

SPECIMEN BALLOT

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OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 27, 2019
PRECINCT 7

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name and address on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p style="text-align: center;">COUNCILOR DISTRICT SEVEN</p> <p>For 3 Years Vote for ONE</p> <p>FRANCIS SOUSA <input type="radio"/> 596 Main Street Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Question 1: "Shall an act passed by the general court in the year 2018, entitled 'AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY KNOWN AS THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER', be accepted?"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUMMARY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brief Background</p> <p>Section 9-4 of the Town of Bridgewater's Charter states that "the Charter may be replaced, revised or amended in accordance with any procedure made available by Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution and any general or special law enacted to implement the constitutional amendment." Section 9-4 of the Town of Bridgewater's Charter also states "Not later than the first day of July, at 6-year intervals, the town council shall provide for a review and propose revisions to the town charter. The review shall be conducted by a special committee to consist of 7 residents of the town appointed by the council president with the approval of the town council. The committee shall file a report within the year recommending any changes in the charter which it may deem to be necessary or desirable, unless an extension is granted by vote of the town council."</p> <p>The above cited review was conducted in accordance with the Town of Bridgewater's Charter and the proposed revisions were submitted to the State Legislature for Approval. On January 1, 2019, the Governor of Massachusetts then signed said Charter revisions which now appear on this ballot.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Revisions to Town Charter</p> <p>A fair concise summary of those revisions are as follows:</p> <p>ARTICLE I-INCORPORATION AND AUTHORITY</p> <p>Article 1 has been revised as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> By fixing several typographical and punctuation errors that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter. <p>ARTICLE II-LEGISLATIVE BRANCH</p> <p>Article 2 has been revised as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> By fixing several typographical, punctuation, formatting and sequential errors that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter. Section 2-1 "Composition; Eligibility; Term of Office" has changed the time Councilor's begin their terms from "from beginning on the second Monday following election" to "from beginning on the next business day following election". A subsection "(d) Prohibitions" has been added to Section 2-1 "Composition; Eligibility; Term of Office", which states as follows: "(1) No Councilor shall, while a member of the Town Council, hold any other Town office or position. (2) An elected charter commission membership shall not be considered to be a Town office or position. (3) No former Councilor shall hold any compensated appointive Town office or Town employment until one year after the expiration of service on the Town Council. This provision shall not prevent a Town officer or employee who has taken a leave of absence from such duties to serve as a member of the Town Council from returning to such office or employment following service as a member of the Town Council. (4) Any Councilor who has been finally convicted of a criminal offense involving misconduct in any elective or appointive public office, trust or employment at any time held by him/her shall be deemed to have vacated office and shall not be eligible to serve in any other elective or appointive office or position in the Town." The term "elected town clerk" is changed to "Town Clerk", this term is changed throughout the Charter. The "state of the town" address is now required to take place "on or before March 15th of each year". The general public input meetings requirement of the initial Charter is changed so that there shall be no fewer than two (2) meetings of the general public each fiscal year, "one of which will be the annual state of the town meeting" which shall be published in the newspaper, "if required by law" and also posted on the "Town's official website".
<p style="text-align: center;">COUNCILOR AT LARGE</p> <p>For 3 Years Vote for ONE</p> <p>MATTHEW THOMAS RUSHTON <input type="radio"/> 9 Colonial Drive</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">BRIDGEWATER-RAYNHAM REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE (BRIDGEWATER)</p> <p>For 3 Years Vote for ONE</p> <p>RICHARD K. FLORENCE <input type="radio"/> 130 South Street</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">BRIDGEWATER-RAYNHAM REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE (RAYNHAM)</p> <p>For 3 Years Vote for ONE</p> <p>SUSAN P. PREWADOWSKI <input type="radio"/> 448 Broadway Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY</p> <p>For 3 Years Vote for THREE</p> <p>DANIELLE MARIE OLIARI <input type="radio"/> 10 Stonybrook Drive</p> <p>MATTHEW A. GERRITSEN <input type="radio"/> 941 Plymouth Street</p> <p>NANCY J. SARNO <input type="radio"/> 75 Legge Street Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>JANET B. DYE <input type="radio"/> 40 Dickens Street Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	

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SUMMARY CONTINUED

7. Section 2-5 "Filling of Vacancies" has been changed so that the filing of vacancies provision of the Town Charter covers the first 30 months of a Councilor's term rather than the first 18 months.

