

CHARTER INFORMATION COMMITTEE VIDEO PRESENTATION – SLIDES AND NOTES



Slide 1

Welcome to the Bow Charter Information Committee's November 2023 presentation about optional forms of town government and Charter Commissions.

CHARTER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE'S CHARGE

- Inform the community about the forms of Town government allowable by New Hampshire State law
- Inform and facilitate community discussion about the pros and cons of writing a new Town Charter to address the needs of our community and Town government now and into the future;
- Inform the community about the Charter Commission process prescribed by RSA 49-B; and
- Consult with Town Counsel, as needed.

Slide 2

The Bow Charter Information Committee thanks you for participating in this program. We look forward to your feedback and input. Our Committee was appointed by the Bow Selectmen to carry out four functions, including:

- Informing the community about the different forms of government that are allowed under state law;
- Educating the community about the Charter Commission process and what a Charter Commission is;
- Discussing the pros and cons of writing a new charter; and
- Consulting with town counsel as needed.



CHARTER INFORMATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Peter Imse, Chair
- Anthony Foote, Vice Chair
- Susan Marcotte-Jenkins, Recording Secretary
- Harold Judd, Alternate Recording Secretary
- Angela Brennan, Select Board Representative
- Eleana Colby, Alternate Select Board Representative
- Stephen Buckley
- Jack Crisp
- Christopher Lins



PLAN FOR PRESENTATION

- Define terms we will be using and concepts we will be discussing
- Explain the legal basis for the Town to change its form of government
- Discuss the key features of the seven forms of government available to the Town
- Explain what a Charter Commission is, and what it does



Slide 3

The Committee is composed of the nine Bow residents whose names appear on this slide, and they represent a broad cross section of our community. The Committee has been meeting monthly since its appointment in the Fall of 2022. We have spent considerable time educating ourselves about the alternate forms of government available to the Town and about the Charter Commission process, and then developed these materials to help the citizens of Bow understand what we have learned.

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During the presentation that follows, we plan to accomplish the following:

- Define the terms and concepts that we will be using during our discussion;
- Describe the legal background for a town to consider a change in its form of government;
- Introduce the seven forms of government that are available under NH law and describe the key features of each;
- Finally, we will explain what a Charter Commission is and what it does.



LIMITATIONS and QUALIFICATIONS

- Our purpose is to educate and inform
- We are not a Charter Commission, and we are not making any recommendations with respect to any change in Town government
- This presentation is a summary of what can be a complex area of law. See Town website for more detailed information:
<http://bownh.gov/822/Charter-Information-Committee>
- The Town and School District are separate governmental entities. Whatever the Town does with respect to its form of government will have no impact on the School District.

Slide 5

So there is no confusion concerning our committee's role and the purpose of this presentation, we want to clarify up front that:

- Our purpose is to educate and inform;
- We are not a Charter Commission; we are not recommending a change in Town government or a particular form of government for the Town;
- Of necessity, this presentation is a summary overview of this topic. Please visit the Charter Information Committee page on the Town's website where you will find a wealth of background information.
- And remember, the Town and School District are separate and independent government entities. Any action the Town may take with respect to its form of government will not apply to the School District.



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HAPPY (almost) 300th BIRTHDAY, BOW NH



- Established in 1727
- Early government:
 - ✓ Town Meeting & Selectmen
 - ✓ A test run for American democracy
- RSAs: Revised Statutes Annotated
= State laws

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We want to take a few moments to give you some legal and historical background for the discussion that follows.

Bow will soon be celebrating its 300th birthday. Like other New England towns, the citizens of Bow were early practitioners of American self-governance as they deliberated and decided the issues of the time at Town gatherings. They also elected Selectmen to carry out their decisions.

Today, NH municipalities' authority to self-govern is ruled by state laws, often referred to as the RSAs (Revised Statutes Annotated).



Division of Labor in Town Government

“Governing Body” means the Select Board or Town Council who manage prudential affairs – RSA 21:48

“Town” or “Legislative Body” means the Town Meeting – RSA 21:47 = the registered voters who show up and vote.

