

## SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF IRVINGTON

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Article III:2 Change dates for elections to coincide with state elections; They shall enter upon the duties of their offices at the January meeting of Town Council succeeding their election. This might be better put in BYLaws so that a charter change is not required for any future changes in state elections. Do other towns have by-laws or just a charter and ordinances?

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Article III:7 Define in specific terms what is meant by “preside”; specify that the Mayor may not vote in matters related to financial transactions or contract acceptance (even in the case of a tie).

-page 4:

Article III:11 Remove “in July” and just state “after the election”. Discuss duties and supervision of Clerk. Clarify: “Any vacancy in this office shall be filled by Council” Add a provision that a council member may perform the functions of the clerk in any interim period where this position is vacant.

Article III:12 “The council shall adopt rules for regulating its proceedings (in By Laws?) Define exactly what “regulating its proceedings” means. Role of TC in setting agenda; forming and filling committees; etc. Provide clarification on contract renewals and approvals; this is not well written.

Article III:13 Remove “July” and “state after election”.

Article III: 15-16 Combine. Change July to after election. Choose and describe duties of a Town Sergeant or Police Justice.

-discuss last paragraph with Andrew?

Article III: 17 Other positions that may be needed as the Town grows. No title such as Town Administrator or Town Manager may be adopted to avoid conflicts with other types of town governance.

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Article IV:7 Change slot machine to “lottery” Do we/can we charge a license fee for lottery?

Article IV:8 This whole section needs to be made more concise. To license and regulate the holding and location of public events. Should we require a license tax? A permit? That the event planners/organizers must show liability insurance. How is litter and other nuisances to be handled? How can we mitigate the creation of safety hazards / fire hazards?

Add: Article IV:12 Any Town expenditure, purchase...etc exceeding \$250,000. requires a referendum on the election ballot.

Article V:2 and 6 Are these two paragraphs in conflict with each other? Remove #2.

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Article VI:2 change "required" to "recommend"

Article VI:3 change "required" to "recommend"

Article VI:6 needs clarification rates/fee collections-not on town utilities

Article VII: 1 Is this in concert with the current State Code? V-Dot claims that we no longer have these controls.

Article VII: 2 Has this changed since 9/11??

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Article VIII: 1 Given our vision statement and identity as a historic and agricultural village, do we want to require a permit for the demolition of historic properties?

Article VIII: 2 For the same reasons, do we want to adopt minimum architectural standards for the business sector?

Article VIII: 4 Reinstate the fence ordinance? This belongs in ordinances

Article IX: 1 Define a noise ordinance; lighting ? reinstate the sign ordinance? Needs clarification or a rewrite; this belongs in ordinances.

Article IX:1 2 is this relevant?

Article IX:1 3-9 Needs overhaul-These are VDH responsibilities

Article IX:2 1 is this legal?

Article IX:2 3 "to prohibit and punish the carrying of concealed weapons with in the Town" Add: "unless licensed to do so".

Article IX:2 4 Really?

Pages 11-13:

A wide range of "powers" are granted which now fall under the jurisdiction of

eliminate those that are clearly not in our control or which we could not enforce and focus only on those that bear directly on the character, safety and quality of life in our community.

Article IX :6 I would like an interpretation of this and how it relates to our ordinance on formula businesses. Do we or do we not have the powers to make ordinances of our choosing as long as they are not “inconsistent with the laws of this State?” Many towns have ordinances prohibiting certain types of businesses if they deem them not in keeping with their vision of their community.