



TOWN OF COLCHESTER SELECT BOARD

Notice of Public Hearings on Town Charter Amendments

January 10 and January 24, 2017

Pursuant to Title 17 VSA, Chapter 55, the Colchester Selectboard will hold two public hearings for public comment on proposed Town of Colchester Charter changes, the first on January 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM and the second on January 24, 2017 at 6:30 PM, both to be held at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, Outer Bay Conference Room, 3rd floor. The proposed changes are summarized per the following:

- **Subchapter 2. Officers:**
 - Amend Section 202 to eliminate the elected office of grand juror
 - Amend Section 207 to add the requirement of the Selectboard to publish all policy adoptions electronically
- **Subchapter 3. Town Meetings:**
 - Amend Section 304 to change the threshold from 2 to 4 percent to allow for emergency appropriations following an opportunity for public comment. (Note: only in the event of an unusual emergency.)
- **Subchapter 4. Town Manager:**
 - Amend Section 401 to add the statutory reference for appointment of Town Manager
 - Amend Section 404 to add language that the Town Manager **shall** keep the Selectboard informed.... **Including the enforcement of town ordinances**
 - Amend Section 406 to add the language that the Town Manager shall be removed by a majority of the entire Selectboard so voting **after a finding of cause for removal**
- **Subchapter 6. Budget:**
 - Amend Section 602, Section 603, and Section 606 to add clarification language
 - Amend Section 607 to agree with Section 304 regarding emergency appropriations and remove redundant language
 - Add a new Section 608, Capital budgeting for voter approved funding, to require multi-year capital budgets funded through voter-approved capital plans, agreements, debt or impact fees adopted in accordance with state statutes
- **Subchapter 9. Miscellaneous Provision to be renamed to Ethical Conduct and Conflict of Interest:**
 - Amend Section 901 to add clarification language to include elected officials, employee or appointee
 - Add a new Section 902, Conflict of Interest Policy to require the adoption and periodic review of the policy and process
- **Subchapter 10. Amendment of Charter**
 - Amend Section 1001 to require a review of the Charter every 5 years

This concise summary has been posted in five public places; the proposed changes are available for viewing in their entirety on our website (www.colchestervt.gov); and as hard copies available at the Town Clerk's office and Burnham Library. These Charter amendments may be voted upon by Australian ballot at the upcoming Town Meeting on March 7, 2017, subject to upcoming Selectboard action. Your comments or questions regarding these proposed changes are welcome and may be directed to the Town Clerk at krichard@colchestervt.gov, or 264-5525 or the Town Manager at 264-5509.

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