



**ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS
MARCH 27, 2018
PRECINCT NINE**

Sandra J. Bergen
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

- A. **TO VOTE**, completely fill in the **OVAL** to the **RIGHT** of your choice(s) like this:
- B. **DO NOT** vote for **MORE** candidates than the instructions for each office direct.
- C. To vote for a person whose name **IS NOT** already printed for an office on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the write-in line for that office and completely fill in the **OVAL**.

<p align="center">MODERATOR</p> <p>(one year) <u>VOTE FOR ONE</u></p> <p>JAMES W. PISTRANG <input type="radio"/> 41 High Point Dr Candidate for re-election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center">JONES LIBRARY TRUSTEE</p> <p>(three years) <u>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO</u></p> <p>AUSTIN D. SARAT <input type="radio"/> 76 Snell St Candidate for re-election</p> <p>KITTY AXELSON-BERRY <input type="radio"/> 89 Stony Hill Rd</p> <p>SIGURD NILSEN <input type="radio"/> 27 Teaberry Ln</p> <p>TAMSON M. ELY <input type="radio"/> 26 Middle St Candidate for re-election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center">TOWN MEETING MEMBERS PRECINCT 9</p> <p>(three years) <u>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN EIGHT</u></p> <p>MARGARET R. ROBERTS <input type="radio"/> 2 Hills Rd Candidate for re-election</p> <p>NIELS P. LACOUR <input type="radio"/> 124 North Whitney St Candidate for re-election</p> <p>OLIVIA HOPE WILLIAMSON <input type="radio"/> 2 Salem Pl</p> <p>JOSEPH K. JAYNE <input type="radio"/> 18 Taylor St</p> <p>SARAH C. LACOUR <input type="radio"/> 124 North Whitney St</p> <p>JULIA Y. RUESCHEMEYER <input type="radio"/> 165 North Whitney St</p> <p>CAROLYN LATINO <input type="radio"/> 280 North East St</p> <p>EMILIE GAIL HAMILTON <input type="radio"/> 24 Chestnut Ct Candidate for re-election</p> <p>NANCY E. HIGGINS <input type="radio"/> 558 Main St Candidate for re-election</p> <p>DAVID MARKLAND <input type="radio"/> 47 Pokeberry Rdg</p> <p>GARY MICHAEL TARTAKOV <input type="radio"/> 109 High St Candidate for re-election</p> <p>KRISTOPHER ELIAS KOLBERT <input type="radio"/> 2 Salem Pl</p> <p>JONATHAN P. O'KEEFFE <input type="radio"/> 73 Butterfield Ter</p> <p>MICHAEL A. ASH <input type="radio"/> 47 Mount Pleasant</p> <p>CLAUDIA A. BROWN <input type="radio"/> 47 Pokeberry Ridge Candidate for re-election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>
<p align="center">SELECT BOARD</p> <p>(three years) <u>VOTE FOR ONE</u></p> <p>ROBERT E. GREENEY <input type="radio"/> 76 McClellan St</p> <p>IVAN B. BABIAN <input type="radio"/> 187 Colonial Village</p> <p>DOUGLAS WESLEY SLAUGHTER <input type="radio"/> 5 Dwight Cir Candidate for re-election</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center">HOUSING AUTHORITY</p> <p>(one year) <u>VOTE FOR ONE</u></p> <p>DAVID W. WILLIAMS <input type="radio"/> 158 Rolling Ridge Rd</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	
<p align="center">SCHOOL COMMITTEE</p> <p>(three years) <u>VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO</u></p> <p>KERRY A. SPITZER <input type="radio"/> 56 Berkshire Ter</p> <p>ALLISON BLEYLER McDONALD <input type="radio"/> 43 Hop Brook Rd</p> <p>BENJAMIN JOSEPH HERRINGTON <input type="radio"/> 99J South Point Apts</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center">REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY</p> <p>(five years) <u>VOTE FOR ONE</u></p> <p>JEFFREY C. LEE <input type="radio"/> 815 South East St</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	
	<p align="center">ELECTOR, OLIVER SMITH WILL</p> <p>(one year) <u>VOTE FOR ONE</u></p> <p>CAROL JEANNETTE GRAY <input type="radio"/> 815 South East St</p> <p>(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

BALLOT QUESTION

Shall Amherst approve the new charter recommended by the charter commission, summarized below?

YES

NO

Summary of Proposed Charter

A "Yes" vote on the new charter creates a Town Council/Town Manager form of government for Amherst. A "No" vote retains the current Representative Town Meeting/Select Board/Town Manager form of government.

The charter provides for an elected 13-member Town Council composed of 10 District Councilors (2 in each of 5 districts) and 3 Councilors-at-Large, all serving two year terms. Each district is made up of two current voting precincts. The Town Council appoints and supervises a Town Manager to serve as chief executive officer.

The Town Council replaces the 254-member Representative Town Meeting as the legislative body. The 5-member Select Board would also be eliminated, with the Town Council providing policy leadership and the Town Manager serving as chief executive officer.

The Town Council approves the budget, authorizes borrowing, enacts local bylaws and resolutions, and provides policy leadership. It also confirms the Town Manager's appointments of department heads and resident boards/committees.

The Town Manager administers day-to-day operations, including appointment and supervision of Town employees; preparing the annual budget; and negotiating contracts.

Local Election Day moves to November and is held in odd-numbered years. The terms of the School Committee, Library Trustees, Oliver Smith Will Elector, and 3 members of the Housing Authority will be 2 years.

Town Councilors and School Committee members will receive stipends.

District Councilors must hold two District Meetings per year, for two-way communication with their constituents. Three town-wide Forums also are required each year, for public discussion of the budget, the schools, and the master plan.

The charter requires the Town Council to adopt a master plan and to consider whether proposed land use, zoning, or development regulations are consistent with the master plan. The Town Council appoints members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. The Town Manager appoints members of the Redevelopment Authority.

The charter allows voter-driven initiatives. It also enables voters to repeal Town Council actions through a "voter veto" process.

The charter creates a Ranked-Choice Voting Commission and a Participatory Budgeting Commission.

The Charter provides a city form of government when state law distinguishes between "towns" and "cities". Amherst will continue to be known as the "Town of Amherst."

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING