

Town Charter Committee

October 9, 2025



Committee met in HYBRID session at 6:00 p.m. at Abbot Hall, 188 Washington Street

The Chair called the meeting of October 9, 2025, to order.

Amy Drinker, Chair	Seamus Hourihan
Rossana Ferrante, Vice Chair	Sean Casey
Caleb Miller	Ron Grenier
Tom Massaro	Victor Wild
Thatcher W. Kezer III, Town Administrator, staff support	

MINUTES. No minutes to approve.

RESIGNATION. The Chair read aloud the resignation letter received from Bill Conly. The Chair has reached out to Mr. Conly on behalf of the Committee to thank him for his service.

Victor Wild joined the meeting.

COLLINS CENTER FEEDBACK ON DRAFT B LANGUAGE. The Chair has not yet received feedback from the Collins Center. The Town Administrator is working with the Collins Center regarding extending the contract with the Town. The committee expressed dissatisfaction with the Collins Center's progress and responsiveness, particularly regarding their September 15th feedback deadline that has not been met. Ms. Ferrante agreed that the scope of work and fee structure should be determined for any contract extension and reminded the committee members that the Charter Committee expressed early on their desire to take the lead and have more control of the process. The Chair will inform the Committee when she has more information regarding the Collins Center.

Calem Miller joined the meeting remotely.

TOWN COUNSEL. Charter Review. Town Council provided feedback on Draft B and last week the Chair, Sean Casey and Thatcher Kezer met with Town Counsel to review the document (provided to the committee) in detail and get answers to questions regarding several committees. It was noted that Town Counsel approved the recall option approach, as presented, which will require a future bylaw proposal at town meeting. Town Counsel provided draft language for a recall warrant article which would be separate from the baseline Charter warrant article and sponsored by the Select Board.

CHARTER COMMITTEE UPDATES. Sean Casey reviewed Draft B, with Town Counsel track changes. The committee discussed concerns with interpretations particularly around the powers, duties, and responsibilities of various boards. Sean will seek feedback from Town Counsel on this and make all necessary edits to the draft charter based on the discussion that followed.

The committee also noted the Charter Committee was still gathering input on Articles 6 and 7 from various committees and would review those sections once all feedback was received.

Housekeeping and Communication. The committee is awaiting responses from various town boards and entities, including the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. The Chair has scheduled a meeting with the Planning Board for Tuesday, October 14, 2025. The committee agreed to set a final deadline of October 24th for receiving feedback from all boards and committees.

The committee reviewed the memo from the Chair on the public outreach component. The committee will discuss this further at a future meeting.

Additional meeting dates were scheduled for November 20, 2025, and December 18, 2025, to ensure adequate time for review, with the final submission of the Charter to the Select Board expected by January 12, 2026, to allow time for the Select Board to review and hold a public hearing before the January 28, 2026, deadline to submit the warrant article.

Public Comment. None.

Next Meeting Date. Tuesday, October 28, 2025. 6:00 p.m.

Motion made to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. Moved by Wild, seconded Grenier. On a polled vote the Committee voted as follows: Wild, in favor; Casey, in favor; Grenier, in favor; Hourihan, in favor; Massaro, in favor; Ferrante, in favor; Miller, in favor; Drinker, in favor.



Kyle A. Wiley, Administrative Clerk

List of documents used: Draft A feedback, town counsel; home rule petition query; public outreach ideas; entities update to TCC; B6.6 Municipal Light Dept feedback;