand juror or prosecuting attorney of the town of Branford as in other criminal cases.

SEC. 10. The executive board shall have control of all sidewalks, crosswalks and footpaths in the streets of said association, but not of the construction and repairs of the highway. It is also empowered to lay out sidewalks, establish their grade and curb lines and building lines; to designate what streets shall have sidewalks constructed thereon; to pass ordinances requiring the building of sidewalks and the proper care of the same, regarding the removal of ice, snow, rubbish, ash heaps, piles of lumber and other obstructions and incumbrances. Whenever the executive board shall lay out and construct any sidewalk on any street, the adjoining property, or the owners thereof, shall be assessed for one-half the cost of the same; and, in case any adjoining property, or the owners thereof, shall refuse to pay such assessment, it shall be and remain a lien or real incumbrance on such property in favor of said association, and the payment thereof may be enforced by said association in a civil action in the name of the treasurer of said association, or by foreclosure, or by any other proper remedy; provided such lien shall not be good for a longer period than sixty days after such assessment or lien shall be made unless a certificate in writing, made and signed by the president or treasurer of said association, describing the premises, the amount claimed as a lien, the date of the ordinance requiring the sidewalk to be built, the date of the completion of the sidewalk by said association, and the date of the assessment thereof, shall be lodged with the town clerk of Branford. Whenever the executive board shall require, by ordinance, that any sidewalk shall be cleared of ice and snow, and the owners of adjoining property shall fail to clear the same within the time and in the manner required by such ordinance, the executive board or other proper officer or authority shall cause such snow or ice to be removed, and the cost of such removal, and such fine as the executive board may by ordinance impose, shall be and remain a lien upon the adjoining property, and may be collected in the same manner as is provided herein for neglect to build a sidewalk.

SEC. 11. Said executive board, before establishing any building line, shall cause notice thereof, and of the time set for the hearing thereon, to be signed and served, in the manner prescribed for notices of meetings of said association, upon all owners of lands to be affected by said proposed building line. Said board, after hearing, may determine the benefits and damages due to each of such owners by reason of the establishment of such building line, and, in case the damages shall exceed the benefits, such excess of damages shall be paid by said association. If the benefits shall be found to exceed the damages, such excess of benefits over damages shall be paid by the owner of such land to said association. The amount of such excess shall be a lien in favor of said association upon the land affected by said order, from the time of the determination of said amount and the service of notice thereof on said owners in the manner hereinbefore required.

SEC. 12. Any person that may be aggrieved by any order of the executive board making any assessment of benefits or damages, or requiring the construction of any sidewalk, curb or gutter, or the payment of any part of the expense thereof may appeal therefrom in the manner prescribed in sections 475, 476, 477 and 478 of the general statutes, revision of 1918, and with like effect.

SEC. 13. Said executive board may appoint police officers, to act within the limits of said association, who shall have all the powers of constables in said district for the purpose of making arrests for violation of law or of the regulations and by-laws of said association, and said executive board may fix the compensation of such police officers.

SEC. 14. Said executive board shall establish a public signpost within the limits of said The Stony Creek Association, and may make, establish and adopt forms of orders and notices to be used under this act.

SEC. 15. No by-law or ordinance shall take effect or be enforced until the same has been posted at least three days on the public signpost of said association; nor shall any by-law or ordinance take effect until fifteen days after its passage. A certificate of the clerk of the said association of the due posting of any by-law or ordinance shall be prima facie evidence of such posting.

SEC. 16. Said executive board shall not, within any one year, incur any pecuniary liability exceeding in amount five mills on the dollar of the assessed value of the real estate within said The Stony Creek Association, as shall appear, by the assessment list hereinafter provided for, provided nothing herein shall be construed to prevent said executive board from expending or contracting to expend any funds or unexpended balances which may have accumulated from previous years.