8. Language has been added in Section 2-6 that more specifically spells out the rules, responsibilities, procedures and authorities of the Town Council.

9. Section 2-7 "Measures; Emergency Measures; Charter Objection" has been changed so that the time in which a measure passed by the Town Council becomes effective is now 72 hours rather than 30 days.

10. Section 2-9 "Publication Requirements" has changed the current publication requirements to the following: "Every proposed ordinance or loan order, except emergency measures as hereinbefore defined and revenue loan orders, shall be published in accordance with the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, posted on the Town's official website, and posted in any additional manner that may be provided by ordinance."

11. The previous Section 2-12 "Prohibitions; Term Limits" has been stricken in its entirety. Striking Section 2-12 eliminates term limits for Town Councilors.

12. A new Section 2-12 has been added which provides Town Councilors with a \$3,000.00 per year stipend.

ARTICLE III-ELECTED OFFICIALS

Article 3 has been revised as follows:

1. By fixing several typographical, punctuation, formatting and sequential errors that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter.

2. Section 3-2 "Library Trustees" has changed the library trustee term of office from "3 years beginning on the second Monday following election" to "staggered terms of three years each, beginning on the next business day following the election".

3. A Section 3.3 "Elected Official Recall Provisions" has been added laying out the procedure for the recall of an elected official.

4. There is a new "Article III-A-Town Clerk".

5. This new article changes the Town Clerk position from elected to appointed.

ARTICLE IV-TOWN MANAGER

Article 4 has been revised as follows:

1. By changing the numerical formatting relative to the Powers and Duties of the Town Manager.

ARTICLE V-ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

Article 5 has been revised as follows:

1. By changing the formatting of Section 5-1(b) relative to Executive Reorganizations.

2. By fixing typographical, punctuation, formatting and sequential errors that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter.

ARTICLE VI-FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Article 6 has been revised as follows:

1. Section 6-2(a) "Submission of Budget; Budget Message" has changed the time for submitting the final budget from "the first town council meeting in April" to "within the period prescribed by any general or special law, but no later than April 1".

2. By fixing typographical, punctuation, formatting and verbiage that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter.

3. Section 6-4(d) "Transfer of Appropriations" has been changed from \$25,000.00 to a "maximum amount cited in M.G.L. c. 30B, section 5".

4. Section 6-4(e) "Limitation; Effective Date" has been changed to reflect current Massachusetts Law.

5. Section 6-6 "Capital Improvements Program" has been changed to require that the "Capital Improvements Program" now be reviewed annually.

6. Section 6-9 "Financial Committee" changes the requirement that the "Finance Committee" consist of 9 members appointed each for a 3 year terms to "There shall be a Finance Committee, the number of members and terms of office of which shall be established by ordinance."

ARTICLE VII-ELECTIONS AND; RELATED MATTERS

Article 7 has been revised as follows:

1. By fixing a typographical error that was present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter.

ARTICLE VIII-CITIZEN PARTICIPATION MECHANISMS

Article 8 has been revised as follows:

1. By fixing typographical, punctuation, formatting and verbiage that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter.

ARTICLE IX-GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 9 has been revised as follows:

1. By fixing typographical, punctuation, formatting and verbiage that were present in the initial version of the Town of Bridgewater Charter.

ARTICLE X-TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 10 has been revised as follows:

1. Eliminated.

YES

NO

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