

**Revised Redlined Amendment T: Move that the Main Motion be amended by inserting into the Main Motion, under the heading therein "Charter Article 7 amendments", the following:**

**Charter Section 7-9(a): The following additional language as set forth below labeled "Final Text" shall be added to the end of the pre-existing subsection (a) of Section 7-9 entitled "Procedure Governing Multiple Member Bodies", is hereby deleted and replaced, in numerical order, with the following replacement language as set forth below labeled as "Final Text".**

### *Final Text*

~~Meetings—All multiple member bodies, whether elected, appointed or otherwise constituted, shall meet regularly. All meeting 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, or, in the absence of failure of the chair, either by persons so authorized by the multiple member body to call such meetings in the absence or failure of the chair, or by one-third of the members of the multiple member body committee. At least 48 hours advance notice to all members of the the multiple member body committee shall be required for any non-emergency meetings called. A copy of the same notice shall be posted on the town bulletin board.~~

### **Explanatory Note:**

The existing charter has language on holding meetings in accessible buildings and makes no mention of virtual or hybrid formats. The Town has been operating under a state wide extension of the emergency provisions of state law which allow virtual or hybrid meetings. These state laws supersede the current charter provisions. If and when the state wide laws ultimately makes virtual or hybrid meetings a permanent option, we would like those state wide laws to apply. Therefore, the exiting language in the charter is not proposed for deletion and replacement.

This avoids restating the entire existing section (a) of 7-9 as a special act state law and leaves the existing language at the level of the charter. This avoids a special act state law and a potential state wide change in state law (to authorize virtual or hybrid meetings) from being in conflict. The change in the motion to mere addition of language sidesteps this concern.

The revised Final Text also addresses the issue raised by the Finance Committee to make the 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the members a subset of absence or failure of the chair. A definition of absence or failure is not necessary as this can be left to each multiple member body. Section (b) of 7-9 already allows multiple member bodies the ability to make their own rules provided those rules comply with the charter.

## **CLEAN VERSION**

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**Charter Section 7-9(a): The following additional language as set forth below labeled "Final Text" shall be added to the end of the existing subsection (a) of Section 7-9 entitled "Procedure Governing Multiple Member Bodies".**

### *Final Text.*

Meetings, other than emergency meetings under the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, shall be called either by the chair of the multiple member body, or, in the absence of failure of the chair, either by persons so authorized by the multiple member body to call such meetings or by one-third of the members of the multiple member body . At least 48 hours advance notice to all members of the multiple member body shall be required for any non-emergency meetings called