

**Resolution to Establish
Charter Revision Commission
April, 2012**

The Board of Selectmen resolves to establish a Charter Revision Commission for the purpose of fixing errors, clarifying verbiage and making necessary changes to enhance the operation of the Town of Somers.

The Board of Selectmen has created a list of specific items that is suggested to be reviewed, researched and recommendations made by this Charter Revision Commission. Items include the following:

Elected/Appointed Terms

- a. Change all appointed terms to a maximum of four (4) years
- b. Change the term of the First Selectman and the Board of Selectmen to four (4) years vs. two (2) years
- c. Consider term limitations – the number of times and individual may be appointed to a board/commission
- d. Change the term of the Registrar of Voters to a term of four (4) years vs. two (2) years

Selectmen Composition

- a. Continue the same form of government with a First Selectman, but change the number of members of the Board of Selectmen to five (5) vs. three (3)
- b. Change the First Selectmen position to a Town Manager with a council consisting of five (5) members
- c. Clarify that individual(s) running for the position of First Selectmen may only be elected to that position and not become a member of the Board based on number of votes cast.

Elected Position Eliminations

- a. Eliminate the Board of Assessors – the General Statutes allow for the elimination if the town has a certified Assessor
- b. Eliminate the Elected Constables

Charter Changes

- a. Eliminate town meeting confirmation of appointments to the following: Board of Assessment Appeals, Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals
- b. Modify the requirement of residency vs. position requirement (civil preparedness/town attorney and possibly others)
- c. Combination of the Planning Commission and the Zoning Commission
- d. Vote on the Town and Education budgets individually
- e. Increase the amount of an individual expenditures that does not have to be approved at a town meeting

Ordinances

- a. Eliminate ‘Tag Sale’ permit ordinance
- b. Subdivision Fees: Increase?
- c. Vendors, Hawkers, Peddlers – Review, clarify, change or eliminate
- d. Develop a Fire Commission Ordinance