

TOWN OF WEST WARWICK  
BOARD OF CANVASSERS

Notice is hereby given that the following four local questions will appear on the ballot for the general election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022

**STATE QUESTIONS 1-3:** Please refer to the State Guide mailed to your home or <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Forms/elections/Guides/VoterInformationHandbook.pdf>

**LOCAL QUESTION 4:** REFERENDUM QUESTION REGARDING STATE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES FOR CANNABIS-RELATED BUSINESS IN THE TOWN OF WEST WARWICK (Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 25, 2022) Shall new cannabis-related licenses for business involved in the cultivation, manufacture, laboratory testing and for the retail sale of adult recreational-use cannabis be issued in the Town of West Warwick?

**LOCAL QUESTIONS 5-8:** PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE WEST WARWICK TOWN CHARTER. Below each amendment is a brief explanation of the reason for the recommended change.

**QUESTION 5 -**

**COUNCIL VACANCY - ARTICLE IV, Section 403 VACANCIES**

Shall the West Warwick Town Charter be amended to fill Town Council vacancies in the following manner:

If less than 2 years to the next general election by appointment of the Town Council until the next general election and the appointee shall be a member of the same political party of the member vacating the office or any qualified elector if such member was unaffiliated?

Currently, if a Town Council vacancy occurs one (1) year or more prior to the next regular election, a special election shall be called by the Town Clerk to fill the vacancy. This amendment would increase that time period to two (2) years prior to the next regular election. This would potentially reduce the number of special elections and costs associated with running those elections.

**QUESTION 6 -**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE VACANCY -ARTICLE XIX, Section 1903 VACANCIES**

Shall the West Warwick Town Charter be amended to fill School Committee vacancies in the following manner:

If less than 2 years to the next general election by appointment of the Town Council until the next general election and the appointee shall be a member of the same political party of the member vacating the office or any qualified elector if such member was unaffiliated?

Currently, if a School Committee vacancy occurs one (1) year or more prior to the next regular election, a special election shall be called by the Town Clerk to fill the vacancy. This amendment would increase that time period to two (2) years prior to the next regular election. This would potentially reduce the number of special elections and costs associated with running those elections.

**QUESTION 7**

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR QUALIFICATION -ARTICLE XV, Section 1502, DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS**

Shall the West Warwick Town Charter be amended to allow the appointment of the Public Works Director in the following manner:

A person with a bachelor's degree and three years' experience or a person with relevant job experience deemed appropriate by the Town Council?

This amendment would allow the Town Council to appoint a Public Works Director that they deem has appropriate experience and qualification.

**QUESTION 8**

**CHARTER REVIEW ARTICLE XXII, SECTION 2203 – CODIFICATION AND REVIEW OF ORDINANCES**

Shall the West Warwick Town Charter be amended to allow the revision of the Code of Ordinances in the following manner:

The Code of Ordinances shall be revised as needed as opposed to every 5 years?

Due to advances in technology, the Code of Ordinances are updated on a regular basis. This amendment would allow the Town Council to revise the Code of Ordinances as needed.

**VOTER FRAUD IS A FELONY PUNISHABLE BY A PRISON TERM OF UP TO 10 YEARS AND A FINE OF UP TO \$5,000 FOR EACH OFFENSE. YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO VOTE FROM YOUR ACTUAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE.**