

21 JUN 10 8:59AM

WHAT CHANGES, IF ANY, WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE CONSIDER?

- * Cap spending and tax increases...live within an existing budget..between recent police station/sewer and school projects/proposals you will break the bank forgo many....if your want to take in some other things then cap everything else...it is not a bottomless pit.
- * The spending is out of control. Boondoggle projects like the giant police station (in a town with almost no crime) and the Public Works building, and the downtown sidewalks and crazy ugly traffic lights and rotary and the dredging that benefits 20 charter boats...ridiculous. Real estate taxes up 20-25% in 4 years.
- * Make CRC material available to the public on CRC website; your mtg minutes are supposed to list all documents used in meetings per Open Meeting Law; why don't you have "meeting packets" like Select Board does? Spell "shepherd" correctly. Remember that others are watching your meetings - negative comments aren't helpful to your process.
- * Encourage the Cape Codder to give more detailed coverage of Select Board meetings. The Chronicle has much better coverage of Orleans town government than does the Cape Codder.
- * Since we taxpayers are paying for center town sewers we should have access to all town restrooms.
- * A more specific and measurable list of goals to bring the town into compliance with the Federal ADA and State rules and laws. Re-activate the Commission on Disabilities and make the town ADA officer the lead staff person, helping seek grants and other funding to pay for renovations.
- * Looks good on paper, implementation is another issue. With so many unpaid volunteers running major functions, it is hard to have consistency and accountability.
- * Select Board did not evaluate the Town Administrator on schedule and just gave him another 3 years contract for \$180K per year! Who holds them accountable? Don't say the voters.
- * I haven't read the charter, but IO hope it reflects the fact that we allowed too much development and we need to promote more open space in order to protect our natural resources.
- * Promote business and development more aggressively.

- * Lower fees for essential services such as the dump and raise fees on non-resident use of town facilities. Require a sticker to park at town landings. Tax the seasonal rentals to pay the cost of maintaining the infrastructure. Limit the size of new homes to be compatible with existing neighborhoods. A new eight-bedroom home in an area of 3-4- bedroom Cape ranches destroys the character of the neighborhood. Stop trying to keep rich second and third homeowners happy.
- * Please simplify what the Select Board does as a policy body and what a town administrator with staff does for daily operations. Could you also clarify the role of Fin Com with respect to town meeting and whether they should operate beyond the scope of the warrant. And please, recommend a streamlined approach to committees and boards. The silo thing is not working for us when we try to serve multiple agendas without being aware of them. Perhaps board and committees should be re-thought around larger, more inclusive topics.
- * I think the town should stay out of the real estate business (buying and developing housing). Let the developers do that and the Planning board control it.
- * The Town needs a GOOD COMMUNITY CENTER for ALL AGES.
- * Day care, bring back town nurse and create social work job to connect people with help. More rental housing for families. A place and kitchen for pop-up businesses. Expand library's space for computers and printing. And staffing of it.
- * Not sure that this falls within the scope of the Town Charter, but with recent information that has come to light as a result of the Nauset High School renovation, the area is experiencing what is anticipated to be a sustained decline in student enrollment. At the same time, the member towns of the regional school district all seem to be pursuing similar goals - i.e., increasing affordable/attainable housing, increasing and encouraging economic growth and jobs, and developing recreational/community centers. Is it possible to work with other member towns to address some of these issues on a regional basis to ensure the most cost effective and sustainable solutions. For example, if enrollment will continue to decline within the school system and middle school students are consolidated into the high school campus, can the middle school campus be developed as a regional community center?
- * Better support for small business
- * Housing, environment, jobs - these are the big things.
- * We need a community center for kids, a better Rec program.
- * This is tough. Think taxes are getting out of hand for many. Town is a hard place to live because of cost to live. Not a place where gig workers or low earners can live. Should consider regionalizing town services. Like police fire schools, etc. I

for families who choose to live here year-round. Town planning is so very s-l-o-w. I have owned property in town for 41 years, completed at least 4 Town surveys over that time and other than police and fire departments and that wonderful brick wall painting in old movie theater not very much has changed at all. Sad, we've turned into a "senior citizen bedroom town" with a shrinking beach.