SEC. 17. The clerk of said board shall, on or before the first day of June of each year, prepare an assessment list according to the town assessment list. Where any piece of land so assessed on the list of the town of Branford shall be partly within and partly without said district, said clerk shall assess such part within the district in the proportion which the part within the district bears to the whole tract so assessed, using his best judgment as to such value. Said clerk shall, on or before the fifth day of June, report such list to the executive board, which shall revise such list, and if said board shall find that in any particular it does not correspond with the last assessment list of the town of Branford, or if said board shall find that there are any errors in the proportional valuation of such parts of any piece of property as are partly within and partly without the territory of said The Stony Creek Association, said board shall correct the same, and said list, when so revised and corrected, shall be adopted by said executive board, and shall then be and constitute the assessment list for said The Stony Creek Association; such list so revised and completed shall be recorded by the clerk in the books of the association on or before the fifty day of July, and such assessment list shall be open to inspection by any member of the association.

SEC. 18. Any person claiming to be aggrieved by any such proportional valuation by said board may appeal to the superior court in the manner provided in the general statutes for appeals from boards of relief.

SEC. 19. The executive board, on or before the fifteenth day of July, annually, may lay a tax, for the purposes hereinbefore specified, of not exceeding five mills on the dollar of the total value of such real estate as shown by the assessment list hereinbefore provided for, and shall appoint a collector to collect such tax, and rate bills shall be made out and signed by said board and warrants may be issued for the collection of money due on such rate bills, pursuant to the provisions of section 1278 of the general statutes as amended, revision of 1918.

SEC. 20. Written notice of the rate of such tax and of the amount apportioned to each member of the association shall be sent by the clerk of the executive board within ten days from the laying of such tax, and such tax shall be due and payable within thirty days of the sending of such notice, and, if such tax shall not be paid when due, it shall bear interest at the rate of nine per centum per annum from the date when it shall be payable. The collector shall have all the powers of collectors of town taxes, and shall be accountable to the executive board in the same manner as town collectors are accountable to the selectmen, and shall, on or before the fifth day of every month, pay to the treasurer all moneys collected by him previous to the first day of that month, as taxes and interest thereon, and shall, at the same time, deliver to said treasurer a complete list of the names of all persons from whom such moneys were collected, stating therein the amount of principal and interest paid by each person named in such list and the time of such payment. Each such tax shall be a lien upon the property upon which it shall be laid for one year from the time the same shall be payable and may be collected by suit in the name of the association or by foreclosure of such lien. Such lien may be continued by certificate to be recorded in the land records of the town of Branford, pursuant to the provisions of the general statutes relating to the continuance of tax liens.

SEC. 21. The executive board may, by a three-quarters' vote of those present at any meeting, abate the taxes assessed as aforesaid upon any such person or persons as are poor and indigent and unable to pay the same, causing a proper entry to be made on its records.

Approved June 18, 1929.

[House Bill No. 900.]

[482.]

AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO SUPPLY DEFICIENCIES IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES OF THE STATE FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1931.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

The following sums are appropriated for expenses of the state for the objects hereinafter specified for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930, and the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, in addition to the amounts appro-

HEINONLINE

Citation:

1929 1089

Provided by:

Connecticut State Library

Content downloaded/printed from *HeinOnline*

Tue Oct 2 14:47:35 2018

-- Your use of this HeinOnline PDF indicates your acceptance of HeinOnline's Terms and Conditions of the license agreement available at <https://heinonline.org/HOL/License>

-- The search text of this PDF is generated from uncorrected OCR text.



Use QR Code reader to send PDF to your smartphone or tablet device

ATTACHMENT D

Sec. 7-188. Initiation of action for adoption, amendment or repeal of charter or home rule ordinance. (a) Any municipality, in addition to such powers as it has under the provisions of the general statutes or any special act, shall have the power to (1) adopt and amend a charter which shall be its organic law and shall supersede any existing charter, including amendments thereto, and all special acts inconsistent with such charter or amendments, which charter or amended charter may include the provisions of any special act concerning the municipality but which shall not otherwise be inconsistent with the Constitution or general statutes, provided nothing in this section shall be construed to provide that any special act relative to any municipality is repealed solely because such special act is not included in the charter or amended charter; (2) amend a home rule ordinance which has been adopted prior to October 1, 1982, which revised home rule ordinance shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution or the general statutes; and (3) repeal any such home rule ordinance by adopting a charter, provided the rights or benefits granted to any individual under any municipal retirement or pension system shall not be diminished or eliminated.

