

# VILLAGE OF DOYLESTOWN CHARTER UPDATE

The Village of Doylestown Charter Commission would like to give you a brief explanation of the benefits of our recently proposed Charter.

The commission's mission is to create a charter allowing the village to operate more efficiently and free us of the current outdated state directed formats as many of our neighboring communities have done. The commission's goal was to eliminate some inefficiencies and retain the practices that are working well. Only change those that can be improved. This provides the ability for the village to adapt more easily in the future.

The charter as written is known as "Mayor-Council-Administrator" and will provide for the hiring of a Village Administrator. The mayor and council will continue to be positions elected by the citizens of the village. The Village Council will be responsible for selecting, hiring and supervising the Administrator.

This will relieve our current and future mayors of the responsibility of the day-to-day management of the village. It will allow the mayor more time to be engaged with the citizens and also allows for a wider variety of citizens to consider the position. Currently the position of mayor can be very demanding, nearly a full-time job. For persons already working full time this can prove to be overwhelming and might deter some of our citizens from considering this opportunity. The mayor will continue as a vital part of governing the village.

The mayor will still set agendas, preside over council meetings and be responsible for other key duties of the office such as breaking tie votes of Village Council. The timeline for the change will allow for a smooth transition and for the current mayor to help with the orientation of the new Village Administrator.

Hiring a Village Administrator will provide a qualified person to focus on the demands of running the village on a daily basis.

The new charter will eliminate the Board of Public Affairs by integrating those responsibilities into the other daily duties required of the Administrator to run the village. This will put the major responsibilities and supervision of budgets into one central location making these efforts more efficient.

Another key change is to combine the Planning and Zoning commissions into one group. This new Planning Commission should streamline our processes previously taking from months down to days. This will be very helpful to our citizens trying to make improvements to their properties.

## 3 Changes Doylestown Deserves

Problem	Solution
Mayor has heavy managerial workload with 24/7 availability	Caring Mayor and trained Administrator will provide improved village government services
Zoning and planning steps staggered taking months for citizens to gain approval to improve their properties	Zoning and planning combined to shorten time to approval from months to days
Board of Public Affairs (BPA) that manage water/sewer have the responsibility with limited authority without Village Council approval	Remove bureaucracy involved in management of water/sewer by placing the role in the hands of the person that runs all village services

We encourage everyone to read the proposed charter and contact any of the commission members, our Mayor or Village Council members with any questions. We believe accepting the charter as written will allow our village to operate more efficiently and provide the opportunity to adapt to future needs.

The key changes are shown in the chart below. Thank you for taking the time to review the entire document that will be mailed to village registered voters. Please feel free to contact us with questions.

## 67 Current Charters in Ohio

### 0 Reversals of Charters

#### Closest Charter Municipalities

<u>Wayne County Charters</u>	<u>Nearby Charters</u>	
Orrville	Akron	Medina
Rittman	Barberton	North Canton
Wooster	Canal Fulton	New Franklin
	Fairlawn	Norton
	Green	

Once Charter is approved any further changes would require it be placed on the ballot for citizen vote.

#### Doylestown Charter Commission

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