Some Town Councils are the Legislative Body AND the Governing Body

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In most forms of Town government, there exists a “Governing Body”, which manages day-to-day operations, sometimes with the assistance of a Town Manager, and a “Legislative Body” which makes major decisions.

Sometimes the Governing Body is referred to as the Executive Branch of Town government because the elected members of the Select Board or Town Council carry out or “execute” the policies developed by the Legislative Branch.

“Separation of powers” between two required bodies:
“Governing body” means the Select Board or Town Council
“Town” or “legislative body” means the Town Meeting or Town Council.

In some towns, Town Council is both the legislative body and governing body.

RSA 21:47 and RSA 21:48



Voting at Town Meeting

- For voting on the election of officers and the adoption of zoning amendments, most towns have adopted Official Ballot voting under RSA 39:2-a, and vote on these matters at the polling place on the second Tuesday of March, April or May.
- Official Ballot voting at the town polling place uses a paper ballot printed by the town.
- Voters who cannot attend the polling place on the Official Ballot day can vote by absentee ballot.
- Typically, voting at the traditional town meeting business day follows the voting at the polling place and can be by voice vote, showing of hands, or by secret ballot voting using a ballot printed with Yes/No for delivery by each voter to ballot box.
- There is no absentee voting at the Business Meeting.



Source of Warrant Articles

- The Select Board has primary responsibility to prepare the warrant and propose warrant articles for consideration by the town meeting.
- If the Town chooses a Town Council form of government, as discussed below, the Town Council and not the Select Board would prepare the warrant.
- Any 25 voters can petition to place a warrant article on the warrant for consideration by the meeting.
- The Planning Board can propose zoning and building code amendments, and 25 voters can also propose zoning and building code amendments.
- The Official Budget Committee proposes the operating budget warrant article.

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Almost all towns in N.H. vote by official ballot at the polling place to elect officials and to vote on zoning amendments and some matters that must appear on what is known as the official ballot. For those matters, voters who cannot get to the polling place or are absent can vote by absentee ballot. On the other hand, for voting at the business meeting of a traditional town meeting (like Bow) voting can be by voice vote or secret ballot, but there is no opportunity for absentee voting.

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The questions presented to the voters at town meeting are called warrant articles that are presented in the Town Meeting Warrant. In a town like Bow what goes on the warrant is decided by the Select Board in the first instance, however 25 voters may petition an article for the town meeting, and that article must be included in the warrant by the Select Board. Zoning Amendments are mostly presented by the Planning Board, and the Budget Committee presents the operating budget warrant article.



Authority to Adopt Municipal Charters



- A 1966 amendment to the NH Constitution is referred to as the home rule power to adopt or amend municipal charters in any way that is not in conflict with general law
- If the proposed charter is for a town, the charter is under RSA 49-D
- A municipal Charter cannot exceed or conflict with state law



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For much of NH history, state law prohibited towns from changing their form of government without the approval of the State legislature.

This law was changed in 1966 by a NH constitutional amendment that gave the local voters the authority to change their form of town government. However, NH towns can only adopt forms of government that are permitted by state law.



SEVEN OPTIONAL FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

TWO OPTIONS DON'T REQUIRE FORMING A CHARTER COMMISSION:

- 1) our current Traditional Town Meeting
- 2) "SB2"

FIVE OPTIONS REQUIRE THE ELECTION OF A CHARTER COMMISSION (RSA 49-D)

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There are seven forms of government that are options for Bow. Two forms of government can be adopted without a new charter -- our current Traditional Town Meeting and "SB2". The other five forms of government would require electing a Charter Commission to draft a new town charter, which if adopted, will act as a Constitution for the Town. Then, the Town Meeting will vote on whether to adopt a new form of government. We will describe these seven forms of government later in this presentation.



