1	H.127
2	Introduced by Representatives LaClair 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	amendments
8	Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to approve
9	amendments to the charter of the Town of Barre.
10 11	An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Barre
12	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
13	Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL
14	The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the Town
15	of Barre as set forth in this act. Voters approved the proposals of amendment

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- 16 <u>on June 2, 2020.</u>
- 17 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 101 is amended to read:
- 18 CHAPTER 101. TOWN OF BARRE
- 19 ***

1 § 4. CONDUCT

2	* * *
3	(b) The Town Clerk shall be the presiding official at all Town elections and
4	shall cooperate with the Board of Civil Authority to assure that all laws
5	relating to elections are faithfully observed. While the polls are open, the
6	Town Clerk may rule on all questions concerning the conduct of the election,
7	and shall not be disqualified from performing any such duties by reason of his
8	or her own candidacy for any office. In the Town Clerk's absence, an
9	Assistant Town Clerk who is a registered voter of the Town shall preside. If
10	neither the Town Clerk or an Assistant Clerk who is a registered voter of the
11	Town is available, the members of the Board of Civil Authority who are
12	present may shall designate one of their members a registered voter of the
13	Town to perform the Town Clerk's duties under this section.
14	* * *
15	§ 10. ELECTED OFFICERS; GENERAL
16	(a) The following officers shall be elected by the legal voters of the Town
17	of Barre and voting for the officers shall be by Australian ballot:
18	* * *
19	(5) One <u>Clerk-Treasurer</u> <u>Clerk</u> .
20	* * *

1	(b) The Office of Clerk-Treasurer <u>Clerk</u> may be changed to an appointive
2	office upon approval by the voters at any annual meeting of the Town. The
3	Office of Lister may be abolished and replaced by a single full-time assessor
4	hired by the Selectboard at such salary as the Selectboard may approve,
5	provided the voters authorize such action at any annual Town meeting.
6	* * *
7	§ 11. SELECTBOARD
8	* * *
9	(f) The Selectboard shall adopt a comprehensive personnel policy for all
10	Town employees and shall amend the policy from time to time as is deemed
11	necessary or advisable.
12	* * *
13	§ 16. CLERK-TREASURER CLERK
14	(a) The <u>Clerk-Treasurer</u> <u>Clerk</u> shall be elected for a period of three years.
15	He or she shall keep account of monies, bonds, notes, and evidences of debt
16	paid or delivered to him or her, and of monies paid out by him or her for the
17	Town. In addition, he or she shall:
18	(1) record the amount voted for support of highways, special
19	departments, and for general Town purposes;

1	(2) collect taxes, assessments, charges, and levies, including
2	delinquencies in the hands of the Tax Collector, and maintain a record of
3	monies collected and uncollected;
4	(3) receive fees for filing copies of records and other instruments;
5	(4) pay orders drawn on him or her by officials authorized to draw
6	orders;
7	(5) provide detailed financial statements and reports, as may be required
8	by the selectmen;
9	(6) maintain a record of all action taken at special or annual Town
10	meetings;
11	(7)(2) maintain all Town records and an index to those records;
12	(8)(3) maintain and file all reports required by law; and
13	(9)(4) perform any other duties required of him or her by law, this
14	charter, or ordinances.
15	(b) Before entering upon the duties of his or her office, the Clerk-Treasurer
16	<u>Clerk</u> shall give a bond conditioned for the faithful performance of his or her
17	duties. The bond shall be of a sum and with a surety prescribed and approved
18	by the Selectboard, and the premium for the bond shall be paid by the Town.
19	* * *

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§ 25. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

2	(a) Within two years following the effective date of this charter, the Town
3	Manager shall prepare and submit to the Selectboard a proposal for an
4	ordinance to be known as the Administrative Code of the Town of Barre. For
5	the purpose of preparing the proposal, the Town Manager may have the
6	assistance of the Town Attorney and shall have the authority to request a
7	committee of citizens to assist in the preparation of the proposal. The proposal
8	shall be a comprehensive code of administrative organization and procedure
9	for the Town and, at a minimum, shall include the following:
10	* * *
11	(2) A complete personnel policy for Town employees.
12	(3) A detailed outline of financial procedures to be followed by the
13	Town including purchasing policy, expenditure of appropriated funds, the
14	system of accounting for the Town, and the form and frequency of financial
15	reports.
16	* * *
17	§ 27. COMMITTEE OF FIVE
18	Annually, prior to January 31, a committee of five voters shall be appointed
19	to review, with the Selectboard members, the proposed Town budget. Their
20	terms shall expire upon final adoption of the budget. The Selectboard members

1	shall appoint two members and the Clerk-Treasurer Clerk, one member; these
2	three shall appoint two additional members.
3	* * *
4	§ 34. BOARD OF ABATEMENT
5	(a) The Board of Civil Authority, together with the listers Treasurer and the
6	Assessor, shall constitute the Board of Abatement. The Chair and Clerk of the
7	Board of Civil Authority shall serve as the Chair and Clerk, respectively, of the
8	Board of Abatement.
9	* * *
10	§ 38. APPOINTED OFFICERS
11	(a) The Selectboard, by majority vote, shall appoint the following Town
12	officers for the terms indicated:
13	* * *
14	(5) An Assessor, who may be hired or contracted upon such terms as the
15	Selectboard shall deem reasonable.
16	(6) A Treasurer and any Assistant Treasurers as shall be deemed
17	necessary. The Treasurer shall give a bond conditioned for the faithful
18	performance of his or her duties. The bond shall be of a sum and with a surety
19	as prescribed and approved by the Selectboard, and the premium for the bond
20	shall be paid by the Town. In addition, the Treasurer shall:

1	(A) Keep account of monies, bonds, notes, and evidences of debt
2	paid or delivered to him or her and of monies paid out by him or her for the
3	<u>Town.</u>
4	(B) Record the amount voted for support of highways, special
5	departments, and for general Town purposes.
6	(C) Collect taxes, assessments, charges, and levies, including
7	delinquencies in the hands of the Tax Collector, and maintain a record of
8	monies collected and uncollected.
9	(D) Receive fees for filing copies of records and other instruments.
10	(E) Pay orders drawn on him or her by officials authorized to draw
11	orders.
12	(F) Provide detailed financial statements and reports as may be
13	required by the Selectboard.
14	* * *
15	§ 39. COMPENSATION AND FEES
16	(a) The Town election shall annually vote the compensation to be paid to
17	the following officers:
18	* * *
19	(2) listers.
20	(3) auditors.
21	(4)(3) Moderator.

* * *
(b) The Selectboard shall annually consider and from time to time shall set
the compensation of the following officers:
(1) Town Clerk-Treasurer Clerk.
(2) Constable.
(3) Town Attorney.
(4) Tax Collector.
(5) Town Manager.
(6) Board of Civil Authority.

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- 10 (7) Board of Abatement.
- 11 <u>(8) Treasurer.</u>

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- 12 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 13 <u>This act shall take effect on passage.</u>