

1 H.335
2 Introduced by Representatives Koch of Barre Town and McFaun of Barre
3 Town
4 Referred to Committee on
5 Date:
6 Subject: Municipal government; municipal charters; town of Barre;
7 amendment
8 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to approve amendments to the charter
9 of the town of Barre.

10 An act relating to amending the charter of the town of Barre

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

12 Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

13 The general assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the town
14 of Barre as set forth in this act. Proposals of amendment were approved by the
15 voters on May 11, 2010.

16 Sec. 2. 24 V.S.A. App. chapter 101 is amended to read:

17 CHAPTER 101. TOWN OF BARRE

18 * * *

1 § 2. MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

2 (a) The ~~first Tuesday in March~~ second Tuesday in May shall be the date for
3 the annual election of ~~school district~~ town officers and for voting upon all
4 questions to be decided by Australian ballot. Polls shall be open no less than
5 nine (9) consecutive hours. The ~~schoolboard~~ selectboard may designate one or
6 more polling places within the ~~district~~ town for voting and may provide for the
7 use of any mechanical or computer type devices for voting or counting votes,
8 consistent with requirements of law. The Wednesday evening preceding the
9 date for the annual election of the town officers, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at a
10 place designated by the Barre Town Selectboard, shall be the date of the
11 annual meeting at which time there will be considered all non-Australian ballot
12 matters. However, the voters at any annual election may designate a different
13 date, time or place for annual town elections.

14 * * *

15 § 3. WARNINGS

16 * * *

17 (b) The warning shall:

18 (1) State the date, time, and place of the ~~annual meeting, as well as the~~
19 ~~date, time and place of any informational hearing required to be held by virtue~~
20 ~~of the use of the Australian ballot system of voting;~~

21 * * *

1 § 7. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

2 Nominations of persons to fill town offices shall be by petition containing
3 the signatures of at least thirty (30) voters or one (1) percent of the voters,
4 whichever is less. Petitions shall be filed with the town clerk, together with a
5 written assent signed by the nominee. Both petition and written assent shall be
6 filed at least thirty (30) and not more than forty (40) days prior to the election.
7 When a petition is presented to the town clerk for filing, ~~he~~ the town clerk shall
8 immediately examine the same and ascertain whether it conforms to the
9 provisions of this section. If not found in conformity, ~~he~~ the town clerk shall
10 designate the defect in writing and return the petition, together with the written
11 reason for rejection, within six (6) hours, to the candidate in whose behalf it
12 was filed. Such petition may again be presented when properly amended if
13 this can be done within the time allowed for filing such petition. All town
14 elections shall be nonpartisan and no party designation or slogan shall be
15 printed on any town ballot or petition.

16 * * *

17 § 10. ELECTED OFFICERS; GENERAL

18 * * *

19 (c) Only a voter of the Town of Barre may seek election to or hold a town
20 elective office, and no person may hold more than one (1) town elective office

1 at the same time. No person shall hold offices which are defined as
2 incompatible in Vermont statutes.

3 * * *

4 § 12. ~~AUDITOR~~ AUDITORS

5 Auditors shall be elected for terms of three (3) years, with one (1) elected
6 each year. They shall be responsible for the proper financial accountability of
7 the town, and for this purpose all town officers shall, within thirty (30) days
8 after the close of the fiscal year, submit to the auditors such reports, records
9 and materials as the auditors may require for the discharge of their duties. The
10 auditors shall thereupon proceed to examine and adjust the accounts of all
11 town officers and report their findings in writing, not later than ~~one hundred~~
12 ~~(100)~~ one hundred eighty-five (185) days after the close of the fiscal year.

13 They shall cause their findings to be printed and made available to the voters.
14 The auditors may employ the services of a certified public accountant at town
15 expense, for such purposes as they shall deem proper. They shall also
16 supervise the preparation, publication, and, within budgetary limitations, the
17 distribution of the annual town report.

18 * * *

19 § 28. BUDGET PREPARATION

20 (a) At such time as may be prescribed by the ~~board of selectmen~~
21 selectboard, the town manager shall propose a budget and submit a line

1 itemized estimate of the income and expenditures required for the operation of
2 the town government for the next ensuing fiscal year.

3 (b) The ~~selectmen~~ selectboard, with the committee of five (5), shall review
4 and finalize the proposed town budget publicly and prepare it for ~~presentation~~
5 submission to the voters at the annual town election. Sufficient copies shall be
6 available to the voters not less than ten (10) days prior to the election at the
7 five (5) public places required by Section 3 of this Charter, and the warning
8 shall state the availability of said proposed budget.

9 * * *

10 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on passage.