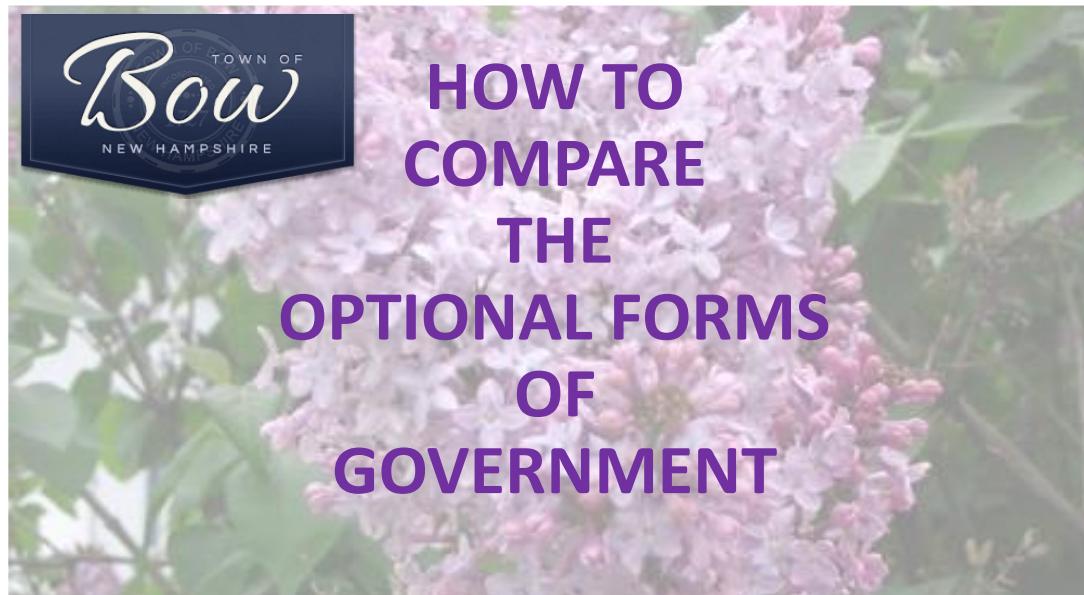
Changing the Form of Town Government

If the Town wants to adopt one of the five optional forms of town government that are available through a Charter Commission:

- ✓ The voters must vote to establish a Charter Commission and then elect its nine members.
- ✓ The Charter Commission may either propose a new charter or recommend that there be no charter.
- ✓ If a charter is proposed by the Charter Commission, it must be approved by the voters.
- ✓ The Charter Commission process is described in detail later in this presentation.

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If Bow voters wanted to change the existing form of Traditional Town Meeting, the voters would first have to vote to have a Charter Commission and then separately vote to elect nine residents who would draft a proposed charter that would have to be adopted by the voters. This process will be discussed in more detail later in this presentation.



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Before we describe each form of government in detail, we want to provide you some tools to help you evaluate each one, and to discuss the attributes of each that might be of most interest to our voters.



TOOLS TO COMPARE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

**Who makes up the
Legislative and the Governing Bodies?**



TOOLS TO COMPARE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

**Which matters are decided by the
voters — the Legislative Body—
and the Governing Body?**

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In a Traditional Town Meeting town such as Bow, the Legislative Body is the voters acting on both the Official Ballot and at Town Meeting. The Governing Body is the Select Board. As you listen to the comparison, you will hear that some options replace the Select Board with a Town Council as the Governing Body.

You will also hear that under one option, a group of elected representatives replaces the voters as the Legislative Body.

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You should also pay attention to how the optional forms of government may alter the list of matters that are voted on by the voters as the Legislative Body, whether on the Official Ballot or at Town Meeting, and those that are voted on by the Governing Body.

And you will also hear that one form of government actually replaces the voters as the Legislative Body with a group of elected representatives who then act as the Legislative Body.



TOOLS TO COMPARE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

- Will voters be able to discuss the articles prior to voting on them?
- Will voters be able to amend articles before voting on them?



TOOLS TO COMPARE FORMS OF GOVERNMENT

- How and when do voters vote?
- What votes are by ballot?
- When can voters vote by absentee ballot?



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As you consider the descriptions of the various forms of government, listen to how and when the voters will have a chance to comment on or speak to the various warrant articles. Will it be at a Town Meeting or at a hearing or a deliberative session prior to voting day?

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Also pay attention to how and when the voters will vote on the matters that are brought to them.

Will the voters vote on matters in an open Town Meeting, or on the Official Ballot, or will the voters have delegated their authority to act as the Legislative Body to a group of elected representatives?

