



The City of  
**WORCESTER**

**City Clerk Department**

Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk  
Stephen A.J. Pottle, Deputy City Clerk I  
Clare M. Robbins, Deputy City Clerk II

**BOARD OF ELECTION  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
THURSDAY, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:30pm  
ESTHER HOWLAND CHAMBER, CITY HALL**

**Call to Order by the Chairperson Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**Approval of the Minutes of the April 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**New Business**

1. Brian Mulhearn of 18 Wyola Drive, Worcester, request the City Clerk and Board of Election Commissioners provide petition forms relative to placing a ballot question on the November 4, 2025 Municipal Election. Said ballot question shall be for the establishment of a Charter Review Commission, as required by Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 438, § 3.

**Adjournment:**

**Next Meeting Date:**

**TO PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY DURING THE MEETING:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83038262909>

**Phone #: +1 305 224 1968**

**Webinar ID: 830 3826 2909**

## **Board of Election, Commissioners' Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 4/25/24**

**Location: Levi Lincoln Chamber**

**Members Present: Kimberley Vanderspek, Cecilio Gonzalez, Winifred Octave, John DiCicco, and Paul Franco.**

**City Officials Present: Clare Robbins**

**Meeting was called to order at 5:30**

**Pledge of Alliance was said.**

**First Business item: Election of Kimberly Vanderspek to Chair completed. Election of John DiCicco to secretary completed. Notice of appointment to Vice Chair to Paul Franco completed.**

**Second and Third Business Item: Presidential primary feedback of March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Operations went smoothly at City Hall as well as polling stations. Total ballots cast numbered 19,898 – with Vote by Mail accounting for approximately 8,000 ballots. This equates to approximately a 17% voter turnout.**

**Fouth Business Item: Nomination paper process is currently ongoing with a deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup> for local offices and May 7<sup>th</sup> for Federal offices.**

**Fifth Business Item: Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> State Primary preparations are underway – including confirmation of poll workers. Deadline for registering to vote is in August.**

**Sixth Business Item: Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> State Primary preparations are underway – including confirmation of polling locations.**

**Seventh Business Item:**

- a) Early in-person voting for Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> State Primary is Sat August 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> at the Worcester Public Library. Hours are 9 am – 5 pm daily except Tuesday and Thursday – open until 7 pm. Free parking and police on-site.**
- b) Early voting for State Election set for Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> is TBA**

**Commissioner inquiry on obtaining ID for working elections.**

**Next Meeting scheduled for – Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm**

# MassSpring

Nikolin Vangjeli  
City Clerk, City of Worcester  
455 Main St., Worcester, MA 01608

Dear Mr Vangjeli,

I am writing to request the appropriate forms for signature gathering for a citizen's petition pursuant to a binding ballot question in the City of Worcester. The question shall be for the establishment of a Charter Review Commission, as required by Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 3.

I intend to seek this question to appear on the municipal ballot on November 4, 2025.

In a communication from yourself to the Mayor and members of the Worcester City Council on June 7, 2022, you indicated the language for this question is pre-defined as the following:

"Shall a commission be elected to revise the charter of Worcester?"

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,  
Brian Mulhearn



18 Wyola Dr.  
Worcester, MA 01603  
Co-Founder and Officer - Mass Spring

MAILED  
23 PM 1:35  
Worcester City Clerk

# Charter Change Timeline

Worcester City  
Clerk's Office

# PART ONE: PETITIONING



1. RESIDENT REQUESTS PETITION SHEETS FROM THE CLERK TO INITIATE A PETITION FOR A CHARTER COMMISSION QUESTION ON THE BALLOT. THE SECRETARY OF STATE PROVIDES THE CLERK WITH THE PETITION PAPERS AND THE CLERK PROVIDES THEM TO THE RESIDENT.



2. PETITION- MUST COLLECT SIGNATURES OF 15% OF REGISTERED VOTERS, USING PETITION PAPERS PROVIDED BY SECRETARY OF STATE



3. ONCE THE PETITIONERS BELIEVE THEY HAVE COMPLETED FILING AND ALERTED THE REGISTRARS, THE REGISTRARS HAVE 10 DAYS TO CERTIFY THE SIGNATURES. A. PETITIONERS SHOULD SUBMIT NOTICE AT LEAST 100 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION.  
*\*JULY 27, 2025 IN THIS INSTANCE*



4. WITHIN 30 DAYS, THE CITY COUNCIL MUST ORDER THE QUESTION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE NEXT MUNICIPAL ELECTION. THE NEXT MUNICIPAL ELECTION MUST TAKE PLACE AT LEAST 60 DAYS AFTER THE ORDER IS GIVEN.