(b) Any action pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be initiated by a resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the appointing authority of such municipality, or by petition filed with the clerk of such municipality for submission to the appointing authority and signed by not less than ten per cent of the electors of such municipality, as determined by its last-completed registry list; provided, in the case of a consolidated town and city having a town clerk and a city clerk, such petition shall be filed with the city clerk.

(c) No signature on any petition filed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be valid unless it has been obtained within ninety days of the filing of the page of the petition on which it appears. Any elector signing such a petition may cause his signature to be removed at any time prior to the filing of such petition with the clerk. The clerk with whom the petition is filed shall proceed forthwith to determine its sufficiency by comparing the signatures thereon with those contained in said registry list and shall certify its sufficiency or insufficiency to the appointing authority.

(d) After a resolution has been so adopted by the appointing authority or a petition has been so certified as sufficient, as the case may be, the appointing authority shall not adopt any resolution initiating such action and the clerk shall not accept any petition for the initiation of such action until such time as the commission appointed pursuant to such original resolution or petition has been terminated.

(1953, S. 271d, 272d; 1957, P.A. 465, S. 2; 1959, P.A. 678, S. 2; February, 1965, P.A. 269, S. 1; P.A. 81-451, S. 2, 10; P.A. 84-153; P.A. 85-253, S. 2, 10; P.A. 87-278, S. 2, 5.)

History: 1959 act added home rule ordinance provisions; 1965 act provided no signature is to be valid unless obtained within 90 days of filing petition; P.A. 81-451 provided that no new home rule ordinances should be adopted after October 1, 1982, and that no new petition could be accepted until a commission appointed pursuant to a previous petition had been terminated, effective October 1, 1982; P.A. 84-153 amended Subsec. (d) to apply provisions to resolutions and to clarify that only one commission can exist at any time; P.A. 85-253 amended Subsec. (a) to replace the word "revise" with the word "amend" and to add language concerning inclusion of

special acts in Subdiv. (1); P.A. 87-278 inserted the word "otherwise" in the phrase "shall not otherwise be inconsistent" in Subsec. (a).

See Sec. 7-328a re home rule action.

Cited. 140 C. 517. Home rule, so far as it relates to charter changes, may be exercised only in accordance with general statutes. 150 C. 24. Purpose behind act is to enable municipalities to draft or amend charters without necessity of action by general assembly. 152 C. 423. As to method or procedure of assessment, the home rule act, being later in time, takes precedence over any inconsistent provisions in the Waterbury charter. Id. Act exhibits legislative intent to add a new power to those which municipalities already had without affecting existing powers. 152 C. 424. Cited. 178 C. 81. Cited. 180 C. 243. Cited. 182 C. 253. Cited. 188 C. 276. Cited. 190 C. 736. Cited. 193 C. 1. Cited. 216 C. 112. Cited. 234 C. 513.

Cited. 37 CA 348.

Adoption of municipal charter does not invalidate special acts prior thereto establishing special districts. 28 CS 413. A charter provision cannot repeal or nullify the general statutes. 31 CS 392.

Sec. 7-189. Form of petition. (a) The form of the petition for adopting or amending a charter or amending a home rule ordinance shall be as follows: **WARNING: ALL SIGNATURES SHALL BE IN INK OR INDELIBLE PENCIL.** We, the undersigned electors of the town, city or borough of (here insert name of town, city or borough), hereby present this petition under the provisions of section 7-188 requesting the appointment of a commission for (insert one of the following: "The adoption of a charter, the amendment of its charter, or the amendment of its home rule ordinance", using such words as are applicable) and we certify that we are electors of the town, city or borough of residing at the addresses set opposite our names and that we have signed this petition on the dates opposite our names and not more than once. (Here follow the signatures, dates and addresses.)

