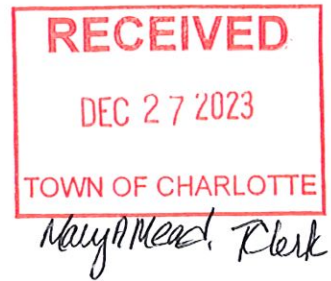


**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
MUNICIPAL CHARTER PROPOSAL**



1. Corporate Existence

(a) Pursuant to the authority granted by the general assembly of the state of Vermont, there is hereby enacted a charter to govern the organization and operation of local government in the town of Charlotte, Vermont.

(b) The inhabitants of the town of Charlotte, within the geographical limits as now established, shall continue to be a municipal corporation by the name of Charlotte, Vermont.

2. General Provisions

(a) General Law application: Except when changed, enlarged or modified by the provisions of this chapter, all provisions of the statutes of the state of Vermont relating to municipalities shall apply to the town of Charlotte.

(b) Powers of the Town:

(1) General: The town of Charlotte shall have all the powers granted to towns and municipal corporations by the constitution and laws of the state of Vermont and this chapter, together with all the implied powers necessary to carry into execution all the powers granted. The town of Charlotte may enact ordinances not inconsistent with the Constitution of the state of Vermont, laws of the state of Vermont, or this chapter, and impose penalties for violation thereof.

(2) The powers and functions conferred upon the town by this charter shall be separate and be in addition to the powers and functions conferred upon the town by laws now in force or hereafter enacted. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as a limitation upon these previously specified powers and functions.

(3) Limitations: In this charter, any mention of a particular power shall not be construed to restrict the powers and functions conferred on the town of Charlotte, the selectboard of the town, or its elected or appointed officers by general or special enactment of state statutes or regulations in force or effect or hereafter enacted, and the powers and functions conferred by this chapter shall be cumulative and in addition to the provisions of the general or special enactment unless this chapter otherwise provides.

3. Town Manager/Road Commissioner

All duties of the road commissioner shall remain vested in an elected road commissioner unless and until the citizens of the town vote to eliminate the elected road commissioner and vest those duties in the town manager.

The town manager shall have authority and it shall be his or her duty:

- 1) To cause duties required of towns and town school districts and not committed to the care of any particular officer, to be duly performed and executed.
- 2) To perform all duties now conferred by law upon the selectboard, except that he or she shall not prepare tax bills, sign orders on the general fund of the town, call special or annual town meetings, lay out highways, establish and lay out public parks, make assessments, award damages, act as member of the board of civil authority, nor make appointments to fill vacancies which the selectboard is now authorized by law to fill; but he or she shall, in all matters herein excepted, render the selectboard such assistance as it shall require.
- 3) To be the general purchasing agent of the town and purchase all supplies for every department thereof; but purchases of supplies for departments over which such manager is not given control, and of the town school district, shall be made according to requisition therefor by such departments or school directors.
- 4) To have charge and supervision of all public town buildings and repairs thereon, and all building undertaken by the town, unless otherwise provided for by the selectboard, shall be done under his or her charge and supervision.
- 5) To do all the accounting for all of the departments of the town and of the town school districts when the board of school directors so request.
- 6) To supervise and expend all special appropriations of the town, as if the same were a separate department of the town, unless otherwise provided for by the selectboard.
- 7) To have charge, control, and supervision of the following matters:
 - a. the police department, if any, and shall appoint and may remove the officers thereof and shall fix their salaries;
 - b. the fire department, if any, and shall appoint, fix the compensation of, and may remove all officers and employees thereof;
 - c. the system of licenses, if any, not otherwise regulated by law;

- d. the system of sewers and drainage, if any, except the making of assessments therefor;
 - e. the lighting of streets, highways, and bridges;
 - f. the sprinkling of streets and highways and laying of dust, except the making of assessments therefor;
 - g. the maintenance of parks and playgrounds.
- 8) To collect all taxes due the town and to perform all the duties now conferred bylaw upon the collector of taxes, if the town so votes. Such manager shall continue so to do until the town votes otherwise at a meeting duly warned for the purpose of voting on such question. For the collection of taxes, a town manager may charge and collect the same fees as a collector of taxes, and the fees so collected shall be paid into the treasury of the town.

4. Separability

If any provision of this charter is held invalid, the other provisions of the charter shall not be affected thereby. If the application of the charter or any of its provisions to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the application of this charter and its provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

5. Amendment

Amendment of this charter shall be as provided by Vermont law.

6. Effective Date

This charter shall take effect on passage by the legislature.