

A Resolution to Redefine and Update Membership Procedures for Town of Enfield Advisory Committees

RESOLUTION #2022-_____

Whereas, the Town of Enfield has established over time Advisory Committees, whose members consist of a mix of Town Board members, elected or appointed Town officials, and lay Enfield residents; and

Whereas, this Town Board has found such advisory committees useful in providing it valuable citizen input on matters of Town finance, renewable energy, water protection, community beautification, and other matters of community concern; and

Whereas, recent procedure has called upon this Town Board to appoint, generally annually, and upon application, with subsequent confirmation through Town Board Resolution, Advisory Committee members, this Board generally limiting committee membership to those who have applied and have been subsequently confirmed; and

Whereas, by her policy preference stated during this Town Board's public meeting of January 19, 2022, Enfield Supervisor Stephanie Redmond advanced a redefined criterion for Advisory Committee membership, the Supervisor reinterpreting committee membership to be open-ended, and specifically refuting the proposition that anyone need apply for membership, or that any committee applicant would be turned away; but rather, with regard to potential members, stating, "They say, 'I want to be on the Beautification Committee.' And we're like, 'Great, you're going to be on the Beautification Committee;'" and then we vote an appointment just like this;" and

Whereas, the Enfield Town Board chooses to endorse such a revised, nondiscriminatory, open-ended standard and conform its existing appointment procedures to that standard; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Enfield Town Board revises its membership standards for all Advisory Committees, including the Finance Committee, the Renewable Energy Advisory Committee, the Water Protection Committee, the Beautification Committee, and any such other advisory committees it has or will establish, and consider committees to be of unlimited, unrestricted, and open-ended membership, with such membership made available to any Enfield resident upon request; and be it further

Resolved, that membership on such Advisory Committees is to be made by an informal, written request, mailed, hand-delivered, or submitted electronically to the Town Supervisor or Town Clerk, and compiled for presentation to this Town Board on a monthly basis, each month's applications to be received no less than 72 hours prior to the Town Board's Regular Monthly Meeting; and be it further

Resolved, that said additional members will be added to the Advisory Committee so requested by announcement only, with addition to membership no longer requiring a vote of this Town Board, and that no member shall be denied Advisory Committee membership without just cause, as explicitly determined by the action of this Town Board, and that as soon as membership is conferred through this procedure stated herein, all meeting notifications, electronic meeting links, and other materials necessary for committee membership will be made available to the newly-added committee member; and be it further

Resolved, that the revised and updated Advisory Committee membership procedure stated herein shall take effect immediately.