

**SBL Refdesk**

**From:** Paul Pernerewski [ppernerewski@comcast.net] **Sent:** Thu 6/11/2009 8:48 PM  
**To:** SBL Refdesk  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Waterbury Charter Section 9C-1  
**Attachments:**

See my answers below. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Paul

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**From:** SBL Refdesk [mailto:sbl-refdesk@waterburyct.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2009 2:37 PM  
**To:** Ppernerewski@comcast.net  
**Subject:** FW: Waterbury Charter Section 9C-1

Enclosed is the e-mail in question. Thanks for you help.

Ken Marder  
 Silas Bronson Library

\*\*\*\*\*

*Please note that we are currently transitioning to a new e-mail server; therefore,*

- *replies to mail messages and new mail messages sent out will show a "From" address of: [sbl-refdesk@waterburyct.org](mailto:sbl-refdesk@waterburyct.org)*
- *incoming mail addressed to either [SBLMRR@bronsonlibrary.org](mailto:SBLMRR@bronsonlibrary.org) OR [sbl-refdesk@waterburyct.org](mailto:sbl-refdesk@waterburyct.org) will be correctly routed and directed to my inbox.*

*Please update your contact list accordingly.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Silas Bronson Library  
 Main Reading Room ( MRR ) Reference Desk  
 203 574 8225*

---

**From:** Ryan Wyeth Pulleyblank [mailto:ryan.pulleyblank@mail.mcgill.ca]  
**Sent:** Tue 6/9/2009 11:44 AM  
**To:** SBL Refdesk  
**Subject:** Waterbury Charter Section 9C-1

Hello,

I'm doing some research for a professor in Toronto, Canada, trying to learn about a section of the Waterbury Charter (9C-1), which limits the ability of the city to levy certain taxes. Particularly, I'm interested in the context in which this section was adopted. My understanding is that it was adopted around the year 2002. Particular questions I'm trying to answer include:

was there a tax increase shortly preceding the passage of the tax limit? No  
 is the tax limit spearheaded by one individual? NO

if yes, whom? N/A  
is the individual inside or outside of government? N/A  
is the individual a once or future politician? N/A  
if the individual is a politician, is he or she subject to term limits, or do limits seem to be playing a role?  
Connecticut does not have term limits  
is there a partisan element to the tax limit passage? No  
is the tax limit passed in response to a state tax limit, or a threat of state tax limit? No  
any other concomitant changes to charter or adoption of home rule? The entire Charter was updated and re-codified in 2002.  
related to any other big political event? No  
related to any other state-wide event (e.g., change in revenue sharing policy)? No  
any suggestion that demographic-fiscal situation change? No  
during a recession? No  
is there a budget shortfall? No  
overall political orientation of city? (D vs R) D

I'm hoping to find newspaper articles which discuss the tax policy. If you can help find us some newspaper articles related to this we are willing to pay up to \$100.

Thanks Very Much,

Ryan Pulleyblank

#### Sec 9C-1

As part of the budget message or as a separate report attached thereto the Mayor shall present, by resolution, a program of proposed capital projects for the ensuing fiscal year and for the four (4) fiscal years thereafter. Estimates of the cost of such projects shall be submitted by each department, office or agency annually in the same manner as estimates of other budgetary requirements are prepared for the Mayor. The Mayor shall recommend to the Board of Alderman those projects to be undertaken during the ensuing fiscal year and the method of financing the same. The board of Aldermen may levy annually a tax of not more than two (2) mills to be assessed upon the ratable estate within the City at the same time as the regular annual taxes for City expenses, for the benefit of a fund to be known as "The Capital Improvement Fund" established for the purpose of paying the cost of capital Improvements for which the City is authorized by this Charter to issue bonds and for no other purpose. The proceeds of such levy shall be kept by the Director of Finance in a special bank account as may be established. The Board of Alderman shall have power to transfer from time to time to the capital Improvement fund any portion of the general funds cash surplus not otherwise appropriated. Appropriations for construction or other permanent improvements, for whatever source made, shall not lapse until the purpose for which the appropriation was made shall have been accomplished or abandoned, provided any project shall be deemed to have been abandoned if three (3) fiscal years elapse without any expenditure from or encumbrance of the appropriation therefore, provided, at the request of the Mayor, the Board of Aldermen, may at any time by resolution, transfer any unencumbered balance or portion thereof from one project to another.

Woodbury, where larger quarters exist, although a satellite office may be maintained in Watertown.

Probate judges Carey Geghan of Watertown and Mary Donaldson of Woodbury are both retiring this year. The election marked the first time

gy of "community service" was in his mind a key element in the victory.

