

Charter Revision Commission
Sample Ballot Questions

June 30, 2021

1. **Form of Government** - Shall Marlborough's form of government be changed to a 5 member Board of Selectmen with an Appointed Town Manager? **Yes/No**
2. **Code of Ethics / Office of Ethics** - Shall the Town of Marlborough adopt a Code of Ethics in its charter and appoint a two member investigatory-advisory Office of Ethics, to ensure that the public has confidence in the integrity of local government, including elected officials, employees, boards and commissions in the conduct of their public responsibilities? **Yes/No**
3. **Other Charter Changes** - Shall the current charter be updated to include a variety of recommended changes to the charter designed to:
 - a) remove outdated references to CT statutes;
 - b) correct for grammatical and spelling errors; improper reference to other charter sections;
 - c) improve clarity of section content and update to current and best practices such as the maintenance of Town property;
 - d) improve transfer procedures for unused budgeted funds;
 - e) improve vacancy appointments to incorporate a "best qualified" provision;
 - f) establish minimum expectations for membership on boards, agencies and commissions;
 - g) improve coordination and communication in the budgeting process by establishing a Board of Finance Kickoff Meeting early in the process;
 - h) clarify the use of the Minority Representation statute as modified in the charter;
 - i) allow for Boards, Commissions, Agencies and Committees to determine their own meeting rules and procedures in accordance with CGS and Roberts Rules of Order;
 - j) include in Charter the Lake Advisory, Nature Trails/Sidewalk, Water Pollution Authority, Aging Commissions and Cemetery Committee;
 - k) improve and expand the Terminology section? **Yes / No**
4. **Annual Town Budget Public Hearing** - Shall the Annual Town Meeting be replaced with a Town Public Hearing for the purpose of reviewing the final proposed Annual Town Budget before going to Referendum voting on the first Tuesday in May, after the first Monday in May? **Yes/No**
5. **Appropriations** - Shall the authorized fixed dollar limit of \$10K in the charter, pertaining to Special and Emergency Appropriations be adjusted for inflation and increased to reflect the current cost of doing business and replaced with a fixed percentage of 2% of the Town Operations Budget? **Yes/No**
6. **Public Bids** - Shall the authorized fixed dollar amounts pertaining to Public Bids between \$1,000 up to \$10,000 in the charter be, replaced with a fixed percentage of between 0.5% up to 1% of the Town Operations Budget? **Yes/No**
7. **Town Clerk/Tax Collector** - Shall the Town Clerk and the Tax Collector position be changed from an elected to an appointed position? **Yes/No**

8. **Board Members** - Shall the number of members on the following Boards be changed :
Board of Finance from 6 to 5 ; Board of Education from 9 to 7 ; Board of Assessment Appeals from 3 to 5? **Yes/No**
9. **Fire Commissioners and Fire Marshal** - Shall the following changes to the Board of Fire Commissioners and Fire Marshal be adopted; Increase Board membership from 3 to 5; Upon permanent vacancy of the of the Fire Marshal or Deputy Fire Marshal, the position shall be filled by vote of the Board of Selectmen, to four (4) year overlapping terms; Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal(s), as employees of the Town, shall report to the Board of Selectmen. **Yes/No**