Charter Revision Commission Final Report and Comments On Board of Selectman Recommendations

After numerous meetings, public hearings and testimony, as well as consultation with the Board of Selectmen, the Seymour Charter Revision Commission (the “Commission”) submits the attached, current Charter of the Town of Seymour, with amendments as proposed by the Commission included therein.

The Board of Selectmen made recommendations to the Commission in October, 2017. Thereafter the Commission submitted its Draft Report and received suggested changes from the Board of Selectmen. These recommendations, with comments by the Commission thereon, are as follows:

-Maximum number of members on boards and commissions set at 5: The Commission has reduced the membership of appointed boards and commissions to five.

-Elimination of Town Meeting: Agreed. See draft amended Charter.

-Discuss term limits: Term limits added in Section 6.1

-Combine Parks and Recreation: Discussed but not recommended.

-Combine Aging and Livable Communities: Discussed but not recommended.

-Remove Culture & Arts Commission: Agreed.

-Increase Special Town Meeting limit from $50,000 to $100,000: Agreed.

-Discuss quorum for Town Meeting: Agreed.

-Removal of positions of captain and lieutenant from Police Department: Agreed.

-Discuss removal of prohibition of First Selectman holding multiple positions: Discussed but not recommended.

-Elimination of requirement for publication of full text of ordinances: Agreed.

-Removal of Board of Selectmen secretary: Discussed but not recommended.

The Commission further recommends that the following two non-binding advisory question be placed upon the November, 2018 ballot:

*“Shall the Board of Selectmen undertake a study regarding the establishment of A Town Manager form of government?”, and*

*“Shall the Town Charter be amended to set term limits for all elected boards?”.*