Plus, he refused to let up toward the end. "My wife Dawn said last week that this is the last weekend, so get out there and work" he said.

Calabrese, who worked with Rep. Brian J.

Watertown had 13,243 registered the election, Woodbury 5,881 and 2,647, according to voter totals from and town clerks' offices.

Of the major parties, the Republicans had majorities in all three communities.

# City passes total charter revision pack

By David Hammer  
02002 Republican American

WATERBURY — The city's most comprehensive charter revision since 1981 was approved in total Tuesday.

All three ballot questions — the first representing the majority of the proposed changes, the second and third separated for more controversial issues — passed.

"The people of Waterbury really stepped up and embraced change today," Mayor Michael J. Jarjura said. "They put the past in the past. They said, 'We know there was a lot of wrongdoing, but let's move forward.'"

According to unofficial tallies:

■ Question No. 1, which, among other things, created a new internal financial oversight board and stiffer check-and-balance powers for the Board of Aldermen, passed easily, 65.5 percent to 34.5 percent.

■ Question No. 2, the civil service reform question that drew sizable opposition because it gives aldermen the power to alter hiring practices through ordinance, had a tougher time. It passed 54.5 percent to 45.5 percent.

■ Question No. 3, which proposed making the tax collector a professional hire instead of an elective position, enjoyed sweeping support, with 66.6 percent approving.

Many supporters of the charter changes, such as Board of Aldermen President J. Paul Vance Jr., were nervous that a final push against Question No. 2 would translate into Ed votes on the other questions. Their fears were allayed early however, because more than 1,600 absentee ballots showed overwhelming support — a 4-to-1 margin for Question No. 1, 2-to-1 for Question No. 2, and 3-to-1 for Question No. 3.

Dennis Odle, vice chairman of the Charter Revision Commission that drafted the changes, said Jarjura would work quickly to appoint the new board of commissions created

## Mayor to name professional task force to make recommendations for new civil service rules

by the reforms, especially the oversight Finance and Audit Review Commission. His appointments will go to the aldermen for review and approval.

Jarjura will also name a professional task force to investigate the latest, best hiring practices and report its recommendations for new civil service rules to the aldermen in six months.

Question No. 3 will take a little longer to have a noticeable effect. Tax Collector Karen Mulcahy still has nearly 13 months left on her elected term, as does Treasurer Milton Kadish, whose position was also professionalized under the Department of Finance. By law, they can't be removed in the middle of their terms, so those changes won't go into effect until Dec. 1, 2003.

Under the charter changes, Dec. 1 is the new end date for elected terms.

That means Jarjura has a year to get new job descriptions written and to organize hiring searches, but Mulcahy needs three years as a municipal tax collector to qualify for the professional slot. With that in mind, Jarjura would not promise that he will be prepared to hire on Dec. 1, 2003, and reiterated that Mulcahy will probably serve in an interim capacity after that date.

If Jarjura can keep Mulcahy on until the end of 2004, she will qualify to be considered as a permanent hire.

Even though Jarjura and others in the pro-approval camp repeatedly said charter revision was the most important issue on Tuesday's ballot, only 40 percent of those who voted for governor cast a vote of any kind on any of the charter questions.

Several voters complained that they couldn't find the questions on the ballot, even when they were looking for them. They said the smaller print and odd spacing caused them to pass over the questions, which were

above all of the candidates.

Rafael Herrera, of the Waterbury Neighborhood Council, said he reminded everyone he saw entering the polls to vote on the questions, but many came out after voting saying, "Oh no. I forgot about the questions."

Herrera and the Neighborhood Council opposed Question No. 2, but Herrera said it was "easier" to just tell people to vote "no" on all three questions. That worried some people who had worked hard on revising the document from a cumbersome 400-plus pages to a lean 130 pages.

"This is another one of those attitudes that I call C.A.V.E. — Citizens Against Virtually Everything," said Garrett Casey, Jarjura's chief of staff. "They want none of the issues to go forward if they don't get their issue."

No price is too high for these people to get what they want.

Casey was mainly talking about Larry DePillo, who battled Jarjura in a tight Democratic mayoral primary last year, and his group, Waterbury Democrats for Open Government, popularly known as "W-Dog."

"What really disturbed me was that they tried to hold the other reforms hostage until they got the ones they wanted, like aldermen-by-district, even though we told them the next charter commission would deal with that," Jarjura said.

DePillo said his push against the questions had been mischaracterized, that his only goal was to keep the comprehensive pro-approval campaign honest.

