

On the November 8, 2016 election ballot, there will be five (5) local questions regarding the East Hampton Town Charter. The Town Charter defines the form of government for the town and the roles and responsibilities of elected and appointed town officials. The Charter also codifies the basic framework for how government operates, such as the process for adopting an ordinance, the town budget as well as the operation of various departments of town government. Periodically the Town Council will review its Charter, and if it deems changes need to be made, will appoint members to serve on a Charter Revision Commission.

On January 26, 2016, the Town Council adopted a resolution establishing a Charter Revision Commission. On xxx, the Town Council approved the Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission.

There will be only five (5) questions covering the charge given to the Charter Revision Commission by the Town Council. The following is an explanation of the East Hampton Town Charter question. A "Yes" vote means that the elector approves the recommended changes to each section of the Charter reviewed by the Charter Revision Commission. A "No" vote means that the elector does not approve of the recommended changes to each section of the Charter reviewed by the Charter Revision Commission.

Referendum Question #1:

"Shall the Town Charter be amended to allow separate questions for the Town Budget and the Board of Education Budget at the Annual Budget Referendum?"

Section

Explanation: Approval of the Charter amendment would allow the elector to vote on two separate budgets – Town Government and Board of Education.

Referendum Question #2:

"Shall Section 6.4 of the Town Charter be amended to identify the Town Council as the appointing authority to fill vacancies in elective offices and that the vacancy shall be filled by a member of the same political party as the member that vacated the seat?"

Chapter VI. Miscellaneous Section 6.4

Section

Explanation:

- Approval would identify the Town Council as the appointing authority to fill vacancies in elective offices.
- Amend the term to include the unexpired portion of the term or until the next regular

election, whichever shall be sooner.

- Approval would also fill the vacancy by a member of the same political party as the member that has vacated the seat.

Referendum Question #3:

"Shall the Town Charter be amended to commence the terms of all elected officials to begin the day after the regular election?"

Chapter VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Term of Elected Officials.

Explanation:

- Approval of the Charter amendment would have all elected officials terms begin the day following the regular election.

Referendum Question #4:

"Shall Section 2.1 of the Town Charter be amended to allow a member of the Town Council to hold office one year after the term is completed?"

Chapter II. The Town Council Section 2.1. Election

Explanation:

- Approval of the Charter amendment would allow a member of the Town Council to hold

only one elected or appointed office while serving on the Town Council.

- Approval would reduce the term from two years to one year in which a former member on the Town Council is prohibited from being appointed to any position of remuneration with the said government.
- It would also allow members of the Town Council to volunteer in any capacity.

Referendum Question #5:

"Shall Sections 3.3, 5.2 and 6.2 of the Town Charter be amended to include the proposed grammatical, technical and other minor changes and clarifications?"

Chapter III. TOWN MANAGER Section 3.3 Chapter VI. Miscellaneous Section 6.2

Appointments Transitional Offices.

Explanation:

- Approval of the Charter amendment would identify the zoning enforcement officer as a new position and correct the title for animal control.
- Approval would also replace the term 'acting' with the term 'interim'

- with respect to the Town Manager and delete the need for an ordinance or alternative method when appointing an interim Town Manager.
- Changes in 5.2 change budget to budgets reflecting two separate budgets.
- Approval of the Charter amendment would allow this section concerning the appointment of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector for an indefinite period be removed from the Charter as it no longer applies since these positions are no longer elected positions.
- Approval would also result in the renumbering of sections 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 and 6.7.

Effective Date

Explanation: Approval of the Charter amendment would approve the Charter to be effective November 8, 2016 upon approval by the electors of the Town of East Hampton.

This explanatory text has been prepared by the Town Clerk pursuant to Section 9.369b (a) of

the Connecticut General Statutes and is intended to not advocate either the approval or disapproval of the referendum question.

Additional information on the Charter Revision question can be found:

- o On the Town of East Hampton's website at www.easthamptonct.gov
- o In the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall.
- o Or by calling the Town Clerk's Office at (860) 267-2519

Town of East Hampton



Explanatory Text for Election Day Referendum Question on Amendments to the East Hampton Town Charter

Tuesday, November 8, 2016

On November 8, 2016 polls open 6:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. Voting will be at East Hampton Middle School, 19 Childs Road, East Hampton, CT.