

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4459**

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Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. Walsh of Peabody, for a bill with the same title (House, No. 3913) [Local Approval Received]. August 28, 2025.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
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An Act amending the charter of the town of Seekonk.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Section 2 of article 1 of the charter of the town of Seekonk, which is on file  
2 in the office of the archivist of the commonwealth, as provided in section 12 of chapter 43B of  
3 the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and  
4 inserting in place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

5           SECTION 2. Section 5 of said article 1 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out  
6 in the definition of “Resolution” the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof  
7 the following words:- Select Board.

8           SECTION 3. Subclause (A) of the second paragraph of section 5 of article 2 of said  
9 charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place  
10 thereof the following words:- Select Board.

11 SECTION 4. The first paragraph of section 6 of said article 2 of said charter is hereby  
12 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
13 following words:- Select Board.

14 SECTION 5. The second paragraph of said section 6 of said article 2 of said charter is  
15 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof  
16 the following words:- Select Board.

17 SECTION 6. The third paragraph of section 7 of said article 2 of said charter is hereby  
18 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
19 following words:- Select Board.

20 SECTION 7. Section 3 of article 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the  
21 words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

22 SECTION 8. Section 5 of said article 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out  
23 the word “himself” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- himself.

24 SECTION 9. Subclause (A) of the first paragraph of section 1 of article 4 of said charter  
25 is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof  
26 the following words:- Select Board.

27 SECTION 10. The first sentence of section 3 of said article 4 of said charter is hereby  
28 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
29 following words:- Select Board.

30 SECTION 11. Article 5 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the title “Board  
31 of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the following title:- Select Board.

32 SECTION 12. The first paragraph of section 1 of said article 5 of said charter is hereby  
33 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
34 following words:- Select Board.

35 SECTION 13. The second paragraph of said section 1 of said article 5 of said charter is  
36 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof  
37 the following words:- Select Board.

38 SECTION 14. The third paragraph of said section 1 of said article 5 of said charter is  
39 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof  
40 the following words:- Select Board.

41 SECTION 15. The first paragraph of section 2 of said article 5 of said charter is hereby  
42 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in  
43 place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

44 SECTION 16. The second sentence of said first paragraph of said section 2 of said article  
45 5 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Boards of Selectmen” and  
46 inserting in place thereof the following words:- Select Boards.

47 SECTION 17. The second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 5 of said charter is  
48 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and  
49 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

50 SECTION 18. The first sentence of section 3 of said article 5 of said charter is hereby  
51 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
52 following words:- Select Board.

53 SECTION 19. Subsection (A) of said section 3 of said article 5 of said charter is hereby  
54 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
55 following words:- Select Board.

56 SECTION 20. Subsection (B) of said section 3 of said article 5 of said charter is hereby  
57 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in  
58 place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

59 SECTION 21. The first paragraph of subsection (C) of said section 3 of said article 5 of  
60 said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in  
61 place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

62 SECTION 22. The second paragraph of said subsection (C) of said section 3 of said  
63 article 5 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the word “his” and inserting in place  
64 thereof the following words:- the Town Administrator’s.

65 SECTION 23. Section 4 of said article 5 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out  
66 the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- Select  
67 Board.

68 SECTION 24. The second sentence of section 1 of article 6 of said charter is hereby  
69 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
70 following words:- Select Board.

71 SECTION 25. The second sentence of the first paragraph of section 2 of said article 6 of  
72 said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in  
73 place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

74 SECTION 26. The second sentence of the second paragraph of said section 2 of said  
75 article 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and  
76 inserting in place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

77 SECTION 27. Said second sentence of said second paragraph of said section 2 of said  
78 article 6 of said charter is hereby further amended by striking out the word “his” and inserting in  
79 place thereof the following words:- the Town Administrator’s.

80 SECTION 28. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
81 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (A) and inserting in place thereof the  
82 following subsection:-

83 (A) The Town Administrator shall supervise, direct and be responsible for the efficient  
84 administration of all functions under the Town Administrator’s control, as may be authorized by  
85 the Charter, by-law, town meeting vote or by the vote of the Select Board.