As you consider these issues, also keep in mind that voting by absentee ballot is limited to those issues that are voted on by Official Ballot.

Later in this presentation, you'll see two charts that summarize all of this information and compare the seven forms of Town government.



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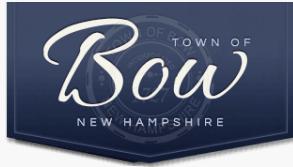
Comparing the Seven Forms of Government

NH TOWN GOVERNMENT	Town Meeting?	Governing Body	Town Manager/Administrator	Ballot Voting?	Budget Committee?	Absentee voting?
Traditional Town Meeting	YES	SELECT BOARD	YES (optional)	Zoning + Candidates	YES (optional)	Zoning + Candidates
Official Ballot "SB2"	Deliberative session	SELECT BOARD	Optional	YES	Likely	YES
Custom Official Ballot Town Meeting	Charter	SELECT BOARD	Optional	Charter	Likely	Charter
Representative Town Meeting	Only for elected reps	SELECT BOARD	Optional	Candidates	Optional	Candidates
Town Council	NO	TOWN COUNCIL	YES	Candidates	Unlikely	Candidates
Official Ballot Town Council	Deliberative Session	TOWN COUNCIL	YES	Charter	Likely	Charter
Budgetary Town Meeting	Budget + Appropriations ONLY	SELECT BOARD -OR- TOWN COUNCIL	Optional	Candidates	Likely	Candidates



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This chart provides an easy way to compare the seven optional forms of government that we will now describe for you. To use it, first find the form of government that interests you in the left-hand column, and then read across from left to right to determine which attributes apply to that form of government.



Traditional Town Meeting

(Available Without Forming a Charter Commission)

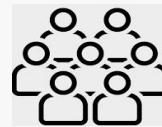
(Blue = Who, Red = When, Green = What)



Legislative Body

Voters

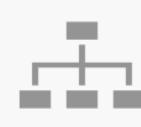
Official Ballot on Election Day:
Elections, Zoning Amendments
Business Meeting after Election
Day:
Budget and other Warrant
Articles



Governing Body

Select Board

Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager (*optional*)

Day-to-Day Decisions



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In Bow, our town government is called "*Traditional Town Meeting*." It's a bit like a big community gathering where regular folks like you and me have a say in how our town is run.

It all starts on election day. That's when we cast our votes on the Official Ballot for things like candidates for Town and School District elected offices and whether we want to change the Town's zoning regulations. Election day voting is either in-person or by absentee ballot.

Presently, the Business Meeting is held the following day. That's when all voters who are present at the Business Meeting may vote on the remaining Town Warrant Articles, such as adopting the Town's operating budget. At this meeting, voters have the power to amend Warrant Articles.

Between our Town Meetings, the Select Board handles all of the Town's affairs with the assistance of the Town Manager and staff.



Official Ballot ("SB2")

Town Meeting with Official Ballot

(Available Without Forming a Charter Commission)

Blue = Who Red = When Green = What



Legislative Body

Voters

Deliberative Session: Debate/Amend
Proposed Budget and other Warrant
Articles

Official Ballot on Election Day:

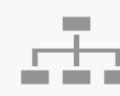
Elections, Budget and other Warrant
Articles



Governing Body

Select Board

Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager (*optional*)

Day-to-Day Decisions

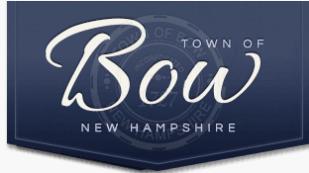


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SB2 is the only alternative to Traditional Town Meeting that is available to NH towns without the voters first adopting a charter. SB2's official name is Town Meeting with Official Ballot.

Here's how it works: Weeks before election day there would be a meeting of voters called a "*Deliberative Session*". During the Deliberative Session warrant articles are discussed and available for amendment. All the warrant articles are put to a final vote on Election Day using an Official Ballot, which you mark in the voting booth or by absentee ballot. After the Deliberative Session, voters have no power to amend the articles that appear on the Ballot.

