

## CHARTERS: THE CONTRACT TO OPERATE A TOWN

Every locality in New Hampshire is formed under the authority of a Charter.

The Charter is the contract that establishes the agreed forms of governance, taxation and spending, agreed upon among the Charter voters.

There are different types of chartered government:

### 1. Town – treated in RSA Chapter 49-D

- ◇ Bedford
- ◇ Derry
- ◇ Durham
- ◇ Hooksett
- ◇ Londonderry
- ◇ Merrimack
- ◇ Newmarket

### 1. City – treated in RSA Chapter 49-C

(RSA=Revised Statutes Annotated meaning they are laws. See the link to the NH RSAs on our website)

The Town Charter allows for spelling out the town law requirements for areas such as spending limitations, ethics for public officials etc.

Remember that you're entitled to have your voice heard. A few persons at a town meeting can have a large effect on the outcome of the process.

Protect your property, defend what you have earned from the malicious or misinformed efforts of those who are supposed to be representing you.

Coalition of New Hampshire Taxpayers  
8 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
[www.cnht.org](http://www.cnht.org)