

**Town of Bar Harbor Charter Commission
Agenda**

**Tuesday, July 9, 2019, 7pm
Bar Harbor Town Council Chambers**

- 1. Approve Agenda**
- 2. Adopt minutes of 6/17/19 & 6/24/2019**
- 3. Public Comment Period***
- 4. Items for Discussion:**
 - a. Public Hearing Impressions and Thoughts**
 - b. Extension for Draft & Final Reports**
 - c. Action Items:**
 - i. Article II - Town Meetings**
 - 1. Town Meeting to a Saturday (more discussion)**
 - 2. Use of technology at Open Town Meeting**
 - 3. Charter revisions do not have recorded review on ballot (for discussion)**
 - ii. Article III - The Town Council**
 - 1. Remove specific salary amount; part of annual budget**
 - 2. Term Limits (for discussion)**
 - iii. Article V - Administrative Organization**
 - 1. Add staff Planning function to required admin functions**
 - 2. Change Town Attorney to Legal Council**
 - 3. Remove specific salary amount (School Comm)**
 - iv. Article VI - Financial Procedures**
 - 1. Joint Budget presentation to Council & WC (encourage concurrent work)**
 - 2. Reduce budget development timeline**
 - v. Article VIII - Elections and Nominations**
 - 1. Nomination process to 60 days from 45**
 - vi. Article IX - Initiative and Referendum**
 - 1. Require Public Hearing for all initiatives**
- 5. Agenda for next meeting 7/15**
- 6. Other**
- 7. Adjourn**

*** Guidelines for Public Comment Period**

Time Limit: 15 minutes total and 3 minutes per person; please respect these guidelines

Comments: Should be directed to the Chair and should pertain to the published agenda for the meeting

Charter Commission Notes:

**** Please note that items from the agenda may be reviewed at later meetings if discussion has not been completed by the meeting's end or if they need to be revisited**

**Citizens may also provide input to the Charter Commission through email:
chartercomm@barharbormaine.gov**

SAMPLE Charter Language Changes 07-09-2019 Discussions

Town Meetings:

D. Any Town Meeting amendment made to the budget published in the Town Report shall be voted only by written ballot or by use of similar methods of technology permitted by state statute.

(d) For each ballot article except Land Use Ordinance amendments, revisions or modifications to this Charter, and election of officeholders, the recommendation of the Town Council, including the number of Councilors and the number of Councilors voting for and against the recommendation.

Town Council (similar for School Committee):

§ C-8. Salary.

Each member of the Town Council shall be paid an annual salary to be set each year in the annual municipal budget for approval at the Annual Town Meeting, except that the Chair shall be paid a sum greater than other members. Each member's salary shall be paid annually in one lump sum on or about the anniversary date of the date that he/she was sworn into office. In the event that a member vacates his/her office as provided in 30-A M.R.S.A. § 2602(1), as amended, the member's salary shall be prorated based on the number of months that member has held office, to the nearest full month.

Administrative Organization:

B. The Manager or a person appointed by the manager shall be designated as the Planning Director. The Planning Director shall administer the planning department for the town.

Nominations & Elections:

B. Filing and acceptance of nomination petitions. All separate papers comprising a nominating petition shall be assembled and filed with the Town Clerk as one instrument not less than 60 days prior to the day of election. The Clerk shall make a record of the exact time when each petition is filed. No nominating petition shall be accepted unless accompanied by a signed acceptance of the nomination.

Charter Review

SAMPLE Budget Development Timeline Revision – for discussion only

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| March 5 | Joint meeting of WC & TC for a 2-hr. summary and detail presentation by depts. |
| March 12 | TC 2 hr. budget meeting with dept heads |
| March 14 | WRC 2 hr. budget meeting with dept heads |
| March 19 | Joint meeting to reconcile differences between TC & WC |
| April 2 | Town Council meeting to intro/adopt the budget as presented and set for public hearing. |

FOR DISCUSSION ONLY AT 7/9/2019 COMMISSION MTG

July 10, 2019

**Bar Harbor Town Council
C/o Cornell Knight, Town Manager
93 Cottage Street
Bar Harbor, ME 04609**

Cornell and Councilors,

I am writing on behalf of the Carter Commission to respectfully request an extension in our reporting dates as allowed by MRS Title 30-A, Chapter 111, Part 2103:5. E.

The Charter Commission requests that the preliminary report date be extended up to October 15, 2019 and the final report date be extended up to December 15, 2019. Our reasons for this request include:

- 1. We will need additional time to develop our preliminary report due to our previous plan for a September 17th deadline for the preliminary report which has been clarified to be the earlier date of August 6th.**
- 2. We will need additional time to develop our final report due to our previously plan for a December 17th deadline for the final report which has been clarified to be an earlier date of November 6th and even a shorter deadline of October 15th in order to provide a presentation at the Town Council meeting.**
- 3. We would like to allow for scheduling a Public Hearing in the fall to allow for strong attendance and engagement of voters after the preliminary report is submitted and distributed. Our desire is to allow for better attendance after the busiest part of the Town's summer tourist season.**
- 4. The language of our recommendations will need thorough legal review in order to assure a lawful outcome.**

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

**Michael Gurtler, Chairperson
Bar Harbor Charter Commission**