

# CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE AGENDA WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025, AT 5 PM EDT (REMOTE MEETING)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86771671127 +1 305 224 1968 US Meeting ID: 867 7167 1127

# ROLLCALL ATTENDANCE

- 1. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 2. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES 4/2/2025
- 3. CRC ANNUAL CALENDAR REVIEW/DISCUSSION
- 4. CHARTER MODERNIZATION UPDATE TO INCLUDE LINKING AND USER EXPERIENCE ACCESS
- 5. CITIZEN'S PETITION:

  CHARTER AMENDMENT PROPOSED AT ATM ARTICLE #39

  CRC RESEARCH/STUDY PLAN
- 6. SCHEDULE NEXT CRC MEETING
- 7. ADJOURN



# FY 2022 Activity

MEETING AGENDA

CHARGE ACTIONS

June 2021	July 2021	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec 2021
	ATM summary	no meeting	finalize Charter considerations	research discussion	discussion decisions	decisions to Select Bd
Public Hearing June 3			Public Meeting: vote on sections to review	Discussion	Recommendations for revision  3 articles	Session WrapUp Memo to Select Bd

Jun 3 Jul 23 Sep 13 Oct 12 Nov 9 Dec 20 Nov 22

MEETING AGENDA

CHARGE N ACTIONS A

Jan 2022	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June 2022
Warrant Start	Warrant In Process	Warrant Close	ATM	Election	delayed ATM? Election?
Annual Report filing	proof Warrant	proof Warrant	Public Hearing #2: available for explanations of any charter warrants.	set date for next Public Hearing and announce	publicize public hearing

 Jan 24
 Mar 1

 Jan 25
 now

# **Charge: Summary of Annual Cycle**

- 1. Public Hearing: hear recommendations from the public
- 2. Public Meeting: vote on sections to review
  - 3. Research, Discussion, Deliberation
    - 4. Recommendations to Select Board for Warrant inclusion

— 5. Warrant

## Charge:

The Purpose of the Charter Review Committee is to make such recommendations to the Select Board for possible inclusion in the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting. The committee shall hold a public hearing at least once a year to discuss sections of the Charter that may be reviewed and to hear recommendations from the public on possible Charter revisions or amendments. The committee shall vote at a public meeting on which sections of the Charter it will review.

**TWO-THIRDS VOTE** 

### Article 39: Charter Amendment to Section 6-4-3—Petitioned Article

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 6-4-3 of the Town Charter by adding new language as follows (new language shown **bold underline**):

6-4-3 The moderator shall in accordance with sections 2-2-4 and 6-2-6 of this Charter appoint a Finance Committee of five members who shall be voters and shall not hold elected <u>or other appointed</u> office nor be a candidate for elected office in the Town of Truro;

or take any other action relative thereto.

# Requested by Citizen Petition

Explanation: The Finance Committee ("FinCom") in appointed by the Town Moderator, as required by law and Town Charter, to ensure the FinComm is not subject to control and influence of the Select Board. These "checks and balances" ensure that the FinCom has an arm's length relationship to the Select Board in performing its primary obligation "to advise the legislative branch" (Town Meeting) on matters of budget and finance and to ensure its decisions remain unbiased and free from potential conflicts of interest.

This amendment strengthens the independence of the Finance Committee by requiring that its members do not hold any positions appointed by the Select Board within the town government such as a committee or board member or committee liaison. This change establishes a clear and unambiguous separation between executive and legislative functions. It ensures that no individual member of the FinCom is subject to the Select Board where independence from the Select Board is the foundation of the FinCom's role and responsibilities. Without this separation between these bodies, FinCom Members who deliberate and/or vote on an appointed or elected committee with financial considerations would have a conflict of interest.

This amendment will ensure the FinCom does not intentionally or otherwise compromise the integrity of financial oversight, impede its ability to make impartial recommendations to the legislative branch, or experience undue influence from the executive branch. This revision aligns with best practices in municipal governance by reinforcing checks and balances, promoting transparency, and safeguarding the Finance Committee's role as an independent advisory body serving the best interests of Truro's voters only.

Select Board Comment: This article was submitted by petition for consideration at Town Meeting.

Charter Review Committee Recommendation	0	5	0
Select Board Recommendation	4	1	0