"There wasn't an opposing view out there, so I don't look at it as a defeat," DePillo said. "We simply presented another side of the issue so the voters would be informed, but the public decided there wasn't enough of an argument to vote 'no' instead of 'yea.' The public has spoken."

The two charter camps distributed

opposing 5-by-8-inch residents Monday.

The pro-approval of bipartisan heavy front: Jarjura and chairman Paul Pe Democrats, and for Sam S.F. Caligiani Republicans. They placed in the photo republican, Dennis The mailing was p Government Waterbu cal action com expressly for inform charter revision and their approval.

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# Charter revision package

## Professional task force to make new civil service rules

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The pro-approval side put a picture  
 of bipartisan heavyweights on the  
 front: Jarjura and charter commission  
 Chairman Paul Pernerewski, both  
 Democrats, and former acting Mayor  
 Sam S.F. Caligiuri and Odle, both  
 Republicans. They were strategically  
 placed in the photograph: Democrat,  
 Republican, Democrat, Republican.  
 The mailing was paid for by Good  
 Government Waterbury 2002, a politi-  
 cal action committee created  
 expressly for informing voters about  
 charter revision and campaigning for  
 their approval.

The "Vote No" card, printed on  
 thinner paper, was distributed by  
 hand. It asked residents to vote "no"  
 on all three charter questions and was  
 paid for by Waterbury Democrats for  
 Open Government. Lex Nesta, hus-  
 band of Alderman Laura Nesta, is the  
 treasurer of the group.

Both sides painted themselves as  
 the people's voice, and, somehow,  
 they were able to look at the same  
 new right to referendum in wholly  
 different ways.

The pro-approval mailer said vote  
 "yes" for "the right of voter referen-  
 dum on city ordinance." The opposi-  
 tion asked for a "no" vote by saying,  
 "They redefined government for  
 themselves — and denied us the right  
 to vote on our city budgets."

DePillo tried to say the charter  
 changes "took away the right to refer-  
 endum on the budget," but  
 Waterbury voters never had the right  
 to vote on city budgets or the right to  
 referendum. The charter changes  
 extended the right to referendum, but  
 Jarjura said it would hurt the city's  
 bond rating if a \$300 million budget  
 could be nullified by popular vote.

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bid to purchase town property for the  
 reconstruction of the historic Beecher  
 House failed in a referendum Tuesday,  
 with voters squashing his proposal  
 1,919-1,399.

Saint, president of the Beecher  
 House Society and a Litchfield resident,  
 was offering \$400,000 for a 1.8-acre lot  
 behind Town Hall on West Street. His  
 plan called for using the lot to rebuild  
 the Beecher House, the 1811 birthplace  
 of author Harriet Beecher Stowe, and  
 create a museum and educational cen-  
 ter honoring the Beecher family.

The vote capped an 18-month effort  
 by Saint and his supporters to bring  
 the proposal to buy the lot to the vot-  
 ers. Saint sued the Board of Selectmen  
 for denying a vote last year, but with-  
 drew his suit in September after the  
 board agreed on a referendum.

Reached for comment following the  
 vote, Saint offered praise to the voters  
 who supported his proposal and a  
 comment to those who didn't.

"I would assume the people made  
 the statement that they don't want the  
 house in Litchfield," Saint said. "I'd be  
 hard-pressed to believe that there are

trailers in an under-  
 Despite the result of  
 vowed to continue the  
 gran the Beecher Ho  
 been conducting for t  
 Many of Saint's oppo  
 happy to see him take  
 town, according to  
 Mordecai Rosenberg.

"It's always gratify  
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 pance," Rosenberg s  
 announcement of the  
 Litchfield firehouse.

Chandler Saint and h  
 do the honorable thing  
 er site, preferably  
 Litchfield." Select  
 Blondin, who conside  
 Saint's right to a vote  
 needs to work with S  
 site for the Beecher H  
 its historical importan

"I don't believe it wa  
 having a historical p  
 Blondin said. "I still f  
 the rightful place for t  
 the voters said, we'll  
 other locations."

## Leaf pick up, disposal rules announced

NAUGATUCK — Borough residents  
 can have their leaves picked up curb-  
 side this week through Friday on their  
 regular trash days. Leaves will only be  
 accepted in 30-gallon paper bags,  
 which are available at local supermar-  
 kets and hardware stores.

Additional pickups will take place  
 the weeks of Nov. 18-22 and Dec. 2-6.