## PART TWO: NOMINATION OF COMMISSIONERS

- 1. Takes place at same time as the question regarding a Charter Commission.
- 2. Begin circulating the nomination papers as soon as the charter petitions are being circulated, but they must go through the same nomination filing process as any other municipal election filing.
- Nomination papers must be submitted on the 49th day before the election by 5:00pm.
  - Tuesday, September 16th at 5:00 pm
  - Must obtain at least 200 signatures

**PART THREE: FIRST  
ELECTION  
(REGARDING THE  
QUESTION OF  
ESTABLISHING A  
COMMISSION)**



1. Question: “Shall a commission be elected to revise the charter of the City of Worcester?”



2. Must vote for 9 candidates, whether or not the voter voted in favor of the Commission



3. If question passes, Clerk must alert the Dept. of Housing and Community Development. The department then notifies commission of dates submitting its report and for placing its final report on the ballot.



# PART FOUR: COMMISSION REPORT

- ▶ 1. Elect a Chair, Vice Chair, and a Clerk. Must notify the City Clerk of their organization.
- ▶ 2. Must hold a series of public meetings and furnish a Preliminary and Final report to Department of Housing and Community Development and AG.
- ▶ 3. AG must provide a written report on any conflicts of the proposed charter and the Law.
- ▶ 4. The final report must be submitted with comments, proposal, current Charter, and any minority report within two days of the final report being approved by the Commission.



# PART FOUR: SECOND ELECTION

1. AFTER A FINAL REPORT IS APPROVED, IT MUST BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT OF THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION, NO LESS THAN TWO MONTHS FROM THE REPORT IS FILED.


\*FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2027- FINAL REPORT COULD BE FILED FIRST WEEK OF SEPT. 2027.

2. QUESTION ON BALLOT: "SHALL THIS CITY APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION RECOMMENDED BY THE CHARTER COMMISSION SUMMARIZED BELOW?"

3. AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE ELECTION, A COPY OF THE COMMISSION'S FINAL REPORT MUST BE SENT TO EACH HOUSEHOLD.



# **PART FIVE: NOTIFICATION & PUBLICATION**



**A copy of the revised  
Charter must be submitted to  
the State.**





# LOCAL CHARTERS

**William Francis Galvin**  
**Secretary of the Commonwealth**  
Elections Division  
One Ashburton Place, Room 1705  
Boston, MA 02108  
617-727-2828  
800-462-8683  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/elections](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/elections)  
[elections@sec.state.ma.us](mailto:elections@sec.state.ma.us)

Revised 2017

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

A city or town's charter is a document which prescribes the basic provisions that set up the form, structure, and organization of a city or town government in Massachusetts. The charter is essentially the constitution of the city or town.

No town with fewer than 12,000 inhabitants may adopt a city form of government. No town of fewer than 6,000 inhabitants may adopt a representative town meeting type of government. Towns which do not have charters operate under the General Laws and any special laws specific to those towns. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 2.

## **II. TYPES OF CHARTERS**

Prior to the adoption of the Home Rule Amendment in 1966, the General Court established certain "plan" charters which cities could adopt. From 1931-1966, towns could also choose to adopt a standard form of representative town meeting. Some cities and towns continue to operate under forms of government adopted under these laws.

In 1966, an amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, commonly referred to as the Home Rule Amendment, was adopted. The Home Rule Amendment allows cities and towns to adopt home rule charters through the methods outlined in the Constitution and in the General Laws. The Home Rule Amendment allows communities to adopt charters in such a way which allows greater local autonomy, though the adoption of a home rule charter may take longer than other methods of charter adoption. The Constitution places certain limits on the content of home rule charters.

