CHARGE TO THE
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

In accordance with Chapter 6-9-1 of Town of Orleans Home Rule Charter, every seven years, commencing with the year 1999, the Select Board shall appoint a Charter Review Committee of seven members. The Select Board shall charge the committee to review the provisions of the Charter and report any amendments deemed advisable.

Accordingly, in order to fulfill the review requirements as outlined in the Charter, the Charter Review Committee (CRC) shall accomplish the following tasks:

1. To study the Orleans Home Rule Charter as most recently amended, and background information relating to its development, and to prepare a list of basic principles (tenets) of town government on which the Charter is based.

2. To review proposals for amendments received from the Select Board, the Town Administrator, Town Committees, Commissions and Boards, and the general public, and to measure each amendment against the basic principles developed in task #1.

3. To review the entire Charter for sections which may be unclear, inappropriate, or inconsistent with the basic principles developed in task #1, and draft amendments to address these issues.

4. To compile a list of proposed amendments and review them with Town Counsel.

5. To conduct a public hearing on proposed amendments and make a decision on which will be recommended to the voters for approval.

6. To prepare a report for the Select Board concerning recommended amendments. If a proposed amendment has strong public support but departs from the list of basic principles developed in task #1 above, it should be so noted in the report.

7. To meet with the Select Board to discuss the findings of the report and forthcoming actions and seek approval for final recommendations.

8. To present final recommendations for amendments to an Annual Town Meeting, in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 43B §10.

Date Prepared: July 1, 2020
Date Adopted: July 1, 2020