- * Don't repeat what we have, that is dated for our community composition including the 50% or so who own here but do not live here full time. We need to think and plan much longer term, e.g. 20 to 30 years. We keep thinking and acting very short term.
- * the Select Board spends too much time on micromanaging issues (i.e. Ted's garage). The Town Administrator/Town Executive role needs a better definition.
- * Was unclear what you were looking for in the Services box above.
- * The Governor Prence should be used for commercial, community center, or a performing arts center. It is a commercial area and should continue to be commercial. There are not many areas to grow commercially in Orleans. This is a perfect spot for commercial just as the old Cape Cod 5 building is perfect for affordable housing. Orleans "downtown" needs to stay alive!
- * Stop with this low-cost housing project. Orleans has enough apartments to cover the 10% state requirement.
- * Better, more updated town website. More direct outreach to voters with information.
- * Develop a modern community center.
- * Accountability for the town administrator, particularly availability of his/her performance review.
- * When electing a Town Administrator Select Board vote should require a super majority 4-1
- * Indigenous history

ORLEANS CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE SURVEY
“Strongly Disagree” Category Responses

- The amount of money that is spent on incredibly stupid projects is astounding....how much did the overkill traffic light cost at the Fire Dept?..It's clear....money is spent to burn it down...yet taxes just keep rising in a town that has a low student population...go look at a town that has to face austere issues....clueless.
- Town official's info for seniors is often incorrect and not helpful.
- Our town seems to confuse. Education with advocacy refusing to educate for fear of appearing to advocate. Town officials (appointed and elected) are too concerned over creating dissent and therefore do little to provide leadership.
- Town website needs to be updated to make it more user friendly.
- The town is not in compliance with ADA regulations. The Commission on Disabilities has not met in years. The town should be actively inspecting and if need be, renovating facilities to make them fully compliant.
- A few years ago, an individual spoke out about the difficulty of getting through the steps in opening a new restaurant in town. The town later formed an Ombudsman committee to address this. Looks like nothing has been done to appoint on yet.
- There is very little evidence of planning for the growth of our tax base.
- If anything, I think the town is allowing too much development. Our waters can't sustain so much development, and the poor water quality in so many of our waterways is proof. The FW Webb project NEVER should have gotten to Old King's Highway. It was completely inappropriate for our town. I also think we need a historic district in the heart of Orleans. Most towns have historic districts, so we are outliers. We should not allow historic homes to be demolished.
- The Hearth and Kettle property deal with CVS was whimsically denied....a major detriment to the town.
- Though I see teen-oriented activities, I am not sure if there are many activities and programs for young children in Orleans. Creative, art, drama, nature, etc in addition to sports would be nice.

- We spend on schools and an after-school program but now charge for recreation and we need more places for children and their parents to live. We also need daycare.
- Orleans doesn't seem to encourage new businesses, i.e., marijuana dispensary...or affordable housing...taxes way too steep for services provided.
- I am extremely concerned about the 'overgrowth' of Orleans in terms of development, especially with the mammoth size houses that continue to crop up. I wish the regulations were tighter on size of house related to the lot size, the height and set back requirements. With our fathers being a major source of the town's attraction to tourists and residents, we are running the risk of overdeveloping to the point of spoiling those.
- Downtown Orleans has a lot of vacancies. The Town should do more to attract appropriate business, that support the local economy and provide decent working wages. We need to solicit the types of businesses we want.
- The town does not support youth and community activities that provide a place to hang out and recreational programs. Year round after school activities that are affordable to all kids and adults are lacking.
- Charter should be amended to remove the Moderator's powers of appointment.
- Town should create an authority to attract businesses to the town, to develop resources needed for year-round, clean business.
- Select Board needs to be more conservative in authorizing massive capital projects.
- The pace and scale of home construction is damaging the character of the town. Limit house size? Restrict swimming pools? Increase setback requirements?
- Since COVID and closure of Town Hall, feel very uninformed.
- I am well informed because I watch all the Select Board and FinComm meetings.