Rather than go through the process required by the Home Rule Amendment, many cities and towns opt to adopt or revise their charters by seeking a special act of the Legislature. Special act charters may be adopted more quickly than home rule charters, and are not subject to the same content restrictions; however, such charters must be approved by the Legislature and therefore offer less local autonomy than home rule charters.

## **III. ADOPTING & MODIFYING BY HOME RULE METHOD**

Towns seeking to adopt a charter for the first time may choose to do so using the home rule method. Similarly, cities and towns may use the home rule method to amend an existing charter, no matter how the charter was originally adopted. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 2; G.L. c. 43B, § 2.

The procedure to adopt or revise a charter is complex and can be quite lengthy. This process can take up to two years in a city or one year in a town. The process involves petitioning for a question to local voters, electing a charter commission, and placing the proposal before the voters.

## **Content Limitations**

Provisions adopted or changed must be consistent with laws passed by the Legislature. Most provisions concerning local government structure, officers, terms, and method of selection are consistent with state law.

A charter adopted by home rule may provide:

- That any particular local office be elected or appointed (except a board of selectmen, school committee, moderator, or members of legislative body who must be elected);
- For the term of office to be served by any local elected officer, provided that no term shall be more than five years.
- For the merger of two or more local offices; or
- For the powers and duties of one office to be divided and exercised by two or more offices.

Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 6.

Unless stated otherwise in law, no charter provision adopted or changed using the home rule charter method may:

- Regulate elections (other than those involving these home rule charter procedures, themselves);
- Levy, assess, or collect taxes;
- Borrow money or pledge the credit of the city or town;
- Dispose of park land;
- Govern civil relationships (such as those between landlords and tenants) except incidentally to an independent local power; or
- Define and punish a felony, or impose imprisonment as a punishment.

Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 7.

## **Revision vs. Amendment**

While both the adoption/revision procedure and the amendment procedure may be used either to change a current charter or special act (unless the special act specifically states otherwise), the amendment procedure may not be used to change the composition, mode of election or appointment, or terms of office of the local legislative body, the mayor, the selectmen or the city or town manager. A provision prohibiting dual office holding does not constitute a change in the mode of election of a town officer. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 4.

If a town wishes to elect a new board or officer, increase/decrease the number of members of a board, or fix the term of office of town officers, it can do so in accordance with section 2 of chapter 41 of the General Laws without amending or revising its charter.

## **Step One: Petitioning**

The first step in the process is petitioning to place the charter question on the ballot. In order to get the question on the ballot, the petitioners must collect the signatures of at

least 15% of the number of registered voters in the city or town, as of the last state election. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 3.

Petitioners may obtain blank petition forms from the city or town clerk and should be sure to allow ample time for the collection of signatures. Explicit signing instructions accompany the blank forms. Exact copies of blank petitions may be made if additional petitions are needed. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, §§ 3, 15.

Completed petitions must be filed with the registrars, though all completed petitions need not be filed at once. Petitioners must notify the registrars in writing when their filing is complete. Once notification of the completed filing is filed, the registrars shall have ten days to certify the signatures and report the results to the city council or the board of selectmen by filing their report with the city or town clerk. The registrars do not need to certify more than 140% the number of signatures required. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 3.

Any registered voter wishing to challenge a completed petition must file a written objection within two working days of the report to the city or town clerk. Challenges to charter petitions are heard by the registrars, in accordance with section 7 of chapter 55B of the General Laws. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 3; G.L. c. 55B, § 7.

Once the registrars have filed a report stating that the petition is in proper form and enough certified signatures have been submitted, the city council or board of selectmen must within thirty days order the question to be submitted to the voters at the next regular municipal election occurring at least 60 days after the order is given. Such an order is not subject to a referendum and, in a city, does not require the mayor's approval. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 4.

Should the council or selectmen fail to act, the question shall automatically appear on the ballot at the next regular election which occurs at least 90 days after the report was filed. As the registrars have ten days to file their report once petitions have been filed, **it is advised that petitioners submit the notice of a completed filing to the registrars at least 100 days before the election in which the petitioners seek to have the question placed on the ballot.** Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 4.

### **Step Two: Nominating Charter Commission Candidates**

At the same local election in which the city or town votes on the charter question, the voters must also elect nine candidates to the charter commission. The commission shall prepare the charter or revision if the ballot question passes. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3; G.L. c. 43B, § 6.