Residents do not need  
 lic works' department  
 appointment for colle  
 can drop off leaves a  
 center on Rubber  
 Thursdays and Satur  
 to 2 p.m. Leaves and  
 are accepted year r  
 also be in the 30-gall

TASTE THE DIFFERENCE  
 Good Until Nov. 30th  
 Try Our Breakfast Sandwiches  
 Special \$1.99 (Sat. 9 am-11 am)  
 FREE Coffee with Any Sandwich

**Al's HOT DOGS**  
 729 5275  
 FANTASTIC Fall Specials  
 FRIED CLAM STRIPS  
 FISH & CHIPS PLATTER  
 SHORTY DOGS

Call Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11AM-9PM • Mon. Hours: Wed. 11AM-9PM • Sun. 11AM-6PM

**Fall Specials...**  
**TEMPERATURES ARE FALLING**  
**AND SO ARE THE PRICES...**

Ask About Our 12 MONTH SAVINGS AS Cash

**PRE-OWNED Office Furniture**

Executive Laminated Desks	\$39
Matching 2 Dr. Lateral Files w/Truck	\$29
Panel System Workstations w/Printer & Keyboard	\$79

TOTALS were still coming in early Wednesday morning. How many of Connecticut's 1.99 million registered voters cast ballots to crown Rowland, elect the state's five members in the U.S. House of Representatives and elect people to most of the 187 seats in the state Legislature.

Steven Valenti / Republican-American  
Gov. John G. Rowland, with Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell, was elected for a third term.

Please turn to 16A, ROWLAND

# Charter opposition pales; 3 questions sail through

By David Hammer  
© 2002 Republican-American

WATERBURY — The city's most comprehensive charter revision since 1931 was approved in total Tuesday — the first question representing the majority of the proposed changes, and the second and third separated for more controversial issues.

"The people of Waterbury really stepped up and embraced change today," Mayor Michael J. Jarjura said. "They put the past in the past. They said, 'We know there was a lot of wrongdoing, but let's move forward.'"

According to unofficial tallies:

■ Question No. 1, which, among other things, created a new internal financial oversight board and stiffer check-and-balance powers for the Board of

## RESULTS

### QUESTION NO. 1

YES — 65.5% NO — 34.5%

### QUESTION NO. 2

YES — 54.5% NO — 45.5%

### QUESTION NO. 3

YES — 66.6% NO — 33.4%

Aldermen, passed easily, 65.5 percent to 34.5 percent.

■ Question No. 2, the civil service reform question that drew stable opposition because it gives aldermen the power to alter hiring practices through

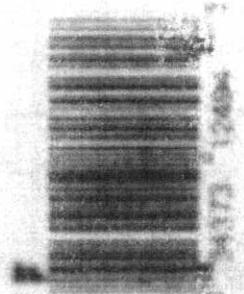
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**Weather**  
Cloudy with  
periods of  
heavy rain  
and winds.  
**Page 3D.**



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Many supporters of the changes, such as Board of Aldermen President J. Paul Vance Jr., were nervous that a final push against Question No. 2 would translate into votes against the other questions. Their fears were allayed early when more than 1,600 absentee ballots showed a 5-to-1 margin for Question No. 1; 2-to-1 for Question No. 2; and 3-to-1 for Question No. 3.

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## CAMPAIGN NOTEBOOK

Although she has 60 years of experience, Rae Riccio doesn't know the outcome of the election in Waterbury.

Riccio, 83, is content to be a poll checker at the polling location in Waterbury, something she has done at 30 mayoral elections, 15 general races and 15 presidential elections.

A poll checker is the person who checks off the names of voters when they arrive to vote.

"I just enjoy it. It keeps me alert the public," said Riccio. She lists names at the Naugatuck Project polling location on Willow/Plaza. "It keeps me alert."



Thin patches of black ice caused traffic on Route 8 in Waterbury to halt for four hours Tuesday morning, but the weather didn't stop the election.

A few election volunteers got stuck in traffic around 5 a.m. when the state police closed both ends of the busy highway, but the polling location opened because of tardy volunteers, said Rita Vitarelli, Republican Registrar. Voters. She didn't know when the location opened late, but said it was open for only about five minutes.

Police responded to reports of accidents between exits on Route 8 before deciding to close the highway. Traffic was backed up in both directions. The highway reopened about 9 a.m.



Ted Olszewski headed to work at 6:15 a.m. in Waterbury but didn't pull the voting lever for more than eight hours later. Olszewski likes a lot of

resonate with voters. Jarjura, pointed to the evidence after the 9/11 attacks. "I want to be on alert, to be ready for that," Sears said. Jarjura said she didn't want Michelle Riddle to be in the down-ballot," she said, pointing to the efforts to revitalize the city. "There's a lot of good work going on here."