86 SECTION 29. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
87 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (B) and inserting in place thereof the  
88 following subsection:-

89 (B) The Town Administrator shall attend all regular and special meetings of the Select  
90 Board, unless excused. The Town Administrator shall have a voice, but no vote, in all of the  
91 Board's discussions.

92 SECTION 30. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
93 hereby further amended by striking subsection (C) and inserting in place thereof the following  
94 subsection:-

95 (C) The Town Administrator shall attend all sessions of the town meeting and answer all  
96 questions concerning warrant articles that are directed to the Town Administrator and that relate  
97 to matters under their general supervision.

98 SECTION 31. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
99 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (D) and inserting in place thereof the  
100 following subsection:-

101 (D) The Town Administrator shall see that all provisions of the Massachusetts General  
102 Laws, this Charter, town by-laws and votes of the town meeting and the Select Board which  
103 require enforcement by the Town Administrator or officers or employees subject to their  
104 direction and supervision, are faithfully carried out and performed.

105 SECTION 32. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
106 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (F) and inserting in place thereof the  
107 following subsection:-

108 (F) The Town Administrator shall keep the Select Board and the Finance Committee  
109 fully informed as to the financial condition and needs of the Town, and shall make such  
110 recommendations to the Select Board for actions to be taken as the Town Administrator deems to  
111 be necessary, advisable or expedient.

112 SECTION 33. Subsection (G) of said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6  
113 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words "Board of Selectmen" and inserting  
114 in place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

115 SECTION 34. Said second paragraph said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
116 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (H) and inserting in place thereof the  
117 following subsection:-

118 (H) The Town Administrator may at any time inquire into the conduct of any office or  
119 any town officer, employee and department or agency under the Town Administrator's  
120 jurisdiction and control.

121 SECTION 35. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
122 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (I) and inserting in place thereof the following  
123 subsection:-

124 (I) The Town Administrator shall be responsible for the negotiation of all contracts  
125 involving any subject within the Town Administrator's jurisdiction. All such contracts as may be  
126 proposed by the Town Administrator shall be subject to final approval and execution by the  
127 Select Board. The Select Board may authorize the Town Administrator to execute any such  
128 approved contract on behalf of the Town. The Town Administrator shall be included in the  
129 negotiations for the School Department to the extent required by statute.

130 SECTION 36. Subsection (J) of said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6  
131 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place  
132 thereof the following sentence:- The Town Administrator shall, in conjunction with that Board,  
133 prepare and maintain a plan establishing the personnel staffing requirements for each town  
134 agency or department within the Town Administrator's jurisdiction.

135 SECTION 37. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
136 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (K) and inserting in place thereof the  
137 following subsection:-

138 (K) The Town Administrator shall be the Chief Procurement Officer for the Town and be  
139 responsible for the purchase of all common-use supplies, materials and equipment for the Town,  
140 to the extent permitted by state law, excepting books and other educational materials for schools  
141 and books and other medial materials for the libraries. The Town Administrator shall approve the  
142 award of all contracts for all town departments with the exception of the School Department,  
143 subject to the approval of the Select Board.

144 SECTION 38. Said second paragraph of said section 2 of said article 6 of said charter is  
145 hereby further amended by striking out subsection (L) and inserting in place thereof the  
146 following subsection:-

147 (L) The Town Administrator shall perform any other duties required of them under this  
148 Charter, the Town of Seekonk by-laws, town meeting vote or a vote of the Select Board.

149 SECTION 39. The first paragraph of section 3 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby  
150 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in  
151 place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

152 SECTION 40. Section 4 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out  
153 the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each  
154 instance, the following words:- Select Board.

155 SECTION 41. The first sentence of section 5 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby  
156 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
157 following words:- Select Board.

158 SECTION 42. Subsection (A) of said section 5 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby  
159 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
160 following words:- Select Board.