(b) Each page of such petition shall contain a statement, signed under penalties of false statement as defined in section 53a-157b, by the person who circulates the same, setting forth such circulator's name and address, and which shall be in the form as follows: "Each person whose name appears on this page signed the same in person in my presence and such person is known to me or has satisfactorily identified himself to me." Any page of a petition which does not contain such a statement by the circulator shall be invalid.

(c) Such petition may also include, immediately after the statement provided in subsection (a) of this section, a list of general or specific recommendations for consideration by such commission.

(1957, P.A. 465, S. 3; 1959, P.A. 678, S. 3; February, 1965, P.A. 269, S. 2; P.A. 81-451, S. 3, 10; P.A. 85-253, S. 3, 10.)

BASIC STEPS FOR REVISING OR DEVELOPING A MUNICIPAL CHARTER¹

The process for charter revision, from initiating a proposal to filing approved revisions with the Secretary of State, is prescribed in *Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) 7-188* "Initiation of action for adoption, amendment or repeal of charter or home rule ordinances" (attached in its entirety). Summarized below are the basic steps to municipal charter revision, with statutory citations.

STEP 1: Charter revision proposal must be initiated by either a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the municipal appointing authority (common council, board of aldermen, selectmen, etc.), or a petition signed by not less than 10% of the electorate.

[CGS §§7-187(a), 7-188(b)]



STEP 2: Within 30 days after step 1 (vote of appointing authority or certification of a petition), the appointing authority must appoint a charter commission, charter revision commission, or home rule ordinance revision commission. The commission must consist of five to fifteen electors, not more than 1/3 of whom may hold another public office in the municipality, and with no more than a bare majority from the same political party. "The commission shall proceed forthwith to draft a charter or amendment to the existing charter, or amendments to the home rule ordinance as the case maybe."

[CGS §7-190(a)]



STEP 3: The commission must hold at least two public hearings: one prior to beginning "substantive work," and one after the commission has completed a draft report, but before submitting it to the appointing authority. The commission may hold other meetings it deems necessary.

[CGS §7-191(a)]



STEP 4: The appointing authority shall prescribe a date, no later than 16 months from appointment, by which the commission must submit the draft report, including the proposed revisions, to the municipal clerk. Although the appointing authority can prescribe a date, decisions are not definitive.

[CGS §§7-190(b), 7-191(b)]



STEP 5: The appointing authority shall hold its last public hearing, within 45 days after submission of the commission's draft report.

[CGS §7-191(b)]

¹ This bulletin is an update of MMB 02-20 previously issued in October 2002.



STEP 6: The appointing authority may recommend changes to the draft within 15 days after its last hearing.

- If there are recommendations, the commission shall confer with the appointing authority concerning such recommendation and may amend its report or reject the recommendations. In either case the commission shall make its final report within 30 days after receiving such recommendations.
- If there are no recommendations, the commission's report becomes final and the appointing authority shall act on the report. [CGS §§7-191(b), (c)]



STEP 7: Within 15 days after receiving the final report², the appointing authority shall, by majority vote, either approve or reject the proposed changes. Following a vote to reject may file a petition for referendum within 45 days after such rejection by the appointing authority. [CGS §§7-191(d)]



STEP 8: Within 30 days after the appointing authority's approval or certification of a petition from the electorate, the charter, amendments, shall be published in full at least once in a general newspaper having circulation in the municipality. [CGS §7-191(d)]



STEP 9: After approval or the filing of electorate petition, the appointing authority decides by majority vote whether to hold a vote on the charter, amendments, or revisions at either a regular election (majority vote of participants needed for approval), or a special election (majority equal to at least 15% of qualified electors needed for approval). The election must be held not later than 15 months either after approval by the appointing authority or certification for a petition. [CGS §§7-191(e), (f)]



STEP 10: Not later than 30 days after the approval by the electors, the municipal clerk must notify the Secretary of State, in writing, of the results. Also, the municipal clerk must file three certified copies of the charter, amendments, or revisions with the Secretary of State. [CGS §7-191(g)]

² The commission shall terminate upon acceptance or rejection of its final report by the appointing authority [CGS §7-190(c)].