



**Chester Charter Public Hearing**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**March 28, 2024**

## WHY A CHARTER

**A Charter serves as a framework for our government and is a local constitution for town government.**

- **Created with high degree of community input**
- **Upholds Connecticut and New England Traditions**
- **Specific to needs and interests of Chester**
- **Permits a flexible and innovative approach**



## WHAT A CHARTER ADDRESSES

**The Board of Selectmen created the Charter Commission to address issues identified by the Governance Study Committee:**

- Increased complexity of the Town's government
- Continuity of executive leadership
- Diffused executive governance authority
- Difficulty recruiting and maintaining professional staff
- Difficulty in finding volunteers to serve and fill vacancies on boards and commissions
- Low Town Meeting participation



## **PROCESS – NEXT STEPS**

- **Board of Selectmen have 15 days (April 12 deadline) to provide recommended changes to the Charter Commission for their consideration.**
- **Charter Commission has 30 days to respond to Board of Selectmen with its final report.**
- **Board of Selectmen have 15 days after receipt of final report to approve or reject the final proposed charter.**



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Chester Charter Commission Webpage**

**[chestercharter.org](http://chestercharter.org)**

**Register for Charter Conversations on the website**

### **Contact Information**

**Email: [info@chestercharter.org](mailto:info@chestercharter.org)**

**Phone: 860-526-0013, ext. 202**