161 SECTION 43. Said section 5 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby further amended by  
162 striking out subsection (B) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

163 (B) Within 5 days of receipt of the Board’s preliminary resolution, the Town  
164 Administrator may request a public hearing by filing a written request for such a hearing with the  
165 Select Board. Thereafter, a public hearing shall be held not more than 30 days after the request is  
166 filed, nor sooner than 20 days after the filing of the request. The Town Administrator may file a  
167 written statement in justification of their tenure in office with the Select Board; provided, that  
168 any such statement is received by the Board not more than 48 hours in advance of the public  
169 hearing.

170 SECTION 44. Said section 5 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby further amended by  
171 striking out subsection (C) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

172 (C) The Select Board may adopt a final resolution of removal, which may be made  
173 effective immediately, by affirmative vote of the majority of the full Board, at any time after 10  
174 days following the date of delivery of a copy of the preliminary resolution to the Town  
175 Administrator, if the Town Administrator has not requested a public hearing, or at any time after  
176 the public hearing if they have requested one. Within 10 days following the vote to make the

177 preliminary resolution final, but in no event more than 45 days following the date of adoption of  
178 the preliminary resolution, the Select Board shall, by a majority vote of the full Board, either  
179 affirm or deny the final resolution of removal. Failure to affirm a final resolution of removal  
180 shall nullify the vote to remove the Town Administrator.

181 SECTION 45. The second sentence of subsection (D) of said section 5 of said article 6 of  
182 said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they  
183 appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

184 SECTION 46. The first paragraph of section 6 of said article 6 of said charter is hereby  
185 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in  
186 place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

187 SECTION 47. The second paragraph of said section 6 of said article 6 of said charter is  
188 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and  
189 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

190 SECTION 48. The fourth paragraph of said section 6 of said article 6 of said charter is  
191 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and  
192 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

193 SECTION 49. Section 1 of article 7 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the  
194 words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each  
195 instance, the following words:- Select Board.

196 SECTION 50. Said section 1 of said article 7 of said charter is hereby further amended by  
197 striking out the word “He”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance,  
198 the following words:- The Director of Finance.

199 SECTION 51. Section 3 of said article 7 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out  
200 the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each  
201 instance, the following words:- Select Board.

202 SECTION 52. The second sentence of section 4 of said article 7 of said charter is hereby  
203 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
204 following words:- Select Board.

205 SECTION 53. The first paragraph of section 5 of said article 7 of said charter is hereby  
206 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
207 following words:- Select Board.

208 SECTION 54. Subsection (G) of the third paragraph of said section 5 of said article 7 of  
209 said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in  
210 place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

211 SECTION 55. The first paragraph of section 6 of said article 7 of said charter is hereby  
212 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
213 following words:- Select Board.

214 SECTION 56. The second paragraph of said section 6 of said article 7 of said charter is  
215 hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof  
216 the following words:- Select Board.

217 SECTION 57. The first sentence of the first paragraph of section 7 of said article 7 of  
218 said charter is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in  
219 place thereof the following words:- Select Board.

220 SECTION 58. The second sentence of section 1 of article 8 of said charter is hereby  
221 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
222 following words:- Select Board.

223 SECTION 59. The second sentence of section 5 of said article 8 of said charter is hereby  
224 amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the  
225 following words:- Select Board.

226 SECTION 60. Section 9 of said article 8 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out  
227 the word “his” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- the appointee’s.

228 SECTION 61. Section 10 of said article 8 of said charter is hereby amended by striking  
229 out the word “his” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- their.

230 SECTION 62. Section 11 of said article 8 of said charter is hereby amended by striking  
231 out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in  
232 each instance, the following words:- Select Board.

233 SECTION 63. Section 2 of article 9 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the  
234 second sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- Except as may otherwise  
235 be provided by this Charter, no regular full-time or part-time employee of the Town shall forfeit  
236 their pay grade or longevity as a result of the adoption of this Charter.

237 SECTION 64. This act shall take effect upon its passage.