

Article 03: Charter Amendment 2:

Shall the Town of Salem approve Charter Amendment 2 by amending Article 4 of the Charter by clarifying who shall fill the Town Manager's responsibilities if the Town Manager is unable to do so. Further, to clarify the Library Budget procedures consistent with New Hampshire state law?

The amendment relates to Article 4 of the Town Charter by adding that the Assistant Town Manager, or such designee as the Town Council selects, shall take over the duties of the Town Manager where the Town Manager is unable to do so and until such time as an Acting Manager is appointed by the Town Council. Further, Article 4 is amended to require the Library Trustees submit their budget requests through the Town Council as appropriate but shall also have the ability to bring separate petitions for capital expenditures or employee agreements directly to the Budget Committee for review. The Budget Committee may, at its discretion pass those articles on to the voters with or without amendment or recommendation.

Full Text of Proposed changes:

§ 4.5 Acting Town Manager

If the Manager is determined by a vote of at least six (6) members of the Council to be temporarily incapacitated or unable to act for any cause, or the office is temporarily or permanently vacant, the Council shall, within thirty (30) days from such determination, appoint an Acting Manager in the same manner as in § 4.3, who shall serve for not more than one hundred twenty (120) days or such lesser time until the disability or vacancy has been resolved.

Until such time as an Acting Manager is appointed, the duties of the Town Manager shall fall to the Assistant Town Manager or such designee that the Town Council shall determine. The Acting Manager shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the Manager except to the extent that said powers and duties may be specifically restricted by Council resolution. Said Acting Manager shall be paid a salary for services hereunder as may be prescribed by the Council. The Acting Manager may be reappointed for one additional term of one hundred twenty (120) days. The Town Council may, if desired, appoint a Town Councilor to serve in this capacity. By a vote of at least five (5) Councilors, the Council may determine from credible medical or other evidence that the Manager is incapacitated and unable to perform any or all duties, and the office may be declared vacant.

§ 4.12.1: Library Budget Procedures

The Library Trustees shall submit their budget requests through the Town Council as appropriate, but shall also have the ability to bring separate petitions for capital expenditures or employee agreements directly to the Budget Committee for review. The Budget Committee may, at its discretion pass those articles on to the voters with or without amendment or recommendation.