- People who work of the Town are generally warm and personally helpful. The whole process of getting approvals and determining what is allowed is ponderous, legalistic, officious, and arbitrary.
- The decision to kill the Webb project was typical of the town attitude about business growth
- Strict enforcement of existing zoning by building department and strict interpretation of zoning by the zoning board of appeals has more to do with how our town looks and operates. The ZBA is often embarrassing with their tepid deliberations and failure to require zoning compliance.
- I don't have children so don't feel qualified to answer questions about their experiences with town resources. I don't feel connected to the inner workings of town government. Hopefully, a new town website can build stronger communication between select board, departments, and citizens.
- The only reason I feel well-informed is due to the Exit 89 newsletter and emails from Andrea Reed. The town needs to do a better job.
- Too complicated process to allow small businesses to open and survive.
- Ask any contractor trying to do work in Orleans. Answer always the same. Worst town on the Outer, Lower Cape when dealing with Town Hall. Especially Building Dept.
- What is "growth?" What is Orleans' "special character?" Open the discussion
- Much less coverage by local newspapers. So how? Reed's newsletter is informative.

Charter Review Survey

VIEW

EDIT

WEBFORM

RESULTS

REVISIONS

CLONE

UNPUBLISH

Submissions

Analysis

Table

Download

Clear

This page shows analysis of submitted data, such as the number of submissions per component value, calculations, and averages. Additional components may be added under the "Add analysis components" fieldset.

Have you read the Orleans Town Charter?

Yes	44
No	46

Orleans town officials are accountable to the electorate/public

4) Strongly agree	23
3) Agree	51
2) Disagree	16
1) Strongly disagree	2

Seniors:

4) Strongly agree	28
3) Agree	50
2) Disagree	5
1) Strongly disagree	2

Families:

4) Strongly agree	7
3) Agree	44
2) Disagree	26
1) Strongly disagree	3

Children:

4) Strongly agree	14
3) Agree	37
2) Disagree	19
1) Strongly disagree	8

Teenagers:

4) Strongly agree	6
3) Agree	34
2) Disagree	29
1) Strongly disagree	7

Physically Challenged:

4) Strongly agree	7
3) Agree	45
2) Disagree	16
1) Strongly disagree	3

Town regulations encourage economic growth.

4) Strongly agree	2
3) Agree	36
2) Disagree	37
1) Strongly disagree	12

Town planning and current zoning find a good balance between encouraging growth and maintaining the special character of Orleans.

4) Strongly agree	6
3) Agree	39
2) Disagree	33
1) Strongly disagree	13

Town regulations and services are easily navigated to get things done.

4) Strongly agree	4
3) Agree	30
2) Disagree	42
1) Strongly disagree	12

The process for vetting members of committees, boards and commissions is open and free of conflicts of interest.

4) Strongly agree	7
3) Agree	60
2) Disagree	10
1) Strongly disagree	3

I feel well informed about what the Orleans town government is doing.

4) Strongly agree	9
3) Agree	54
2) Disagree	26
1) Strongly disagree	4

What is your age range?

21 - 45	4
46 - 70	29
Over 70	60

How long have you lived in Orleans?

1--5 years	11
5--10 years	10
Over 10 years	72

Is this your full-time or part-time residence?

Full time	86
Part time	6

How do you keep informed:
(Check all that apply)

Newspapers – (Please indicate Which one(s) below)	76
Radio	33
Public access	36
Internet	73
Town Website	69
TV	23
Other – (Please describe below)	9

Update analysis display