

**From:** Carolyn Bates <[cbates@burlingtontelecom.net](mailto:cbates@burlingtontelecom.net)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2016 10:30:11 PM  
**To:** Denise Diehl; Maida Townsend  
**Subject:** Thank you re H566, 567, 568

HI Maida

Thank you for running a very smooth series of testimonies today, and for allowing me to attend the afternoon session, which I found very enlightening.

It appears that there were a few unanswered questions.

**1. re ordinance:**

I have asked Jean Markey-Duncan to talk with Mayor Miro to straighten up the Ordinance/Charter Change. We are going to use ordinances.

**2. re Burlington city hall meetings discussing the charter changes:**

a. We always have the smaller meetings during the day, as that is more convenient for the members of each committee, and in no way were meant to make it impossible for any people to attend.

b. Every meeting I went to was attended by at least one member of the NRA/gun group.

Every meeting I went to, the NRA/gun group were all allowed to speak if they so wished. We even stayed 2-3 hours longer so all of them could speak. These meetings were standing room only, on local TV, and in city newspapers. So it really was the "talk of the town." So I personally am very confused by the statement that the NRA/gun group were not allowed to attend our "secret" meetings

because we held them during the day??? I hope this clears that up.

**3. re: the streamlining of the wording of the charter changes:** would Burlington have still voted YES to these? YES

Everywhere I went, to tell people about the charter changes before the vote, I actually shorten the charter changes verbiage, even more than your lawyer so nicely did, in order to talk about them: to Safe Storage, Guns in Bars, Guns in Domestic Violence. I really did not need to say more, as it was implied what we meant. And I handed out flyers, as did everyone else, that further explained them. But again, we all streamlined the language in these, to keep it simple language that everyone could understand.

4. I can't thank you enough for taking the time to have the very expert lawyer **rewrite our charter changes** so that they are as expertly written as possible and still ask for the same core of each charter change. ( Mr. Fitzpatrick?)

Thank you. (PS I was the one who sat next to you for the afternoon meeting.)

Carolyn Bates  
citizen of Burlington since 1973.  
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