

**QUESTION 1:** Shall the Town approve the charter amendment summarized below, to be effective January 1, 2027?

To amend Article V (Budget) and Article VIII (The Town Meeting) of the Town Charter to:

- Change the method of Town Meeting’s voting on the annual budget from an open town meeting to a secret ballot referendum;
  - Provide for a special open Town Meeting to be held to consider portions of the annual budget rejected at the secret ballot referendum;
  - Authorize the Town Council to choose how to present the budget to voters for approval; and
  - Adjust the timeline for the Town Manager to prepare and submit the proposed annual budget to the Town Council for review, to accommodate use of the secret ballot referendum process.
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**QUESTION 2.** Shall the Town approve the charter amendment reprinted below, to be effective immediately upon adoption?

Article VIII of the Town Charter, entitled, “The Town Meeting,” Section 2 entitled, “When action by Town Meeting required” is hereby amended as follows (additions are underlined, deletions are ~~struck through~~):

**Section 2. When action by Town Meeting required.**

The annual budget, as provided in Article V and in accordance with Section 5 of this Article; any appropriation of ~~\$25,000~~500,000 or more in addition to or supplementary to the annual budget appropriation; the issuance of bonds or notes, except notes in anticipation of taxes to be paid within the fiscal year in which issued; shall become effective only after adoption ~~it has been adopted~~ at a Town Meeting by the vote of a majority ~~the vote of a majority vote of a majority vote of those present and voting. those present and entitled to vote at such meeting.~~ The Town Meeting shall not increase the amount of any appropriation recommended by the Council and shall not increase the amount of any bond issue above the amount recommended by the Council.