

1 H.140

2 Introduced by Representatives McCullough of Williston and Brady of

3 Williston

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Municipal and county government; municipal charters; Town of

7 Williston; amendments

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to approve

9 amendments to the charter of the Town of Williston to:

10 (1) allow the Town of Williston to adopt any charter provision approved
11 for any other municipality, without seeking approval from the General
12 Assembly;

13 (2) authorize the Town Manager to appoint and remove the Town
14 Library Director with advice and consent of the Library Board of Trustees; and

15 (3) authorize a Town-specific procedure for contract impasse resolution.

16 An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of
17 Williston

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

2 ~~Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL~~

3 ~~The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the Town~~
4 ~~of Williston as set forth in this act. The voters approved proposals of~~
5 ~~amendment on March 3, 2020.~~

6 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 156 is amended to read:

7 CHAPTER 156. TOWN OF WILLISTON

8 * * *

9 § 2. APPLICATION OF GENERAL LAW; CHARTER

10 * * *

11 ~~(d) Any charter provision approved for any other municipality may be~~
12 ~~adopted by majority vote of the electorate as a charter provision in the Town of~~
13 ~~Williston charter without the need to return to the General Assembly for~~
14 ~~approval, provided that notice is given to the Secretary of State within 30 days~~
15 ~~of the vote to approve the amendment.~~

16 * * *

17 § 16. THE TOWN MANAGER

18 * * *

19 (h) Responsibilities of the Town Manager and authority:

20

1 ~~(2) Authority and duties in particular. The Manager shall be charged~~
2 with full authority, and be responsible for the following:

3 * * *

4 (J) To appoint, upon merit and fitness alone, and, when the Manager
5 deems necessary for the good of the service, suspend or remove any
6 subordinate official, employee, or agent, including the Town Treasurer,
7 Assistant Town Treasurer, and administrative officer (Zoning Administrator),
8 under the Manager's supervision as provided for in this charter. The Library
9 Director shall be appointed or removed by the Manager with the advice and
10 consent of a majority of the Library Board of Trustees. All such appointments
11 may be without definite terms, except as provided in section 19 of this charter,
12 unless for provisional, temporary, or emergency service, in which case, terms
13 shall not exceed the maximum periods prescribed by the personnel rules and
14 regulations. The Manager may authorize the head of a department or of an
15 office responsible to the Manager to appoint and remove subordinates in such
16 office or department.

17 * * *

18 § 21. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IMPASSE RESOLUTION

19 In the event of a contract impasse between the Town and any employee
20 collective bargaining unit, the means to reach resolution shall be as follows.

1 ~~(1) The existing collective bargaining agreement shall remain in full~~
2 ~~force and effect until a successor agreement is negotiated.~~

3 ~~(2) Both parties shall participate in a mediation process in a time and~~
4 ~~manner agreed upon by both parties.~~

5 ~~(3) If the mediation process is not successful, both parties shall~~
6 ~~participate in a fact-finding process in a time and manner agreed upon by both~~
7 ~~parties.~~

8 ~~(4) Following release of the fact-finder's report, if the impasse remains~~
9 ~~beyond 60 days following the date of the release, binding arbitration may be~~
10 ~~considered, but only if agreed upon by both parties.~~

11 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 ~~This act shall take effect on passage.~~

Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the Town of Williston as set forth in this act. The voters approved proposals of amendment on March 3, 2020.

Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 156 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 156. TOWN OF WILLISTON

** * **

§ 16. THE TOWN MANAGER

** * **

(h) Responsibilities of the Town Manager and authority:

* * *

(3) Authority and duties in particular: The Manager shall be charged with full authority, and be responsible for the following:

* * *

(J) To appoint, upon merit and fitness alone, and, when the Manager deems necessary for the good of the service, suspend or remove any subordinate official, employee, or agent, including the Town Treasurer, Assistant Town Treasurer, and administrative officer (Zoning Administrator), under the Manager's supervision as provided for in this charter. The Library Director shall be appointed or removed by the Manager with the advice and consent of a majority of the Library Board of Trustees. All ~~such~~ appointments may be without definite terms, except as provided in section 19 of this charter, unless for provisional, temporary, or emergency service, in which case, terms shall not exceed the maximum periods prescribed by the personnel rules and regulations. The Manager may authorize the head of a department or of an office responsible to the Manager to appoint and remove subordinates in such office or department.

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Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.