MINUTES
CHARTER COMMISSION FOR THE TOWN OF HARWICH
HARWICH CHANNEL STUDIO, COMMUNITY CENTER
100 OAK STREET, HARWICH, MA 02645
THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026 - 6:30PM

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Linda Cebula, Chair, Sandra Hall, Vice Chair, Jon Chorey, Treasurer, Herb Bell, Clerk, Judith Underwood, Richard Waystack and Brendan Lowney

1. Call to order

Ms. Cebula called the meeting of the Charter Commission for the Town of Harwich to order on Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 6:30PM. The Chair declared a quorum.

2. Approval of regular minutes for June 18 and June 25

Ms. Hall moved to approve the regular minutes for June 18 and June 25. Seconded by Ms. Underwood.

Vote: 7:0 in favor. Motion carried.

3. Continuing Business
Compliance

Ms. Cebula noted that she had sent out information regarding a Compliance Commission to members. She also noted changes in language to include a Hearing Officer.

Members discussed the need for a Compliance Commission noting an example and recent events within the Town. Specifically discussed was Section 5.2.B with agreed upon changes to the language. Members continued through all sections of language regarding Compliance, Hearing Officers and processes. They discussed and agreed on language changes. Member discussed the name of the Compliance Committee and decided on By-law/Charter Review and Compliance Commission.

Capital Plan

Other topics for current draft

Ms. Cebula referred to page 7 and confirmed that the language should state Acting Town Administrator.

Reorganization -

Mr. Waystack nominated Linda Cebula as continued Chair. Seconded by Ms. Underwood.

Vote: 7:0 in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Waystack nominated Sandra Hall as continued Vice Chair. Seconded by Ms. Underwood.

Vote: 7:0 in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Waystack nominated Herb Bell as Clerk. Seconded by Ms. Underwood.

Vote: 7:0 in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Waystack nominated Jon Chorey as Treasurer. Seconded by Ms. Hall.

Vote: 7:0 in favor. Motion carried.

4. Any other topic that may come before the Commission

Ms. Hall commented on the need for transitional language to cover the time frame between when the Charter is accepted in May to the time it takes effect in July.

Ms. Cebula noted that she will be sending a new draft Charter to all members and requested that they each go through it and note suggested changes in language, spelling, grammar etc. It was agreed that the members will vote on the proposed Charter on July 30, 2026.

Members discussed next steps including educating the community on the proposed Charter, a full public hearing and the deadline for submission to the State.

5. Public comments

6. Adjourn

Mr. Waystack moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Hall.

Vote: 7:0 in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:44PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Moldstad
Board Secretary