Since these candidates must go through the normal process of filing nomination papers by deadlines which precede the election, they should begin circulating their papers almost as soon as the charter petitions are being circulated.



For a charter commission candidate’s name to appear on the ballot, the nomination papers must be submitted to the registrars for certification by 5:00 p.m., on the 49<sup>th</sup> day before the election. Further instructions and deadlines are printed on the official nomination paper forms which are available from the local election official. G.L. c. 43B, §§ 5, 6; G.L. c. 53, § 7.

Candidates for charter commission appear on the ballot alphabetically by surname, and without any party affiliation or political designation listed. G.L. c. 43B, § 5.

The number of certified signatures required in order for a charter commission candidate to be placed on the ballot is dependent upon the total population of the community:

<u>POPULATION</u>	<u>REQUIRED SIGNATURES</u>
Less than 6,000	10
6,000—11,999	25
12,000—49,999	50
50,000—99,999	100
100,000 or more	200

G.L. c. 43B, § 5.

**Step Three: First Election**

If the town has not previously adopted a charter, the question placed before the voters must be: “Shall a commission be elected to frame a charter for [name of town]?”

In cities and towns which have already adopted a charter, the question must be: “Shall a commission be elected to revise the charter of [city/town name]?”

On Election Day, each voter may vote for nine candidates, whether or not the voter has voted in favor of the establishing the charter commission. The nine candidates who receive the highest numbers of votes shall be elected to the charter commission if the ballot question is passed. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3.

If the question passes, the city or town clerk must notify the Department of Housing and Community Development. That department must then inform the newly elected charter commission of the dates for submitting its reports and for placing its final report on the ballot. G.L. c. 43B, § 6.

#### **Step Four: Commission Report**

Once elected, the charter commission must promptly elect a chairman, vice-chairman and a clerk. The commission must notify the city or town clerk once they have organized. In the event of a vacancy, the commission must fill it by majority vote. G.L. c. 43B, § 7.

The commission must hold a series of public hearings and prepare both preliminary and final reports on the proposed charter or revision, all within specified times. Both reports must include the text of any proposed charter or charter revision and any explanatory information, and both reports must be furnished to the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Attorney General. G.L. c. 43B, §§ 7, 9.

The Attorney General must provide the commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development with a written opinion setting forth any conflicts between the proposed charter and the constitution and laws of the commonwealth. The final report must include any comments, a comparison between the proposal and the current charter, and any minority report which has been furnished to the commission chairman within two days after the final report has been approved. G.L. c. 43B, § 9.

#### **Step Five: Second Election**

If the final report of the charter commission recommends a new charter or charter revision, it must then be approved by the voters of the city or town. The question must be placed on the ballot at the next regular municipal election occurring no less than two months from the date that the report is filed. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 3.

The question placed before the voters must be:

“Shall this (city or town) approve the (new charter or charter revision) recommended by the charter commission summarized below?”

A brief summary of the significant provisions, prepared by the charter commission, must follow the question on the ballot. G.L. c. 43B, § 11.

No later than two weeks before the election, the city council or board of selectmen must distribute a copy of the charter commission’s final report to each household containing a registered voter. Copies must also be made available in the local election office. G.L. c. 43B, § 11.

In accordance with state campaign finance laws, the city council or board of selectmen may not use public funds to campaign for or against the question.

If a plurality of voters vote in favor of the charter question, the adoption or revision shall take effect on the date specified in the charter. If two or more alternative plans are submitted, and more than one plan receives a majority of the votes cast, only the one with the higher number of “yes” votes shall take effect. G.L. c. 43B, § 11.

### **Step Six: Notification and Publication**

Copies of the new charter or charter revision and the clerk's certification of its approval must be sent to the State Archives, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Housing and Community Development. At least every ten years, the city council or board of selectmen must reprint the city or town's current charter and make it available to the public, at cost. G.L. c. 43B, §§ 9, 12.

### **Step Seven: Resubmitting a Defeated Charter**

If a new charter is defeated at the election, but at least 35 percent of the voters voting on it voted in favor of adoption, ten percent of registered voters in the city or town may petition to resubmit it at another regular municipal election two years later. The statute is not specific about when this petition must be filed, but submitting the petitions at least two months before the election would allow a reasonable time for petition certification and ballot preparation. G.L. c. 43B, § 12A.

