

1 H.888

2 An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of
3 Hartford

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

5 Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

6 The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the Town
7 of Hartford as set forth in this act. The voters of the Town approved the
8 proposals of amendment on March 5, 2024. The voters of the School District
9 approved the proposals of amendment on April 15, 2024.

10 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 123A is amended to read:

11 CHAPTER 123A. TOWN OF HARTFORD

12 * * *

13 § 103. PARTICULAR POWERS OF THE TOWN

14 * * *

15 § 201. TOWN MEETING

16 * * *

17 (b)(1) School and Town Meeting Committee. To augment the statutory
18 responsibilities for the annual Town and School District meetings that are
19 specified to the Town and the School District and their respective officers,
20 there shall be a School and Town Meeting Committee that shall organize,
21 arrange, and provide for the comfort, presentation, publicity, program,

1 refreshments, entertainment, and other nonstatutory aspects of the Town
2 meeting cycle, such as the Warrant Information Night and School District Day
3 meeting. ~~The Town Clerk shall appoint one member for a two-year term.~~

4 (2) The Selectboard shall appoint one member for a two-year term and
5 one member for a three-year term. The School Board shall appoint one
6 member for a two-year term and one member for a three-year term. No School
7 Board member, Selectboard member, or Town Clerk may serve on the School
8 and Town Meeting Committee. Each appointing body ~~or person~~ shall have the
9 power to remove any incumbent member of the School and Town Meeting
10 Committee appointed by that body ~~or person~~ and shall have the power to
11 appoint a replacement member to serve the unexpired term of any person who
12 is removed or who resigns.

13 * * *

14 (e) Meetings; dates; times; votes; ballot.

15 (1) Warrant Information Night; "Information Night" Meeting. Prior to
16 Budget and Candidates Night, the Town and School Meeting Committee may
17 call a meeting for the purpose of providing presentations and discussion of
18 items that may be placed on the warrants for Voting Day.

19 (2) Budget and Candidates Night meeting. ~~At 7:00 p.m. on~~ On
20 Monday night in February eight days prior to Voting Day, a Town and School

1 District budget discussion and Candidates Night meeting shall be called for the
2 purpose of:

3 * * *

4 ~~(2)~~(3) Town and School District Meeting Day. The annual Town and
5 School District floor meetings shall be called and held on the Saturday
6 preceding Voting Day held under subdivision ~~(3)~~(4) of this subsection, subject
7 to change as provided by general law. The floor meetings shall:

8 * * *

9 ~~(3)~~(4) Voting Day. Voting Day shall be on Vermont Town Meeting
10 Day, the first Tuesday in March, at which time any business, budgets, and
11 candidate election involving Australian ballots will be transacted beginning at
12 7 a.m. until closing at 7 p.m. The Town budget as warned by the Selectboard
13 and the School District budget as warned by the School Board shall be
14 submitted to the electorate at this Town election. A majority vote shall be a
15 simple majority of votes cast in this election. All public questions and all
16 matters relating to the adoption of the Town and School District budgets shall
17 be considered by Australian ballot under this subdivision.

18 * * *

19 (g) Warnings. Warnings for Town ~~or~~ and School District meetings shall be
20 posted on the Town ~~or~~ and School District websites, printed in area
21 newspapers, posted on social media, and posted in at least 12 public places in

1 the Town under a schedule that is in accordance with State statute. The
2 warning shall be signed and recorded by the Town Clerk before it is posted.
3 Budgets and other applicable reports shall be available not later than 10 days
4 prior to the budget informational meeting as established under subdivision
5 (e)~~(1)~~(2) of this section.

6 * * *

7 § 202. ELECTED OFFICERS

8 * * *

9 (d) Qualifications for serving in elected Town office:

10 * * *

11 (e) The elected officers of the Town shall be:

12 * * *

13 (2) one Moderator, elected for a ~~one-year~~ three-year term;

14 * * *

15 (f) The elected officers of the School District shall be:

16 (1) one Moderator, elected for a ~~one-year~~ three-year term;

17 (2) five School Board members, elected in accordance with State statute.

18 * * *

19 § 203. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

20 (a) Selectboard.

21 * * *

1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on passage.