

**MINUTES
CHARTER COMMISSION FOR THE TOWN OF HARWICH
SMALL MEETING ROOM, HARWICH TOWN HALL
732 MAIN STREET, HARWICH, MA 02645
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026**

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

MEMBER NOT PARTICIPATING: Judith Underwood

1. Call to order

Ms. Cebula called the meeting of the Charter Commission for the Town of Harwich to order on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 6:30PM. The Chair declared a quorum.

2. Approval of regular minutes for 08/13/26

Ms. Hall moved to approve the regular minutes for 08/13/26. Seconded by Mr. Waystack.

Vote: 6:0 in favor. Motion carried.

**3. Continuing Business Discussion/ Possible votes
Review of Chapters 7 and 5
Review of draft report
Continuing discussion on draft red line**

Ms. Cebula noted next steps to be done prior to filing the Report with the Attorney General and Sustainable Living Communities which includes putting it in a newspaper in general circulation. She explained the process to accomplish that task. Ms. Cebula also noted the process for mailing the final Report to households.

Ms. Hall noted a conversation that she had with Sarah Eaton, IT Director regarding the fact that not all Committee members receive all emailed correspondences.

Ms. Cebula began the discussion with a review of the Harrington Heath letter.

Members offered their opinions on the letter. They also expressed their disappointment that the feedback on whether or not what is in the Draft Charter is legal was not included. It was suggested that a follow up letter be drafted, specifically asking for whether or not something is legal, specifically including the Compliance Commission.

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Members continued through the review of the letter, noting what language they agreed with and what was not necessary.

Ms. Cebula continued the discussion of the Draft Report, noting changes she had made.

Jeff Handler, Select Board member was present. He questioned language in the Charter regarding election of Compliance Commission members. Members pointed out the specific section that answered his question.

Members discussed specific language in the Draft Charter, changing some language by agreement.

Ms. Cebula noted that she has attempted to contact the Office of Sustainable Housing about sending the Draft Charter but has not received a response. It was suggested that Ms. Cebula ask Administration for assistance.

Ms. Cebula continued the discussion with Chapter 5.

Mr. Handler was asked his opinion of the Compliance Commission.

Mr. Handler commented favorably on the Compliance Commission, noting that he is leaning towards supporting it at this time.

Mr. Handler exited the meeting.

Members continued discussing the Chapter 5 of the Draft Charter. Once completed, the discussion continued to Chapter 7. Members discussed specific language in the Draft Charter, changing some language by agreement. Also corrected were some number sequences.

Members discussed their preference to have all members in attendance to vote the Draft Charter.

Ms. Cebula noted that a Public Hearing will have to be scheduled for October.

Mr. Lowney offered to reserve the Griffin Room once a date is chosen.

Mr. Waystack also offered to plan the Hearing including publications.

After discussion members agreed to hold the Public Hearing on Thursday, October 22nd.

4. Any other topic that any come before the Commission

5. Public comments

6. Adjourn

Mr. Waystack moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Lowney.

Vote: 6:0 in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Moldstad
Board Secretary