## **IV. AMENDING BY HOME RULE METHOD**

The amendment procedure, like the charter adoption or revision procedure previously described, may be used to change an existing charter or special act. While it is subject to the same content limitations as the adoption or revision procedure, it further cannot be used to change the composition, mode of election or appointment, or terms of office of the local legislative body, the mayor, the selectmen or the city or town manager. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 4.

### **Step One: Proposal**

The amendment must be proposed by a two-thirds vote of the local legislative body (the city council or board of aldermen of a city or the town meeting or town council of a town.) In a city which has a popularly elected mayor as its chief executive, the mayor must also approve of any proposed amendment. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 4; G.L. c. 43B, § 10(a).

Although the amendment must be proposed by the local legislative body, the law also allows it to be suggested to that body by certain local officials or through a petition process. The local body must go through extra steps before it can vote to approve such a suggested amendment. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 4; G.L. c. 43B, § 10(b).

### **Step Two: Filing with the State**

Once the amendment has been officially proposed, copies of the proposed amendment must be filed with the state Department of Housing and Community Development and the Attorney General. The Attorney General must render a legal opinion about the proposed amendment within four weeks. If this opinion is unfavorable, the amendment cannot be proposed to the voters unless the local legislative body approves a proposal again by a two-thirds vote. The Department of the Attorney General takes the position that this second approval must incorporate the changes required by the unfavorable opinion. G.L. c. 43B, § 10(c).

### **Step Three: Submission to Voters**

The proposed amendment must be submitted to the voters of the city or town at the first regular municipal election occurring no sooner than two months after the proposed amendment becomes final. The amendment becomes finalized four weeks after the final vote of the local legislative body. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 4.

The question placed before the voters must be:

“Shall this (city or town) approve the charter amendment proposed by the (name of local legislative body) summarized below?”

A brief summary, prepared by the city solicitor or town counsel, must follow the question on the ballot. G.L. c. 43B, §11.

### **Step Four: Publication**

The publication, distribution, and notification requirements for charter amendments are the same as those which apply to new charters or charter revisions. (See: “Step Six: Notification and Publication” on page 6). Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 4; G.L. c. 43B, § 12.

### **Special Steps for Suggested Amendments**

A suggested amendment may be filed in writing by the mayor, the city or town manager, any city councilor, or any selectman. Amendments may also be suggested by petition of the voters filed with the city or town clerk or election commission, in the same form as the petition for the adoption or revision of a charter as described previously. G.L. c. 43, § 15.

A petition for a suggested amendment must be signed by ten registered voters in a town, and by the number required to sign a charter commission nomination paper in a city. The suggested amendment cannot already have been considered by the local legislative body within the previous twelve months. G.L. c. 43, § 15.

Within three months of the filing of the suggested amendment, the city council or board of selectmen must order a public hearing to be held before it or its committee. The hearing must occur within four months of the filing, and the public must be given at least seven days’ prior notice in by newspaper. G.L. c. 43B, § 10(b).

Finally, the local legislative body must vote whether or not to approve the proposed amendment. In a city, this action must take place no later than six months after the suggestion was filed; in a town, the vote must occur either by the first annual town meeting occurring no less than six months after the filing date of the petition, or earlier in a special town meeting called for that purpose through the usual petitioning procedure. G.L. c. 43B, § 10(b).

If the amendment is approved by the local legislative body, it must go through the same steps to be submitted to the voters as amendments proposed by the legislative body.

## **V. ADOPTING OR AMENDING BY SPECIAL ACT**

Municipalities may adopt or change a charter or special act by requesting the Legislature to pass a special law. With few exceptions, a city or town must grant their approval before the Legislature can pass a special law specific to that municipality. The local approval may be general, but it should be specific if the city or town wishes to limit the Legislature's freedom of action. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, §§ 8, 9.

### **Local Action**

Ordinarily, local approval simply means that the local legislative body votes to request that the Legislature pass the special act. In a city, the local legislative body is the city council or board of aldermen (with approval of the mayor if ordinarily required); in a town, the local legislative body is the town meeting or town council. Mass. Const. Amend. Art. 89, § 8.

