

The following is a sample of the ballot with proposed changes to the Town Charter that will appear on your ballot on November 4th. The information below each ballot question in BLUE TYPE has been added to this sample to help you evaluate the proposals.

Please be advised, however, that the blue bullet type below WILL NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT.

Only the legal questions identified and numbered below in black type will appear on the ballot.

PROPOSED CHARTER BALLOT QUESTIONS

YES

NO

1. Shall §C2-2.; C3-4.A. & B.; C4-1.A.; C4-2.A. & B.; C4-4.F.; C5-4.A.; and, C7-4. of the Charter of Bethel among other items, be amended or provisions added to provide for a five (5) member Board of Selectmen consisting of a First Selectman and four (4) Selectmen with elected terms of four (4) years each all as set forth in the Proposed Charter Amendments finalized by the Board of Selectmen on April 22, 2014 and filed in the Office of the Bethel Town Clerk?

- *Extends the terms of the Board of Selectmen to four years (would not go into effect until municipal election of 2015)*
- *Increases the Board of Selectmen to five members (would not go into effect until municipal election of 2015)*

YES

NO

2. Shall §C8-13.C.4.i.; and, C10-4.B., C., D. & E. of the Charter of Bethel among other items, be amended or provisions added to require bids for expenditures in excess of \$50,000.00; allowing neutral transfers by the Board of Selectmen not to exceed \$50,000.00 within each Town department's budget; allowing special appropriations from a Town's agency surplus or contingency fund not to exceed \$50,000.00; requiring a Town Meeting for special appropriations coming from other than cash surplus or an approved contingency fund; and, allowing transfers by the Board of Finance of unexpended balances from one appropriation to another, all as set forth in the Proposed Charter Amendments finalized by the Board of Selectmen on April 22, 2014 and filed in the Office of the Bethel Town Clerk?

- *Increase in dollar amount for requirements to bid -to reflect today's dollars*

- *Allows the Board of Selectmen to perform neutral transfers within department budgets (may not increase personnel nor encumber future budgets)*
- *Increases the dollar amount of special appropriations, allowing the Board of Selectmen, with Board of Finance approval, to make special appropriations from any town agency surplus or contingency fund*

YES

NO

3. Shall §C10-2.D. of the Charter of Bethel among other items, be amended or provisions added to require the Board of Finance to change the way in which revisions to the Board of Selectmen’s budget estimates are made regarding line items, all as set forth in the Proposed Charter Amendments finalized by the Board of Selectmen on April 22, 2014 and filed in the Office of the Bethel Town Clerk?

- *The Board of Finance retains the power to adjust town departmental budgets, as a whole*
- *Individual town departments would decide where within their budgets said adjustments would be implemented*

YES

NO

4. Shall §C6-3.A.(1) of the Charter of Bethel be amended to require the Annual Town Budget Meeting to take place on one (1) of the first seven (7) days of April, all as set forth in the Proposed Charter Amendments finalized by the Board of Selectmen on April 22, 2014 and filed in the Office of the Bethel Town Clerk?

- *Moves the date of the Annual Town Budget Meeting one month earlier*

YES

NO

5. Shall §C6-4.A., B., C. & D. of the Charter of Bethel among other items, be amended or provisions added to require Special Town Meetings for financing and appropriations supplemental to the approved budget in the amount of \$50,000.00 or more, and, acceptance of a grant where the Town’s share of expense is in excess of \$50,000.00; and, the non-emergency demolition of Town property, all as set forth in the Proposed Charter Amendments finalized by the Board of Selectmen on April 22, 2014 and filed in the Office of the Bethel Town Clerk?

- *Increases the dollar limit for needing a Special Town Meeting*

- *Adds in wording to allow for non-emergency demolition of town properties to go before a Special Town Meeting*

YES

NO

6. Shall §C8-4.; C8-13.C.4.ii.; C10-9.; and, C11-11. of the Charter of Bethel concerning among other items, be amended or provisions added to provide for technical changes to the office of the Assessor and the Comptroller; the Board of Finance is to set annual salaries of municipal officials before the next election for respective offices; and, designate that all elected and appointed board meetings are to take place at the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center with some exceptions, all as set forth in the Proposed Charter Amendments finalized by the Board of Selectmen on April 22, 2014 and filed in the Office of the Bethel Town Clerk?

- *Non-material change providing for uniformity of language for in department heads in the Charter*
- *Corrects spelling of the word Comptroller*
- *Provides for the Board of Finance to establish salaries in advance of elections*
- *Requires meetings of all boards and commissions to be held in the CJH Municipal Center with some noted exceptions*