



# City of Gloucester City Council

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**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**CITY COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE**  
**Ordinances & Administration**  
**Monday, April 26, 2010 - 6:30 p.m.**  
**Kyrouz Auditorium - 9 Dale Avenue, City Hall**

## AGENDA

1. City Charter Review – Public Hearing
2. Other Business

## COMMITTEE

**Councilor Sefatia Theken, Chair**  
**Councilor Ann Mulcahey, Vice Chair**  
**Councilor Bruce Tobey**

Committee members – Please bring relevant documentation

Back-up and Supporting Documentation all on file at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall

10 APR 21 AM 8:13

CITY CLERK  
GLOUCESTER, MA

CITY CLERK  
GLOUCESTER, MA

10 APR 26 PM 12:36



April 26, 2010

To: O&A Committee  
From: Linda T.Lowe

Re: Charter Revisions under Charter sec. 10-1(b)

As you know the Charter requires that "in each year ending in zero" the O&A Committee "shall... review the Charter and submit a report with recommendations to the full City Council concerning any proposed amendments or revisions."

This review would be conducted pursuant to the Home Rule Procedures in MGLc.43B for home rule charters. Every municipality has the power to amend its existing Charter so long as amendments are in compliance with Chapter 43B. There are however certain matters which may be amended only by means of a Charter Commission. As the O&A conducts its 2010 review it should keep the limitations expressed in MGLc43Bsec.10 in mind. "Only a Charter Commission elected under this chapter may propose any change in a charter relating in any way to the **composition, mode of election or appointment, or terms of office of the legislative body, the mayor or city manager or the board of selectmen or town manager.**" For example, the Committee may not propose amendments to sec. 3-11 governing a vacancy in the office of the mayor or sec. 4-5 concerning a vacancy on the school committee; however the Committee may propose changes to sections 7-1 to 7-3 relating to reorganization plans.