

# SPECIMEN BALLOT

Penalty for willfully defacing, tearing down, removing or destroying a list of candidates or specimen ballot.

FINE NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS.



OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
NORTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2021

*Lucia B. Houghurst*  
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name and address on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<b>SELECT BOARD</b>  For 3 Years VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO	<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>  For 3 Years VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO	<b>WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONER</b>  For 3 Years VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE
MEGAN A. ARTZ 300 Reservoir Street Candidate for re-election	(Write-in)	(Write-in)
CHRISTINE ANN DEVEAU 14 Holly Road	(Write-in)	(Write-in)
FRANK J. PARKER, III 4 Allen Drive		
(Write-in)	<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b>	<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY</b>
(Write-in)	For 3 Years VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO	For 5 Years VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE
<b>BOARD OF ASSESSORS</b>  For 3 Years VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE	DENIZ SAVAS 5 Brahman Drive Candidate for re-election	RALPH W. STEFANELLI 12 James Street Candidate for re-election
RICHARD F. DORNEY 24 Talbot Drive	DANIEL L. SHEEDY 10 Goldenwood Drive Candidate for re-election	(Write-in)
(Write-in)	(Write-in)	
	(Write-in)	

QUESTIONS CONTINUED ON BACK

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## BALLOT QUESTIONS

### QUESTION 1

Shall this town approve new charter recommended by the charter commission summarized below

The proposed charter changes our form of government from Select Board/Town Manager/Town Meeting to Town Manager/Town Council. The current executive branch power of the Select Board/Town Manager is consolidated into the Town Manager position. The seven, at-large Town Council members, elected to 3-year staggered terms, will replace Town Meeting as the Legislative Branch. The election of the initial Town Council will be in June of this year, with Town Councilors to take office on July 1. Following approval of the Charter, a transition committee will be appointed to assist with implementation of the new Charter.

The School Committee, Planning Board, and Board of Assessors will remain elected positions serving staggered 3-year terms. The Housing Authority will transition from an elected position to an appointed one. The charter provides a framework to create a new Department of Public Works which would consolidate existing Town departments (including water, sewer, highway, tree, and cemetery departments among others). The Town Council would have the policy and rate-setting authority of the Board of Public Works, which would eliminate the Water and Sewer Commission. Responsibility for the day-to-day operation would lie with a Director appointed by the Town Manager.

The Town Manager will appoint all Department Heads - some with confirmation of the Town Council. Before appointing Department Heads that support volunteer boards, the Town Manager will consult with those boards. The Town Manager will also make all appointments to volunteer boards, subject to confirmation by the Town Council.

The charter contains procedures for a budget process that will start earlier in the fiscal year, and will require collaboration among the Town Manager, Town Council, and School Committee. Before voting on the final budget, Town Council will be required to hold a public hearing. The Town Manager will also prepare a 5-year financial forecast of Town revenue.

Several mechanisms are included in the charter to allow for direct voter participation. Registered voters can petition the Town Council or School Committee to hold a public hearing on a specific issue through a Citizen Petition, petition the Council to pass a specific measure through an initiative process, repeal a measure enacted by the Council through a referendum process, and remove from office any elected official by petitioning for a recall election.

Finally, the Charter provides for a review of the Charter every 5 years to ensure that it continues to evolve to meet our community's needs.

YES ☐

NO ☐

### QUESTION 2

Shall the Town of Norton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to plan, design, construct, furnish and equip a Town Hall located at 70 and 78 East Main Street, a Senior and Community Support Center to be located at 120 Mansfield Avenue, and a Norton Public Schools Community Athletic Complex to be located on the grounds of the Norton High School, 66 West Main Street and the Henri A. Yelle Elementary School, 64 West Main Street; and for all incidental and related costs, including, but not limited to, land purchases, costs for professional services such as design, contract administration, professional, and owners project management, as well as site preparation and demolition.

YES ☐

NO ☐