

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Rosalina Roman-Christy, Co-chair; Ernest Newton; Aikeem Boyd; Maria Valle; Jorge Cruz

STAFF: Thomas Gaudett, Deputy Chief of Staff

OTHER: Council President Aidee Nieves; Council Member(s): Jeanette Herron, Tyler Mack, Maria Pereira, Scott Burns, Rev. Mary McBride-Lee, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Matthew McCarthy & Frederick Hodges; Eneida Martinez; Josue Jorge

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Roman-Christy called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M. There was a quorum present.

146-21

PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION.

Council Member Newton suggested that the Council as a whole should vote on this item. He felt that there needed to be a separation of power and expressed that someone had not supported him. He did feel that there needed to be a separation between the executive branch and the legislative branch which could be done by charter. He felt that the mayor had the right to veto.

Council Member Cruz came forward to speak. He said special meetings had been called that he had attended. He said that the scheduling of special meetings could make it difficult for people to attend them due to the time and day they are set for.

Council Member Boyd expressed that he felt it was time to get this done and it was well overdue.

Council Member Pereira said she didn't understand and asked if they were trying to pass two resolutions. She felt there were issues with the members who made up the proposed charter revision.

Co-chair Roman-Christy reminded Council Member Pereira that there were no members selected as of yet and the resolution was to establish the Commission.

Council Member Pereira said she had attended a private meeting about the mayor still being in opposition before Co-chair Roman-Christy emphasized that they were sticking to the agenda item.

Council Member Burns clarified that this served as the initial resolution and any subsequent issues in terms of Commission members would be separate resolutions. He emphasized that they were past due for creating this Commission. It was noted that, if passed, this item would be on the agenda for the next Council meeting and it will start a 30-day time clock. Council Member

Mack clarified that the timeline would start once the full Council passes this. Further discussion followed.

Council Member Nieves noted that when the resolution to Empower the City Council had passed, it had passed unanimously. She pointed out that they wanted to enact something that was going to be a positive and transparent process for the City. She said this was not about their powers but coming to do something about something voted on in January. She requested that the Committee support the resolution.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 146-21 PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

They will set a date for a public hearing. It was suggested to hold the public hearing at 6:00 P.M. on December 19, 2022.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 146-21 ON DECEMBER 19, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The question of if 6:00 P.M. was a good time or if 7:30 P.M. would be better followed.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Ian A. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services