



Town Charter Committee

March 19, 2026

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

The Chair called the meeting of March 19, 2026, to order.

On a roll call vote the following members were present:

Amy Drinker, Chair

Seamus Hourihan, remote

Rossana Ferrante, Vice Chair

Caleb Miller

Ron Grenier

Tom Massaro

Thatcher W. Kezer III, Town Administrator, Ex Officio

Minutes. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of January 27, 2026, and February 12, 2026. All in favor.

The Chair noted the delay in the committee meeting due to a February snowstorm and quorum issues. The Chair thanked everyone for their continued work on the Charter and believes the committee is close to completing their mission, which is to submit Draft C to the Select Board along with a cover memo detailing what the committee has accomplished. The Select Board will then decide how to continue the charter initiative moving forward.

Draft B Review. Seamus Hourihan joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

The committee reviewed Draft B edits starting with Article 3.2 and then continued to review of Articles 6 and 8.

Rosanne Ferrante temporarily left the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Amy McHugh, Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Department, appeared before the committee to provide input on language regarding appointment authorities and regulatory responsibilities. Amy explained that the Water & Sewer Commission operates under state legislative acts from 1886 and 1916 rather than town bylaws. The committee agreed to keep references to "Water Department" and "Sewer Department" in Sentence 4 while removing "laws of the town" references and discussed the authority to appoint senior-level employees, with Amy noting that the commission currently appoints all her employees despite the proposed language change.

Rosanne Ferrante rejoined the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Seamus Hourihan left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The Board reviewed holds placed on Article 6.7, Recreation & Parks.

Article 7 update. The Chair proposed, after reviewing the input received from the Select Board, that Article 7 be condensed to three sentences, listing likely appointed boards but not limited to, and include in Draft C for Select Board review. The committee agreed and the Chair will incorporate this into Draft C.

Public Comment. None.

Meeting Dates. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 31, 2026. 6:30 p.m., followed by a meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2026.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. All in favor.



Kyle A. Wiley
Administrative Clerk

List of documents used: 2.23.26 Memo / Article 6 annotated