As with Traditional Town Meeting, the Select Board and Town Manager handle the Town's operations and affairs in accordance with the decisions made by the voters by ballot.



Five Forms of CHARTER-BASED Town Governments

- **Two retain the Select Board**
 - Custom Official Ballot and Representative Town Meeting
- **Two replace the Select Board with a Town Council**
 - Town Council and Official Ballot Town Council
- **One EITHER retains the Select Board or replaces it with a Town Council**
 - Budgetary Town Meeting



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There are five additional forms of government available to a Town when it forms a Charter Commission, which will be described below. Two of them would retain the Select Board, two would replace the Select Board with a Town Council, and one can do either.



Custom Official Ballot Town Meeting

Official Ballot Town Meeting: RSA 49:3.IIa

(Requires Forming a Charter Commission)

(Blue = Who Red = When Green = What



Legislative Body

Voters

SB2-like Deliberative Session
(Charter defined)

Official Ballot on Election Day:

Elections and TBD (Charter defined)

Business Meeting:

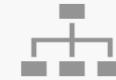
TBD (Charter defined)



Governing Body

Select Board

Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager (optional)

Day-to-Day Decisions



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One of the two charter-based forms of government that would retain Bow's Select Board is called, in the state law, "Official Ballot Town Meeting" and we call it the Custom Official Town Meeting to differentiate it from SB2.

Under this form of government, the voters would still comprise the Legislative Body, and they would have a Town Meeting to decide certain issues, as specified in the charter.

With an Official Ballot Town Meeting form of government, the new charter will specify which matters will be voted on by Official Ballot on Election Day and which will be voted on at the Town Meeting. A new Town Charter could also establish two meetings of voters for discussing the warrant articles that are being put to their vote. The first, like a Deliberative Session, would be held weeks before Election Day, and the second would be the Town Meeting after Election Day. The new charter would also spell out whether and how voters could amend the warrant articles at either or both of these meetings, but the voters would not be able to further amend the articles appearing on the Official Ballot.



Representative Town Meeting

RSA 49D:3.III

(Requires Forming a Charter Commission)

Blue = Who Red = When Green = What



Legislative Body

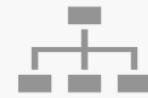
Voter-elected District
Representatives Only (Charter
defined)

Official Ballot on Election Day:
Representative Elections and TBD
(Charter defined)
Business Meeting (Representatives
Only):
TBD (Charter defined)



Governing Body

Select Board
Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager (*optional*)
Day-to-Day Decisions



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The other way to run the town under a charter while still keeping the Select Board is called "Representative Town Meeting."

Here's how it would work: Bow would be divided into voting districts. Then, the Town voters would elect representatives who would be the only voters who could vote at the Town Meeting.

Between the annual meetings of the Representatives, the Town's affairs would be managed by the Select Board and the Town Manager.



Town Council

RSA 49D:3.I

(Requires Forming a Charter Commission)

(Blue = Who Red = When Green = What)



Legislative Body

Voters and Voter-elected Town Councilors (Charter Defined)

Official Ballot on Election Day:

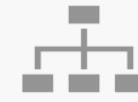
Town Councilor Elections and TBD (Charter defined)



Governing Body

Town Council

Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager (*required*)

Day-to-Day Decisions



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Now we're moving to the charter-based forms of government that require or make optional replacing the Select Board with a Town Council.

A Town Council government is like a city's Council government or a city that has a mayor and aldermen. The charter transfers most if not all legislative authority from the voters to the elected governing body—the Town Council. With a Town Council government there would be no Town Meeting or Deliberative Session where voters would make decisions. Voters' decision-making would be limited to the warrant articles on the Official Ballot. Those would typically be limited to the election of Town Council members and any voter-initiated referendum questions or initiative petitions.