If the local legislative body does not approve the request, it is possible in certain cities and towns to go directly to the voters for the local approval. The question may be placed before the voters by the local initiative petition process, where this process is available under the local charter. Petition requirements and procedures vary with the form of local government.

### **Legislative Action**

Once a special act charter or charter change has received local approval, it can be filed as a bill by a member of the Legislature.

Once filed, the bill must go through the legislative process like any other bill. If the bill is approved by both chambers of the Legislature and signed by the governor, it will become law.

### **Acceptance by Voters**

By tradition, special acts often require a vote of the city or town before the act can take effect. This local acceptance is not constitutionally required.

If the act requires local approval by the voters, the city solicitor or town counsel must prepare a fair and concise summary to appear after the question on the ballot, unless some other format of the question is otherwise provided. G.L. c. 54, § 58A.

If local acceptance is not required, the special act will take effect either on the thirtieth day after it is signed or on an effective date specified in the legislation.

# SPECIMEN BALLOT

Penalty for wilfully defacing, tearing down, removing or destroying a list of candidates or specimen ballot —  
FINE NOT EXCEEDING ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS

To Vote For A Person Or On A Measure, Punch Out Plus Sign  In Box At The Right Of Your Choice

CITY OF WORCESTER

OFFICIAL BALLOT

November 5, 1985

### INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, PUNCH OUT THE CROSS (+) to the right of the candidate's name. Where two or more candidates for the same office are to be elected, PUNCH OUT THE CROSS (+) to the right of the names of all candidates for the office for whom you desire to vote, not to exceed, however, the number of candidates to be elected.

To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the inside of the Ballot Envelope. Write the title of the office as it appears on the ballot, and below it the name and address of the person in one of the blank spaces provided for that purpose on the Write-in Ballot Envelope.

To vote on any measure, PUNCH OUT THE CROSS (+) in the voting square after the word "YES" or after the word "NO."

All distinguishing marks or erasures are forbidden and make the ballot void.

If you wrongly punch, tear or deface any portion of your ballot card(s), replace the card(s) in the Ballot Envelope and return it to the precinct board member and obtain another set.

MAKE SURE YOU VOTE BOTH SIDES OF YOUR BALLOT CARD(S).

AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING, place your ballot card(s) in the Ballot Envelope with the NUMBERED STUB(S) AT THE TOP. Hand the Envelope to the precinct board member, who shall, in the presence of the voter, remove the numbered stub(s), hand same to the voter and deposit the voted ballot in the ballot box.

COUNCILLORS For Two Years		Vote for Not More than NINE
<b>RICHARD L. CARPENTER</b>	25 Oberlin St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>THOMAS J. EARLY</b> Candidate for re-election	48 Housatonic St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JOHN B. ANDERSON</b> Candidate for re-election	17 Bancroft Tower Rd.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>GEORGE J. RUSSELL</b>	548 Sunderland Rd.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>TIMOTHY J. COONEY, JR.</b> Candidate for re-election	51 Mary Ann Dr.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JANICE L. NADEAU</b>	67 Southgate St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JORDAN LEVY</b> Candidate for re-election	825 Grove St. Terr.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>WALTER J. SHEA</b>	29 Burncoat St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JOSEPH M. TINSLEY</b> Candidate for re-election	17 Beaconsfield Rd.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PAUL T. LEAHY</b> Candidate for re-election	93 Beaconsfield Rd.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>RAYMOND V. MARIANO</b> Candidate for re-election	6 Winslow St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MARK J. ANDREWS</b>	17 Blanche St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ARTHUR E. CHASE</b> Candidate for re-election	14 Kenilworth Rd.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MARGARET M. DONOVAN</b>	5 Blaine Ave.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>LEONARD P. COOPER</b>	7 Sycamore St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SARA J. ROBERTSON</b> Candidate for re-election	55 Hancock Hill Dr.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PHILIP J. NIDDRIE</b>	16 Wentworth St.	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE BOTH SIDES A

