

(New Section) Preamble

*We the people of the Town of Essex, under the constitution and laws of the state of Vermont, in order to secure the benefits of local self-government and to provide for an honest and accountable select board government do hereby adopt this charter.*

*By this action, we affirm the values of representative democracy, professional management, strong political leadership, citizen participation, diversity and inclusiveness, and environmental stewardship.*

*Each individual shall have an equal opportunity to participate fully in the economic, cultural, and political life of the Town. Discrimination is prohibited based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, marital status, military status, or physical or mental disability.*

*Subchapter 1: Powers of Town*

§ 117-101 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-101) Corporate Existence Retained

§ 117-102 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-102) General Law, Application

§ 117-103 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-103) Powers of the Town

§ 117-104 [Repealed]

§ 117-105 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-110) Reservation of Powers to the Town

§ 117-106 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-105(b) *and* New) Ordinances – Method of Adoption and Enforcement

§ 117-107 (New) Just Cause Eviction

*Subchapter 2: Officers*

§ 117-201 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-201) Officers generally

§ 117-202 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-202) Number, terms of office, election

§ 117-203 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-208) Compensation of Selectboard; appointees

§ 117-204 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-203) Organization

§ 117-205 (New) Recall of Selectboard Members

§ 117-206 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-204) Meetings

§ 117-207 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-205) Recording of proceedings

§ 117-208 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-209) Powers and duties

§ 117-209 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-206) Appointments by Selectboard

§ 117-210 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-207) Jurisdiction over other officers or employees

*Subchapter 3: Ordinances*

§ 117-301 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-106) Ordinances – Method of adoption and enforcement

§ 117-302 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-106) Publication

§ 117-303 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-106) Consideration, public hearing, and adoption

§ 117-304 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-105(a) and New) Enforcement

§ 117-305 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-107) Effective date

§ 117-306 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-108) Filing and accessibility

§ 117-307 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-304) Repeal of ordinances

§ 117-308 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-305) Petition for enactment of ordinances; special meeting

*Subchapter 4: Town Manager Powers and Duties*

§ 117-401 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-601) Appointment of manager

§ 117-402 (New) Responsibilities, powers, and duties

§ 117-403 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-602, Sec. 117-901, and Sec. 117-902) Appointments by Town Manager

§ 117-404 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-903) Prohibitions

*Subchapter 5: Annual Meeting*

§ 117-501 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-301) Application of general Law

§ 117-502 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-109 and Sec. 117-703) Annual town report

§ 117-503 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-302) Time of holding

*Subchapter 6: Budget*

§ 117-601 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-701) Fiscal year

§ 117-602 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-702) Preparation and Submission

§ 117-603 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-303 and Sec. 117-703) Budget at annual meeting

§ 117-604 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-704) Appropriation

§ 117-605 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-705) Amount to be raised by taxation

§ 117-606 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-707) Transfers of appropriations

*Subchapter 7: Taxation*

§ 117-701 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-801) Taxes on real and personal property

§ 117-702 (New) Local Option Tax

§ 117-703 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-802) Penalty

§ 117-704 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-803) Board of Abatement

§ 117-705 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-804) Assessment and taxation agreement

Subchapter 8: Planning, development, and public safety

§ 117-801 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-401) Planning Commission

§ 117-802 (New) Development Review Board

§ 117-803 (New) Energy-related issues

§ 117-804 (New) Transition provisions

§ 117-805 (New) Commission of Public Safety

Subchapter 9: Department of Assessment

§ 117-901 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-501) Creation of department

§ 117-902 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-505) Purpose

§ 117-903 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-502) Appraisal of property

§ 117-904 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-503) Appraisal of business personal property for tax purposes

§ 117-905 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-504) Powers and duties

*Subchapter 10: Amendment of Charter and Initiatives*

§ 117-1001 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-1001) Laws governing

*Subchapter 11: General*

§ 117-1101 (New) Savings Clause

§ 117-1102 (Current Charter: Sec. 117-1101) Severability