## Record

led in Russia and in the Balkans. "It's a beautiful thing," St. Amand said. "It's a powerful reminder to us to fight for his country. It should have been a

of \$1.8 million to the city was frequently used to respond to alleged illegal Republican party activities in the campaign to Security and pre-emptive major issues in the candidates' positions over semantics.

They slung plenty of invective appeared to have been involved in campaigns in the past. It cost \$2.5 million to the city in mid-October, was pointing out her accomplishments to criticism from the city didn't include the dollars from the interest groups on

red Democrat who lives in the North End, was the more positive

out any negative news as Maloney did," she said. "I should vote for

If Jarjura can keep Mulcahy on until the end of 2004, she will qualify to be considered as a permanent hire.

Even though Jarjura and others in the pro-approval camp repeatedly said charter revision was the most important issue on the ballot, only 40 percent of those who voted for governor cast a vote on any of the charter questions.

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Casey was mainly talking about Larry DePillo, who battled Jarjura in a mayoral primary last year, and his group, Waterbury Democrats for Open Government, popularly known as "W-Dog."

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The pro-approval side put a picture of bipartisan heavyweights on the front: Jarjura and charter commission Chairman Paul Pernarewski, both

more than eight hours late. Olszewski, like a lot of voters Tuesday, was surprised the polling place had changed because of redistricting. He had to go to Blessed Sacrament Church to vote, he was turned away and had to go to Kennedy High School. "I almost didn't vote," Olszewski, 43.

Instead, he headed to the polls when his work day ended. "I got to thinking about it. I don't do it, you have to wait for the results until (the next election)," he said.



Election Day brought more than just the voters in to Wofcott High School, District 2 polling place. The school's National Honor Society had a bake sale.

As voters exited the school, James Fink, 16, National Honor Society member, asked if people would buy for 25 cents or more. Other baked goods covered the table. Fink said the money raised would be used for the society's community service projects.



A couple who took their children to vote with them at Wofcott High School Tuesday night took them into the voting booth with them.

When they emerged, the mother asked, "So, did you vote for Abraham Lincoln?"

Please turn to

## DEATHS

- Bartel, Mrs. Florence, Torrington
- Dambrosky, Mrs. H., Torrington
- Missoula, Mont., former

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# lands

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DePillo said his push against the questions had been mischaracterized, that his only goal was to keep the comprehensive pro-approval campaign honest.

"There wasn't an opposing view out there, so I don't look at it as a defeat," DePillo said. "We simply presented another side of the issue so the voters would be informed, but the public decided there wasn't enough of an argument to vote 'nay' instead of 'yea.' The public has spoken." The two charter camps distributed opposing 5-by-8-inch index cards to residents Monday.

The pro-approval side put a picture of bipartisan heavyweights on the front: Jarjura and charter commission Chairman Paul Pernerewski, both Democrats, and former acting Mayor Sam S.F. Catigiuri and Odle, both Republicans. They were strategically placed in the photograph: Democrat, Republican, Democrat, Republican. The mailing was paid for by Good Government Waterbury 2002, a political action committee created expressly for informing voters about charter revision and campaigning for their approval.

The "Vote No" card was distributed by hand. It asked residents to vote "no" on all three questions and was paid for by Waterbury Democrats for Open Government. Lex Nesta, husband of Alderman Laura Nesta, is treasurer of the group.

Both sides painted themselves as the people's voice, and, somehow, they were able to look at the same new right to referendum in wholly different ways.

The pro-approval mailer said vote "yes" for "the right of voter referendum on city ordinance." The opposition asked for a "no" vote by saying, "They redefined government for themselves -- and denied us the right to vote on our city budgets."

Fink said the money used for the society's co-vice projects.



A couple who took th dren to vote with them High School Tuesday n them into the voting them.

When they emerged, th mother asked, "So, did Abraham Lincoln?"

Please turn to

## DEATHS

Bartel, Mrs. Florence Torrington

Dambrosky, Mrs. H. Missoula, Mont., former Britain and Waterbury

Formica, Mrs. Angelo Norfolk

Linsley, Mrs. Marlo Litchfield

Massini, Mrs. Liberty Torrington

O'Brien, Reginald A. Watertown

O'Connor, George Woodbury

Patnaude, Gerard Bristol

Rabizon, Simon S. Palm Beach-Fla.; former Waterbury

Robbins, Mrs. Elsie Norfolk

Suchinski, Mrs. K. of Torrington, formerly Pequabuck

Telesca, Florina, 87 Vigas, Mrs. Ruby

Volta, Antonia, 87 Werner, Mrs. John

Waterbury Complete obituaries



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