Official Ballot Town Council

RSA 49D:3.1a

(Requires Forming a Charter Commission)
Blue = WhoRed = WhenGreen = What



Legislative Body

Voters and Voter-elected Town Councilors (Charter Defined)

SB2-like Deliberative Session (Charter defined)

TBD (Charter defined)

Official Ballot on Election Day

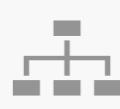
Town Councilor Elections and TBD (Charter defined)



Governing Body

Town Council

Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager (required)

Day-to-Day Decisions

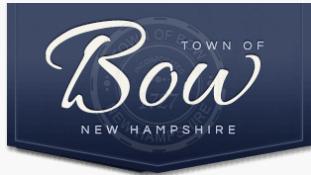


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The Official Ballot Town Council form of government has a Town Council, but its authority would be limited by the Town Charter. The Charter would define what decisions would continue to be made by voters. There could be a meeting like a Deliberative Session held before Election Day, where voters discuss the warrant articles. The new Town Charter may authorize the voters who attend this session to amend the articles.

Voting on Official Ballot articles can be done in the voting booth or by absentee ballot. The Charter could also provide for a meeting of the voters, like the present Town Meeting at which all articles not appearing on the Official Ballot are voted on by the voters.

Between the annual meetings of the Legislative Body, the affairs of the Town would be handled by the Town Council and Town Manager.



Budgetary Town Meeting

RSA 49D:3.II

(Requires Forming a Charter Commission)

Blue = Who Red = When Green = What



Legislative Body

Voters and Voter-elected Town Councilors
(Charter defined)

Official Ballot on Election Day

Town Councilor Elections and TBD
(Charter defined)

Business Meeting—All Voters

Budget and all Appropriations Only



Governing Body

Town Council or Select Board (Charter defined)

Operational Oversight



Administrative Body

Town Manager *(required)*
Day-to-Day Decisions



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With a Budgetary Town Meeting form of government, the charter would define whether Bow would have a Select Board or a Town Council as the Governing Body. The matters considered at the Town Meeting would be limited to financial matters such as budgets and articles that require spending Town funds.

Between Town Meetings the affairs of the Town would be handled by the Governing Body and the Town Manager.

Optional Forms of Town Governance	Petition	Budget	Bond	Zoning	Land
Traditional Town Meeting	TM	TM	TM	OB	TM
Town Meeting w/Official Ballot SB2	DS/OB	DS/OB	DS/OB	DS/OB	DS/OB
Official Ballot Town Meeting	OB/TM**	OB/TM**	OB/TM**	OB/TM**	OB/TM**
Representative Town Meeting	RTM*	RTM*	RTM*	RTM*	RTM*
Town Council	OB/TC*	TC*	TC*	TC*	TC*
Official Ballot Town Council	OB/TC*	OB/TC*	OB/TC*	OB/TC*	OB/TC*
Budgetary Town Meeting	TC(SB)*	TM	TM	TC(SB)*	TM

- * - Charter defines which legislative body acts on each type of warrant article
- ** - Charter defines how voters will act on each type of warrant article

TM = Town Meeting

OB = Official Ballot

DS = Deliberative Session

TC = Town Council

RTM = Representative Town Meeting

SB = Select Board



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This chart looks complicated, but it is simply a summary of how important decisions would be made under the different forms of government that are options for Bow. The top row identifies five types of decisions—miscellaneous policies or petitions, budget, bonding, changes to Bow's zoning rules, and other land use decisions. The abbreviations identify how these decisions would be made. So, for example, with our present form of government, Traditional Town Meeting, the budget is voted on at the Town Meeting as opposed to being a ballot item on the Official Ballot on voting day. On the other hand, zoning changes are voted on by secret ballot on voting day.



ELECTION OF AND ACTIONS BY CHARTER COMMISSIONS



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To conclude this presentation we will now provide you with a summary of how Charter Commissions come into existence and what they do.



AUTHORITY FOR ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL CHARTER

NH RSA 49-B and 49 -D

provide municipalities with an opportunity and the procedure by which to amend an existing charter or adopt a new charter through a Charter Commission.



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These particular sections of the RSAs give towns such as Bow the authority to establish a charter-based government and they set forth the process for how that is done.



WHY CONSIDER A CHARTER-BASED FORM GOVERNMENT?

RSA 49-D:1 -- LOCAL OPTION --TOWN CHARTERS

“Purpose and Intent. . . It is the intent of the general court to recognize that while the pressures of growth, demand for services and complexity of governmental issues may compel citizens to consider alternative forms of governance of towns. . . the preservation of a community’s unique sociological and cultural heritage and history as a town be encouraged by the provision of the optional forms of town government described in this chapter.”

