

**ARTICLE XI**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1. Oath of Office.** Every officer of the Town shall, before entering upon duties of office, take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation, to be filed and kept in the office of the Town Clerk:

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution and will obey the laws of the United States and of the State of Maine; that I will, in all respects, observe the provisions of the Charter and ordinances of the Town of Gray and statutes of the State of Maine, and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_."

**Section 2. Subpoena Before Council.** The clerks of the Supreme Judicial and Superior Courts may issue a subpoena for witnesses to attend and produce books, documents and papers at any meeting of the Council for the Town of Gray at which a hearing is had in any matter regarding any alleged dereliction of duty by Town officers or employees. On complaint of failure to obey a subpoena filed with any Justice of either Court, if said justice finds failure to obey such subpoena to be without reasonable excuse, the Justice shall impose a fine of not less than one hundred (100) dollars nor more than one thousand (1000) dollars.

**Section 3. Ordinances Consistent Continue in Force.** All ordinances of the Town of Gray in force at the time when this Charter takes effect, consistent with the provisions of this Charter, shall continue in force until amended or repealed.

**Section 4. Existing Contracts not Invalidated, Unless Inconsistent.** All rights, actions, proceedings, prosecutions, and contracts of the Town or any of its departments, pending or unexecuted when this Charter goes into effect and consistent herewith, shall be enforced, continued or completed in all respects as though begun or executed hereunder.

**Section 5. Continuance of Present Administrative Officers.** All persons holding administrative office at the time this Charter takes effect shall continue in office and in the performance of their duties until provisions shall have been made in accordance herewith for the performance of such duties or the discontinuance of such office.

**Section 6. Expiration Term of Present Elected Officials and Applicability.** The terms of the present elected municipal or school officials shall continue until the annual municipal elections of the year in which their terms were to have expired. All provisions of this Charter, including the recall and forfeiture of office provisions, shall apply to elected municipal or school officials, including those in office at the time of adoption of this Charter.

**Section 7. Charter Amendments.** Amendments, modifications and revisions to this Charter may be made pursuant to the applicable provisions of State law. The following questions shall be put to the voters every ten (10) years from the effective date of this Charter, at the respective November election:

1. "Shall a Charter Commission be established for the purpose of revising the municipal Charter or establishing a new Charter?" The voters shall indicate "yes" or "no" on their ballot in a manner as instructed on the ballot.
2. "Indicate the six (6) candidates you wish to serve on the Commission." The candidates shall be listed on the ballot alphabetically by last name. The voters shall indicate their selections in a manner indicated on the ballot.

**Section 8. Referendum; Effective Date; Certification to Secretary of State.** This Charter shall be placed before the voters at an election as determined by the Council, and warrants shall be issued for such elections in a manner now provided by law, notifying and warning the registered voters of said Town to meet and cast their ballots on the approval or rejection of the same.

The Town Clerk shall prepare the ballots pursuant to the laws of the State of Maine, on which the clerk shall reduce the subject matter to the following question:

"Shall the municipality approve the Charter revision recommended by the Charter Commission?"

The voters shall indicate "yes" or "no" in the manner instructed on the ballot.

The results of the election shall be duly certified by the municipal officers of the Town of Gray and such certification shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

The passed revision shall take effect July 1, 2001.

**Section 9. Recording.** Pursuant to state law, within three (3) days of the results of the election being declared, certified copies are to be filed with the Secretary of State, the State Law and Reference Library and the Office of the Town Clerk. Additionally, certified copies shall be stored in the Town Library and the Office of the Town Attorney. Electronic copies of the revised Charter shall also be kept in the Town Clerk's office, the Town Library and the Town Attorney's Office. Electronic copies must be protected so that they may not be altered or changed.

**Section 10. Short Title.** This Charter shall be known and may be cited as the "Council-Manager Charter of the Town of Gray". The Town Clerk shall cause it to be printed and made available to the public promptly.

**Section 11. Separability Clause.** If any portion of this Charter shall be held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

**Section 12. Repealing Clause.** All Acts and parts of Acts of the private and special laws of Maine relating to the Town of Gray, inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter, are repealed.