Town of Bridgewater

Charter Review Committee

August 26, 2026
7:00 PM
Academy Building
66 Central Square/2nd Floor
Conference Room 201A
and via Zoom:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86758099981

MEETING AGENDA

A. **Call to Order**

B. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- a) July 22, 2026 Meeting Minutes

C. **Public Comment**

D. **Items for Discussion**

- a) Overview of 8/12/26 and 8/24/26 CRC Community Forums
- b) Charter Review Committee Email Address
- c) Community Conversations - After Action Review
- d) Citizens Survey
- e) Key Stakeholder Survey

E. **Next Steps**

- a) Set Future Meeting Dates

F. **Adjournment of Meeting**

Town of Bridgewater

Charter Review Committee

July 22, 2026
7:00 PM
Academy Building
66 Central Square
Academy Building
Conference Room 201A/2nd Floor
and via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/launch/jc/84548789292
Meeting ID: 845 4878 9292

MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order

Charter Review Committee Chair Scott Pitta called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The meeting took place in Conference Room 201A and via Zoom.

Charter Review Committee members present:
Eric Dias (via Zoom), Scott Pitta, Jean DiBattista, Ed Ivaldi, Lynsy Marshall, James Walsh and Brad McKinnon.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

a) June 24, 2026 Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes
Ms. Dibattista noted that there were issued with the meeting minutes and had some amendments.

Brad McKinnon made a motion to postpone the June 24, 2026 meeting minutes until the next meeting. This was duly seconded by Mr. Ivaldi.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 7-0

Public Comment - None

Items for Discussion

a) Resident Survey Update: James Walsh and Jean DiBattista
Mr. Walsh and Ms. DiBattista discussed they were looking at resident survey questions to understand what the residents want. Sections were discussed as follows:

Mr. McKinnon made a motion to strike Question #2 in Section 2 which was duly seconded Mr. Ivaldi.

Ms. DiBattista noted that residents have said they want this form of government, could remove open town meeting.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 7-0

Ms. Marshall made a motion to move questions #1 and #2 to Section 9. This was duly seconded by Mr. Ivaldi.

Ms. Marshall noted that this could be negative through survey if answered right away.

Ms. DiBattista noted that the Charter starts with form of government – key to entire Charter.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – No; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 6-1

Mr. Ivaldi asked what articles in the Charter Section 3 was addressing and Ms. DiBattista noted that Section 3 is tied to Section 2, charter talks about the 3 aspects of government and all affect our residents.

Ms. Marshall asked what can be changed in the Charter with the questions asked in Section 3 and Mr. Clark noted we would have data and specific examples from residents.

Mr. Pitta noted that Section 3 would be more appropriate for a Town Government Study Committee.

Mr. Ivaldi noted that question #4 would go into the Town Manager appraisal not the Charter.

Ms. Marshall noted that Section 3 feels like it is steering towards a certain government and more about personal opinions. Join section 3 and 4 and add communications to the Charter.

Ms. Marshall made a motion to remove Section 3 and add questions to Section 7. This was duly seconded by Mr. McKinnon.

Ms. Marshall noted that can be resolved in Section 7, want residents to feel their questions are being heard and answered.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -No; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 6-1

Mr. McKinnon made a motion to strike Question #16 in Section 8, which was duly seconded by Mr. Ivaldi.

Mr. McKinnon noted that this does not have anything to do with the Charter and Ms. DiBattista noted that she wants to understand if people are unhappy.

Mr. Ivaldi added that the Charter cannot change town services, quality.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -No; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 6-1

Mr. Ivaldi made a motion to strike Question #13 in Second 6, this was duly seconded by Ms. Marshall.

Ms. DiBattista noted that the Charter talks about how a meeting is going to be published, Enterprise is outdated, certain committees refuse to post documents.

Mr. Pitta noted that the website is under the Town Manager, function of the Town Council to hold the Town Manager Accountable.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 7-0

Mr. Ivaldi made a motion to not finalize the survey until the committee receives and reviews the Town Manager's Survey. This was duly seconded by Mr. McKinnon.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 7-0

b) Public Forum Update: Scott Pitta and Lynsy Marshall
Ms. Marshall noted the dates of the Public Forms – August 12th, August 24th and September 12th .

Mr. Pitta noted that the format will be focused on residents talking to the Charter Review Committee and the plan is to record the forums.

Ms. Marshall noted that they are creating a google from for questions, posting flyers on-line and at various locations. Will be sending out a push to emails and phones.

c) Key Stakeholder Discussions: Brad McKinnon and Eric Dias
Mr. McKinnon noted that they have come up with 7 questions and a listing of the people to speak with.

Mr. Pitta noted that finance, planning, zoning, ConCom could give a unique perspective to question #4.

Ms. Marshall suggested adding the Library Trustees.

Mr. Ivaldi made a motion to strike Question #6 which was duly seconded by Mr. McKinnon.

Mr. Pitta suggested leaving it in for some insight.

Mr. Ivaldi rescinded his motion and Mr. McKinnon seconded that.

Ms. DiBattista made a motion to remove question #7 which was duly seconded by Ms. Marshall.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – No; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 6-1

Mr. Ivaldi made a motion for Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Dias to update that document and bring to next meeting for approval. This was duly seconded by Mr. Dias.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 7-0

Next Steps

a) Charter Review Monthly Plan - Scott Pitta
Mr. Pitta discussed the detail work plan noting he would take suggestions and bring back at the next meeting.

Mr. Ivaldi made a suggestion that the Charter Review Committee get on a Council Agenda to give an update.

Public Comment

- Adelene Ellenberg: suggested a non-leading question – what would you recommend as a form of government.

Adjournment of Meeting

Mr. McKinnon made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Mr. Ivaldi.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Dias – Yea; Pitta – Yea; DiBattista – Yea; Ivaldi – Yea; Marshall – Yea; Walsh -Yea; McKinnon – Yea.
Motion Passed: 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:00p.m.