• Source. 1991, 304:11, eff. Aug. 23, 1991.



ELECTING A CHARTER COMMISSION

- The Select Board or the registered voters of a municipality by petition may propose a Charter Commission.
- The decision to have a Charter Commission is made by a majority vote at a Town Meeting.
- The Commission members are elected by a ballot vote at a special election.



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Why might a Town wish to adopt a charter-based form of government?

State law acknowledges that as a town grows in size and complexity, its citizens may feel a need to consider alternative forms of government. The statute also states the lawmakers’ hope that the options offered by this law will encourage the “preservation of a community’s unique sociological and cultural heritage and history as a town” In other words, charters offer towns an opportunity to individualize their government according to the Town’s unique interests and needs

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The question of establishing a Charter Commission must be submitted by the Board of Selectmen to the voters at a regular municipal election.

A Charter Commission consists of nine registered voters from the municipality who are chosen by a special election to be held within a statutorily prescribed timeframe after the decision to establish a Charter Commission is made.

After such a special election, the members of the Charter Commission must immediately get to work.



A CHARTER COMMISSION'S PROCESS

- The Commission is required to hold public meetings to receive input and provide information.
- It prepares a preliminary report and a final report.



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The Charter Commission must hold at least two public hearings. One of these hearings is for the purpose of gathering information, views, comments, and other pertinent information. The other hearing is for the purpose of explaining its proposed preliminary report and receiving comments. After concluding its research and reaching a decision, the Commission files its preliminary report with the Town Clerk. The report must include the text of any proposed charter, any explanatory information the Commission deems desirable, and an indication of the major differences between the current form of government and the proposed new charter. In the case of Bow, the preliminary report must be filed on or before October 15th of the year in which the Commission members are elected.



OPTION TO RECOMMEND NO ACTION

If the Commission determines in its preliminary report that no change in the form of town government is needed, there is no further action taken.



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The Charter Commission has the option of recommending that there be no change to the form of Town government. If such a recommendation is made, no further action shall be taken, and no vote will be taken at the next municipal election.



STATE REVIEW OF THE CHARTER COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL

If the Commission recommends a new charter, there must be:

- ✓ The opinion of a NH attorney confirming the proposals are not in conflict with the state constitution or general laws
- ✓ The Secretary of State, Attorney General, and Department of Revenue Administration must review the proposed changes



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If a new charter is proposed, the Town Clerk will submit the Commission's report to the Secretary of State, Attorney General, and Department of Revenue Administration who have 45 days to determine if the proposed new charter is consistent with the general laws of the state, to request any modifications, and to approve the proposed charter.

Once the approval by the government agencies is received, the Commission must submit its final report, including a copy of the proposed charter, to the Town Clerk prior to January 15.



VOTERS DECIDE WHETHER TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED CHARTER

- The Select Board must submit the proposed new charter to the voters at the next Town Meeting.
- The proposed new charter requires a three-fifths vote to pass.



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The Select Board shall submit the proposed new charter to the voters at the next general municipal election. A three-fifths vote is required to adopt a new charter, and without it, the proposed charter is rejected.

A summary timeline of the entire Charter Commission process is posted on our Committee page on the Town's website.



ADDITIONAL TIME TO COMPLETE WORK

- To wrap up its affairs, a Charter Commission continues to exist for 60 days after the Town vote.
- If a Charter Commission is unable to complete its work within the statutory timeframe, it may have an additional year to complete its work.



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After a Charter Commission completes its work, it has 60 days to wrap up its affairs.

If a Charter Commission cannot complete its job as quickly as the State statutes require, it can have an additional year to complete its work.



CLOSING

Thank you for participating in this program.

For more information or to answer any questions, please either visit the Town web site:
<http://bownh.gov/822/Charter-Information-Committee>

or contact any Committee member.



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Again, thank you for participating in this program. For more information or to answer any questions that you might have, please feel free to reach out to any of the committee members or to visit the town website to review the information that we have posted there.