

Charter Article 7 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Motion R:

Section 7-5 Number and Gender

Words importing the singular number may extend and be applied to several persons or things; words importing the plural number may include the singular; words, if any, importing a particular the masculine gender shall include all the feminine genders.

Motion S: See italicized redlines for changes from previous version

Section 7-7 Definitions

Unless another meaning is clearly apparent from the manner in which the word is used, the following words as used in the charter shall have the following meanings:

(d) Local Newspaper -- Unless otherwise required by the general laws, tThe words "local newspaper" shall mean a newspaper of general circulation in the town of Natick, the town's website, police and public works temporary signage, social media and/or other communication means that alone or in any combination are reasonably capable of reaching and informing the citizens of the town.

Motion T: See italicized redlines for changes from previous version

Section 7-9 Procedure Governing Multiple Member Bodies

- (a) **Meetings** - All multiple member bodies, whether elected, appointed or otherwise constituted, shall meet regularly. All meetings of a multiple member body shall be held in a building that allows the public to enter and meets all Federal, state and local accessibility requirements, unless it is a site visit, and shall be scheduled and posted in accordance with all applicable laws, including but not limited to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. Meetings, other than emergency meetings under the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, shall be called either by the chair of the multiple member body, persons authorized by the multiple member body to call meetings in the absence or failure of the chair or by one-third of the members of the multiple member body. At least 48 hours advance notice to all members of the committee shall be required for any non-emergency meetings called. A copy of the same notice shall be posted on the town bulletin board.

Motion U: See italicized redlines for changes from previous version

Section 7-10 Notice of Vacancies

Whenever a vacancy occurs in any town agency, or in town employment, or when by reason of retirement or the expiration of a fixed term, a vacancy can be anticipated, the Select Board, or other appointing authority shall forthwith cause public notice of the vacancy or impending vacancy to be posted for not less than ten days. Except as provided below, the requirement for public notice for appointed positions under this subsection shall apply to the expiration of appointed terms whether or not a vacancy has occurred or is anticipated. Such notice shall contain a description of the duties of the office or position and a listing of necessary or desirable qualifications for the position. No permanent appointment to fill a position shall be effective until at least fourteen days have elapsed following such posting, to permit reasonable consideration of all applicants. This section shall not apply to positions covered by the civil service law and rules or if in conflict with the requirements provided under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement.

The expiration of appointed terms for compensated positions in the town occurring without an actual or anticipated vacancy shall not be subject to public notice provisions or timing in the preceding paragraph.