

No. M-7. An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the town of St. Johnsbury.

(H.430)

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

Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

The general assembly approves the amendment to the charter of the town of St. Johnsbury as provided in this act. The proposal of amendment was approved by the voters on March 3, 2009.

Sec. 2. 24 V.S.A. App. chapter 151, § 16 is amended to read:

§ 16. ~~ESSENTIAL SERVICES BUDGET; OTHER APPROPRIATIONS~~

PREPARATION OF BUDGETS; AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

(a) ~~The selectmen shall prepare an annual budget for the Town which shall be known as the "Essential Services Budget." It shall include such sum or sums of money as are necessary to carry out essential governmental services, and to meet the ordinary expenses and liabilities of the Town. The "Essential Services Budget" shall be warned as a separate article or articles for the annual town meeting and be adopted or modified by the vote of the majority of those eligible to vote who are present at the meeting. Any article in the warning providing for appropriation of funds, in addition to the Essential Services Budget, shall be voted on by Australian ballot. The form of the ballot to be used shall be substantially as follows:~~

~~Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum~~

~~of _____~~

~~to be used for~~

~~If in favor, make an X in this square~~

~~If opposed, make an X in this square~~

The selectboard shall prepare an annual budget for the town, including a town annual budget and a former village district special services budget. The school director shall prepare an annual school district budget. The annual budgets, other articles providing for the appropriation of funds, and public questions shall be voted by Australian ballot.

(b) On any question wherein the vote is not specifically required to be by ballot, a ballot may be demanded by three voters at any meeting.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect upon passage.

Approved: May 8, 2009