

Overview of the Recommendations for Changes to the Weymouth Home Rule Charter

The Charter Review Committee started meeting in August of 2009. We invited citizens, department heads and town officials to attend our meetings and offer input into the process of reviewing our original charter.

We are pleased to report that, during our deliberations, it was consistently apparent that changing to our current form of government was the right thing for the Town of Weymouth. We repeatedly heard that the town is being run much more effectively. Citizens' concerns are being addressed in a more efficient manner. Town departments can run more effectively and efficiently because there is one place and/or person to go to for answers.

The Charter Review Committee has divided the recommended changes into two categories. Section 1 addresses substantive changes and Section 2 addresses housekeeping and/or clerical changes.

The area of the charter that stimulated the most discussion was the budget process. Among our proposed changes, you will see several recommendations changing the time line that the budgets are to follow. We believe that if these changes are accepted, the entire budget process for the town will become more realistic for all departments. We believe that the new time line will help deal with the uncertainty of funding in these uncertain fiscal times.

As you begin your deliberations concerning our recommendations, the committee will be available to answer any questions or concerns that may come up.

Sincerely,

Barbara Deacon, Chairperson

Charter Review Committee Recommended Changes

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