

BOS Charge- Chester Governance Study Committee

Charge, Deliverables and Timeframe per the Board of Selectmen on 8/17/22

Charge

Identify and analyze alternative governance structures for the purpose of improving the Town's ability to proactively plan and manage its affairs.

Current Situation

Chester faces significant challenges associated with leadership continuity, town wide engagement/stewardship, succession, and shortages of elected and appointed officials/volunteers to operate key functions, departments and resources needed to implement town-wide initiatives.

Deliverables

Define the various forms of town government organization and structure that may achieve a more effective governance structure relevant now and in the future.

Recommend the next steps to achieve these prospective improvements, as indicated by the findings and conclusion.

Timeframe

60-day "study period", beginning on the date of the said Committee's first meeting. The Committee will provide a report to the BOS at the end of the 60-day period (the 60-day timeline may be extended if necessary).

Termination

This Study Committee shall terminate upon acceptance or rejection of its final report to the Board of Selectmen.

Composition

Briana Jewczyn, Cindy Lignar, Ed Meehan, Jon Joslow, Michael Sanders, Pat Bandzes, Richard Strauss

Considerations

Set up a logical process of discovery to assess how other comparable Connecticut towns and municipalities have adapted to meet the current challenges of municipal governance and management.

Develop an understanding of benefits and risks associated with alternative forms of governance available to the Town of Chester.

Identify options aimed at improving the organization's accountability, efficiency and effectiveness, continuity and responsiveness as outlined in "the charge."