

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 880 entitled “An act relating to “ respectfully reports that it has
4 considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out
5 all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6 Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

7 The General Assembly approves the adoption of and codifies the charter of
8 the Town of Bridport as set forth in this act. The voters approved the charter
9 on March 1, 2016.

10 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 107A is added to read:

11 CHAPTER 107A. TOWN OF BRIDPORT

12 Subchapter 1. Corporate Existence Retained

13 § 1. CORPORATE EXISTENCE RETAINED

14 (a) Pursuant to the authority granted by the General Assembly, there is
15 hereby enacted a charter to govern the organization and operation of local
16 government in the Town of Bridport.

17 (b) The inhabitants of the Town of Bridport, within the geographical limits
18 as now established, shall continue to be a municipal corporation by the name
19 of the Town of Bridport.

1 Subchapter 2. General Provisions

2 § 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

3 (a) Except when changed, enlarged, or modified by the provisions of this
4 chapter, all provisions of the statutes of the State relating to municipalities
5 shall apply to the Town.

6 (b) The Town shall have all the powers granted to towns and municipal
7 corporations by the Constitution and laws of the State and this chapter,
8 together with all the implied powers necessary to carry into execution all the
9 powers granted. The Town may enact ordinances not inconsistent with the
10 Constitution of the State or this chapter, and impose penalties for violation
11 thereof.

12 (c) In this chapter, any mention of a particular power shall not be construed
13 to restrict the scope of the powers that the Town would have if the particular
14 power were not mentioned, unless this chapter otherwise provides.

15 (d) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to in any way limit the
16 powers and functions conferred on the Town, the Selectboard, or its elected or
17 appointed officers by general or special enactment of State statutes or rules in
18 force or effect or hereafter enacted, and the powers and functions conferred by
19 this chapter shall be cumulative and in addition to the provisions of the general
20 or special enactment unless this chapter otherwise provides.

1 Subchapter 3. Appointed Officers

2 § 3. APPOINTED OFFICERS

3 (a) In addition to all other offices that may be filled by appointment by the
4 Selectboard pursuant to State law or this chapter, the Selectboard shall appoint
5 the following Town officers, who shall serve for such terms as the Selectboard
6 may establish in its act of appointment or until the office otherwise becomes
7 vacant:

8 (1) A Town Treasurer who shall not simultaneously hold any elective
9 office within Town government. The Town Treasurer shall:

10 (A) be open to the public at hours adopted by the Selectboard;

11 (B) be responsible for the collection of current taxes;

12 (C) perform duties as specified in the accounting and financial
13 policies adopted by the Selectboard and required by State law; and

14 (D) make monthly reports to the Selectboard of the financial
15 activities of the Town. These reports shall include:

16 (i) a listing of all expenditures during the preceding month;

17 (ii) a listing of all revenue received during the preceding month,
18 including the source of these revenues;

19 (iii) an accounting of all reserve funds of the Town; and

20 (iv) a statement showing the balance in the general, highway, and
21 all special funds at the end of the preceding month.

1 (2) A Town Clerk who shall not simultaneously hold any elective office
2 within Town government. The Town Clerk shall:

3 (A) be open to the public at hours adopted by the Selectboard; and

4 (B) perform those duties adopted by the Selectboard and required by
5 State law.

6 (b) The Selectboard shall adopt and revise, from time to time, a general
7 statement of the qualifications necessary to perform the duties and
8 responsibilities of each of these appointed Town offices and a job description
9 of those offices. These appointed officers shall exercise all the powers and
10 duties necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter as well as those
11 provided by State law generally.

12 (c) These appointed officers shall be employees of the Town, subject to all
13 personnel and employment rules, regulations, and policies of the Town. An
14 officer appointed hereunder shall be eligible to apply for reappointment at the
15 expiration of his or her term of office, but failure by the Selectboard to make
16 such reappointment shall not be construed as discharge from employment.

17 (d) A person appointed to the position of Town Treasurer or Town Clerk
18 need not be a resident or voter of the Town.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19

Subchapter 4. Separability

§ 4. SEPARABILITY

If any provision of this chapter is held invalid, the other provisions of the chapter shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 3. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

On July 15, 2016, the terms of the elected Town Treasurer and Town Clerk in office on that date shall expire. Thereafter, a Town Treasurer and Town Clerk shall be appointed by the Selectboard as provided in Sec. 2 of this act, 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 107A, § 3.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee vote: _____)

Representative _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE