

No. M-14. An act relating to approval of the adoption and codification of the charter of the town of Williamstown.

(H.784)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

The general assembly approves the adoption of and codifies the charter of the town of Williamstown as set forth in this act. The voters approved this charter on March 6, 2012.

Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 155F is added to read:

CHAPTER 155F. TOWN OF WILLIAMSTOWN

§ 1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Under the authority granted by the general assembly of the state of Vermont, this charter is enacted for the purpose of converting the elective position of town treasurer to a position appointed by the selectboard.

§ 2. TOWN TREASURER

(a) The selectboard shall appoint a town treasurer in the manner set forth in subsection (b) of this section. The appointee shall be competent in the keeping of records, investments, and accounting and shall serve at the pleasure of the selectboard. The person chosen need not be a resident or voter of Williamstown.

(b) Prior to appointing a treasurer, the selectboard shall appoint a committee composed of two members of the selectboard, the town clerk, a

lister, a member of the school board, three residents of the town of Williamstown, and a qualified certified public accountant or equivalent who is not currently the town's sitting auditor to review and recommend to the selectboard qualified candidates for the position of treasurer. The committee shall have the authority to solicit candidates, advertise notice of a vacancy in the treasurer's position, and make an investigation of a candidate's credentials and background as the committee deems appropriate. Upon completion of the investigation and interviewing of candidates, the committee shall submit to the selectboard the names of those candidates deemed qualified for the position.

(c) No later than 30 days following the submission of the names of candidates deemed qualified by the committee, the selectboard shall appoint a treasurer from that list, if applicable, or shall notify the committee that none of the candidates shall be appointed.

(d) Members of the committee described in subsection (b) of this section shall serve until a treasurer is appointed by the selectboard. Meetings of the committee shall be warned and conducted as public meetings in accordance with the requirements of Vermont statutes and this charter and the committee shall be entitled to meet in executive session as authorized by 1 V.S.A. § 313.

(e) In case of a vacancy, until such time as a treasurer is appointed pursuant to this section, the selectboard shall appoint an interim treasurer.

(f) The treasurer shall:

- (1) perform the duties required by state statutes or as provided by this chapter;
- (2) promptly deposit funds coming into his or her hands in any depositories as may be designated by the selectboard;
- (3) invest town funds with the approval of the selectboard;
- (4) keep books and accounts as required by the selectboard;
- (5) make monthly reports to the selectboard of the financial activities of the town. These reports shall include a listing of all expenditures during the preceding month; a listing of all revenue received during the preceding month, indicating the source of these revenues; an accounting of all reserve funds of the town; and a statement showing the balance in the general, highway, and all special funds at the end of the preceding month;
- (6) perform any other duties as specified in the accounting and financial policies adopted by the selectboard.

§ 3. AMENDMENT

The amendment of this chapter shall be as provided by law.

Sec. 3. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 155F, § 2 (town treasurer), if an elected treasurer is in office in the town of Williamstown on the effective date of this act, that incumbent may serve the remainder of his or

her term of office. Once the elected treasurer's term has expired or in the case of his or her resignation, the provisions of 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 155F, § 2 shall apply.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Approved: May 7, 2012