

Charter Revision Changes

Adopted at November, 2013 Municipal Election

Chapter IV Board of Selectmen

Section 4.1 – Composition (a)

The First Selectman and two Selectmen shall comprise the Board of Selectmen, and each shall be for a term of two years, in accordance with the General Statutes. ***During any election, an unsuccessful candidate for the office of 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.***

Chapter III – Elective Offices

Section 3.3 Board of Education

Incorporate this verbiage only --The electors shall elect a board of Education of nine (9) members for terms of four years with the powers and duties of a Board of Education as prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 3.4 – Board of Assessors

Eliminated by vote at November, 2013 municipal election

Section 3.6 – Town Clerk

Create Title

Chapter V – Appointive Board in Office

Section 5-2(a) – Terms Add

The terms of appointment to any appointive board shall not exceed four years and shall commence on December 23rd following appointment by the Board of Selectmen; and shall expire on December 22nd at the term of appointment.

Section 5.4 (d) (1)

Replace the word appointment with ***appointive***

Section 5.5 – Planning Commission

There shall be a Planning Commission of five members serving ***four year terms*** with the powers and duties of Planning Commission prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 5.5(a) – New – Add

There shall be three alternate members to the Planning Commission serving one year terms, with the powers and duties prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 5.6 – Zoning Commission

There shall be a Zoning Commission of five members serving ***four year terms*** with the powers and duties prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 5.9(a) –Zoning Board of Appeals

There shall be a Zoning Board of Appeals of five members serving four year terms, with the powers and duties of Zoning Board of Appeals prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 5-8(b) – Zoning Board of Appeals

There shall be three alternate members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, serving one year terms, with the powers and duties prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 5-13 – Conservation and Wetlands Commission

There shall be a Conservation and Wetland Commission of seven members serving four year terms. One member.....by the Town of Somers.

Section 5-14 – Housing Authority

There shall be a Housing Authority of five members serving four year terms with the power and duties of Housing Authorities prescribed by the General Statutes.

Section 5-15 – Building Board of Appeals

There shall be a Building Board of Appeals with five members serving four year terms with the powers and duties of Building Board of Appeals prescribed by the General Statutes and the Connecticut Basic Building Code.

Section 5-16 –Cemetery Committee

There shall be a Cemetery Committee of five members serving four year terms.

Section 5-18(a) – Civil Preparedness Advisory Council

Change name to 'Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council

Section 5-18(b) – New

The appointive authority may suspend residency requirements for the following personnel: Resident Trooper, Fire Chief, Superintendent of Schools, and Superintendent of Highways.

Section 5-20 – Treasurer –Replace with current verbiage

There shall be a Treasurer serving a term of two years reviewable annually by the Board of Selectman. The Board of Selectmen shall establish and periodically review a written job description for the Treasurer including any required certifications, licenses, or degrees. The Treasurer shall act as the Director of Finance and the Chief Financial officer of the Town and shall perform all duties and functions prescribed to Town Treasurers in the Connecticut General Statutes and shall report 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 chosen by the other two members shall submit a nomination to the Board of Selectmen for appointment as Treasurer. Should the nominated candidate fail to be appointed for any reasons, the panel shall then reconvene and submit subsequent nominations until a candidate is seated.

Section 5-21 – Collector of Taxes – Replace with current verbiage

There shall be a Collector of Taxes serving a term of two years reviewable annually by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen shall establish and periodically review a written job description for the Collector of Taxes including any required certifications, licenses, or degrees. The Collector of Taxes shall perform all duties and functions prescribed to Tax Collectors in the Connecticut General Statutes and shall report to the Director of Finance. A panel comprised of the CFO of the Town of Somers, 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 chosen by the other three members shall submit a nomination to the Board of Selectmen for appointment as Collector of Taxes. Should the nominated candidate fail to be appointed for any reasons, the panel shall then reconvene and submit subsequent nominations until a candidate is seated.

Section 5-22 – Assessor

New -- There shall be an Assessor serving a term of two years reviewable annually by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen shall establish and periodically review a written job description for the Assessor including any required certifications, licenses, or degrees. The Assessor shall perform all duties and functions prescribed to Assessors in the Connecticut General Statutes and shall report to the Director of Finance. A panel comprised of the CFO of the Town of Somers, 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 chosen by the other three members shall submit a nomination to the Board of Selectmen for appointment as Assessor. Should the nominated candidate fail to be appointed for any reason, the panel shall then reconvene and submit subsequent nominations until a candidate is seated.

Section 5-23 – Other appointive positions

Renumber – no changes

Chapter VII – Town Meeting

Section 7-1(a)

No Change

Section 7-1(b)

Add – Section 7-3 in its entirety and renumber to 7-1(b)

Section 7-1(c)

New Verbiage – If the Annual Budget is not approved by vote at first referendum, The Board of Selectmen shall schedule subsequent referendum at 14-day intervals.

Section 7-1(c)

Renumbered to 7-1(d)

Section 7-1(d)

Renumbered to 7-1(e)

Section 7-6 – Confirmation of certain appointments

Eliminate – voted at election in November, 2013 to eliminate