SCHOOL COMMITTEE For Two Years		Vote for Not More than SIX
<b>KONSTANTINA B. LUKES</b> Candidate for re-election	24 Hadwen Rd.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>LYNNE H. SIMONDS</b>	250 Pleasant St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BILL COLEMAN</b>	8 Glenwood St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JOHN M. HARRITY</b>	7 Greenleaf Terr.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ROBERT F. DIXON</b>	54 Delawanda Dr.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FRANCIS J. GRIMALDI</b>	80 Coburn Ave.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>JOHN F. DOHERTY</b> Candidate for re-election	29 Ernest Ave.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>S. GARY ROSEN</b>	1 Geneva St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MARGARET M. DONOVAN</b>	5 Blaine Ave.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>EDMUND J. TIERNEY</b> Candidate for re-election	1 Cataract St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PAUL E. BURNS</b>	65 Gates St.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BRIAN A. O'CONNELL</b> Candidate for re-election	1029 Pleasant St.	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE BOTH SIDES B

QUESTION	
"Shall this city approve the new charter recommended by the Charter Commission, summarized below?"	<p><b>YES</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>NO</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	
<p>The new charter continues to provide for a council-manager form of government.</p> <p>The city council will have eleven members, five elected from districts and six elected at-large. An Election Commission is created of five members—this commission will draw the district lines. The mayor will be chosen by the voters from the councillors-at-large—the duties are unchanged. The council will elect a Citizen Complaints Officer.</p> <p>The council will continue to appoint the manager. The manager's appointments to advisory boards are subject to council approval. Appointments to each regulatory and advisory board must be distributed among the five council districts. An advisory council will recommend candidates for boards and commissions.</p> <p>The school committee will continue to have six members elected at-large and be chaired by the mayor.</p> <p>The city council, upon the request of voters residing in a particular area, can create neighborhood area councils which may provide an advisory and self-help role within that area.</p>	

C



# CHARTER REVISION OR ADOPTION PETITION



DATE and TIME received by Board of Registrars

CITY OR TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

*Attention Registrars: Before certifying signatures see "Instructions to Registrars" on reverse side.*

Signer Information

### INSTRUCTIONS TO SIGNERS

For your signature to be valid, you must be a registered voter in the city or town named above and your signature should be written substantially as registered.

If you are prevented by physical disability from writing, you may authorize some person to write your name and residence in your presence.

Sign your name in column I and your address in column II.

### SIGNERS' STATEMENT

We, request that the (city, town) of \_\_\_\_\_ revise its present charter or adopt a new charter. We certify that we are registered voters of that (city, town) whose residence addresses at the times set forth below were as shown below, and that we have not signed this petition more than once.

CHECK	I SIGNATURE to be written in person with name substantially as registered (except in case of physical disability as stated above)	II NOW REGISTERED AT (street, number and apartment number, if any) (city or town will be the same as stated above)	WARD	PRECINCT
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SAMPLE



**ATTENTION VOTERS:** Before signing, read "Signer Information" on other side.

**ATTENTION REGISTRARS:** Before certifying signatures, see "Instructions to Registrars" below.

\_\_\_\_\_ city or town

CHECK	I SIGNATURE to be made in person with name substantially as registered ( except in case of physical disability as stated above)	II NOW REGISTERED AT (street, number and apartment number, if any) (city or town will be the same as stated above)	WARD	PRECINCT
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SAMPLE

**WARNING - criminal penalty for unlawfully signing, altering, defacing, mutilating, destroying or suppressing this petition: fine of up to \$1,000 or imprisonment for up to one year**

**Registrar Information**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO REGISTRARS**

- You must time-stamp or write in date and time these papers are received.
- Check this  against the name of each qualified voter to be certified. Draw a line through any blank spaces not containing signatures.
- Each sheet must be certified by at least three registrars. A facsimile stamp is acceptable.
- For names not certified use the code below.
  - N - no such registered voter at that address or address is illegible.
  - S - unable to identify signature that of voter because of form of signature, or signature is illegible.
  - W- wrong district or community.
  - T - already signed nomination paper for this candidate.

**CERTIFICATION OF NAMES**

\_\_\_\_\_ city or town      \_\_\_\_\_ month and day

We certify that \_\_\_\_\_ number of names (use numbers and words)

above signatures checked this  are the names of qualified voters from this city or town as well as the district for which this nomination is made.

**At least three registrars names must be signed or stamped below.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Registrars of Voters or Election Commissioners of** \_\_\_\_\_ city or town