

Charter Revision Recommendations

1. During any election, an unsuccessful candidate for the office of the First Selectman shall be deemed ineligible for a seat on the Board of Selectmen regardless of the number of votes that candidate shall receive. No person may simultaneously seek the office of First Selectman and the office of Selectmen.
2. Reduce the following Board/Commission Terms to Four Years vs. Five
 - a. Board of Education, Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Housing Authority, Building Board of Appeals, Cemetery Committee
3. Appoint three alternate members to the Planning Commission serving one year terms
4. Zoning Board of Appeals alternates to serve one year terms vs. five
5. Board of Assessors - remove from the Charter and recommend the authorization for the appointment of an assessor by a Review Panel, requiring professional credentials
6. Eliminate the confirmation by Town Meeting appointment for Planning, Zoning, ZBA and Board of Assessment Appeals
7. Rename Civil Preparedness Council to Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
8. The appointing authority may suspend residency requirement for the following individuals on the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council: Resident Trooper, Fire Chief, Superintendent of Schools, and Superintendent of Highways
9. The Annual Town Meeting shall have the power to decrease any appropriation or item but it may not increase any appropriation
10. If the Budget Referendum is not approved by vote at the first referendum, the Selectmen shall schedule subsequent referendum at 14-day intervals
11. Create a titled section called Town Clerk
12. Modify Charter provisions for Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, and Assessor
 - a. Director of Finance/CFO -- Serves a term of two years reviewable annually by the Board of Selectmen, and reports to the Board of Selectmen. A panel comprised of one member of the Board of Finance, one member of the Board of Selectmen and one non-elected individual with a background in finance shall submit a nomination to the Board of Selectmen for appointment as Treasurer
 - b. Collector of Taxes - Serves a term of two years reviewable annually by the Board of Selectmen and reports to the Director of Finance. A panel comprised of the CFO, one member of the Board of Finance, one member of the Board of Selectmen and one non-elected individual with a background in property management or property evaluation shall submit a nomination to the Board of Selectmen for appointment. The previous Charter Revision in 2007 approved the Collector of Taxes as an appointed position.
 - c. . Assessor - Serves a term of two years reviewable annually by the Board of Selectmen and reports to the Director of Finance/CFO. A panel comprised of the CFO, one member of the Board of Finance, one member of the Board of Selectmen and one non-elected individual with a background in property management or property evaluation shall submit a nomination to the Board of Selectmen for appointment