

Notes from the Charter Change Committee on the Assault Weapons Ban resolution  
March 28, 2013

The committee met three times regarding this resolution during February and March. We realized that given the timeline to potentially put an item on the ballot for a Charter Change, we had until late fall to come to a decision to bring back to the full Council. We decided to work hard but to not hurry.

The Chief of Police attended our most recent meeting and informed us what measures he would support and suggest on a municipal level – the meeting notes from March 20<sup>th</sup> outline this. It is my hope that whoever is the chair will consider the Chief's ideas and also do the following:

1. Invite the Mayor to a future meeting to discuss his hopes regarding gun legislation in Burlington.
2. Invite Linda Waite-Simpson, Essex State Representative, to discuss her hopes for State gun safety measures and whether the City of Burlington could potentially help move those measures forward. (This is my personal recommendation – we did not discuss this at the committee.)
3. Charter Change committee members should go together or individually to a gun store (Powderhorn or Datillio's) and the rest of the Council would be recommended to do the same. This will give us the opportunity to learn more about the subject we are discussing.
4. The chair of the committee would schedule a time to visit the Police Department to see the guns that they use and the guns that they have seized. The full council will be invited to that visit. [We just learned from the Chief that seeing the seized weapons might not be possible.]

In the same resolution, there was work passed on to the Public Safety Committee which was not considered. The Charter Change Committee sincerely hopes that the Public Safety Committee will convene as soon as possible to follow through on this work.

Submitted by Rachel Siegel, Chair

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