TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

NOTICE OF FIRST AND SECOND PUBLIC HEARINGS

ON PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2645, the first public hearing concerning proposed amendments to the St. Johnsbury Town Charter by the Select Board will be held Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 5PM at the first floor meeting room of the Pomerleau Building, 51 Depot Square, St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2645, the second public hearing concerning proposed amendments to the St. Johnsbury Town Charter by the Select Board will be held Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 5PM at the first floor meeting room of the Pomerleau Building, 51 Depot Square, St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

These charter amendments are proposed to be voted on at the March 1, 2022 St. Johnsbury Annual Town Meeting.

The Select Board has determined that the charter proposal is too long and/or unwieldy to set out in amended form, therefore includes this concise summary of the charter proposal:

Subchapter 1: Powers of The Town

- § 151-101. Defines the general law that applies.
- § 151-102. Defines additional Town powers regarding ordinances.
- § 151-103. Defines the process to petition for advisory votes.
- § 151-104. Defines the process by which Town Officers may be recalled.

Subchapter 2: Officers

- § 151-201. Lists the elective officers and defines their terms.
- § 151-202. Lists the appointive officers and defines the ability to create appointive officers.
- § 151-203. Defines the process of setting compensation for the Select Board, elective officers, appointed officers and employees.

Subchapter 3: Select Board

- § 151-301. Defines the Select Board.
- § 151-302. Defines the additional powers of Select Board members to adopt ordinances.
- § 151-303. Defines further powers of Select Board members.

• § 151-304. Defines the organization of the Select Board.

Subchapter 4: Town Manager

- § 151-401. Defines the appointment of the Town Manager by the Select Board.
- § 151-402. Dictates that the Town Manager be nonpartisan.
- § 151-403. Defines oath taken and bond requirement of Town Manager.
- § 151-404. Defines the duties for Town Manager.
- § 151-405. Defines the process for determination of compensation for Town Manager.
- § 151-406. Defines the appointment powers of the Town Manager.
- § 151-407. Defines the process for removal of the Town Manager.

Subchapter 5: Taxation

- § 151-501. Defines the taxation process.
- § 151-502. Defines how fair market value of real estate is determined.
- § 151-503. Reserves the right to Select Board for special assessments.
- § 151-504. Creates the St. Johnsbury Downtown Special District.
- § 151-505. Defines the Downtown District purposes and powers.
- § 151-506. Defines the process for determining Downtown District annual budget.
- § 151-507. Defines how Downtown District taxes are determined and raised.

Subchapter 6: Water and Wastewater Systems

• § 151-601. Defines Town powers with regards to water and wastewater systems.

Subchapter 7: Miscellaneous

- § 151-701. Declares the severability of the provisions of the charter.
- § 151-706. Defines the process for charter review and the creation of a committee for such purpose.
- § 151-707. Defines the process for abolition of the Fire District.

- § 151-708. Declares the merger of Village and Town.
- § 151-709. Declares a transfer of assets from Village to Town; Defines the taxation process; Defines process for special services vote.
- § 151-710. Defines the process for the preparation of budgets and voting by Australian ballot.
- § 151-711. Defines the creation and powers of a Department of Assessment.
- § 151-712. Provides an appeals process for assessments.
- § 151-712b. Abolishes certain offices.
- § 151-713. Defines the process of charter borrowing.

The official copy of the proposed charter amendments with the specific changes being proposed shall be posted in three public places including in or near the Town Clerk's office for public inspection. Copies will be made available at the Town Clerk's office to members of the public upon their request.

Dated at St. Johnsbury, Vermont this 27 day of December, 2021.

Kevin Oddy, Chair

Frank Empsall

Daniel Kimbell

Brendan Hughes

Dannia Smith