



Division of Powers Sample Language

The following sample language illustrates the division of power language in some comparable charters, along with a note indicating where other elected boards may share some executive level responsibilities of the town.

Dedham:

"Sec. 1-3 Form of Government. The administration of all the fiscal, prudential, and municipal affairs of the town, with the government thereof, shall be vested in a legislative branch, to consist of a representative town meeting, and an executive branch, to be headed by a select board."

Elected boards: Select Board, School Committee, Board of Health

Reading:

"Sec. 1.2 Division of Powers. Authority for the management of all the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs of the Town shall be vested in an executive branch headed by a Board of Selectmen and administered by a Town Manager. A representative Town Meeting shall exercise all legislative powers of the Town."

Elected boards: Select Board, Board of Library Trustees, School Committee, Municipal Light Board.

Walpole (Divided among different sections):

"Sec. 2-1. There shall be a representative form of Town Meeting which shall exercise all power vested in the municipal corporation so far as it is consistent with the provisions of this Charter."

"Sec 3-2(B)(1) All executive authority of the town government shall be vested in a Select Board, hereinafter called Select Board members. The Select Board members shall have all the powers and duties conferred upon Select Boards under the Constitution and General Laws of the Commonwealth, as determined by the Town By-laws and this Charter."

Elected boards: Select Board, Board of Assessors, Housing Authority, Library Board of Trustees, Planning Board, School Committee, Sewer & Water Commission.

Winchester:

"Sec. 1.2. Division of Powers. Authority for the management of all the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs of the Town shall be vested in an executive branch headed by a Board of Selectmen and administered by a Town Manager. A representative Town Meeting shall exercise all legislative powers of the Town."

Elected boards: Select Board, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Board of Library Trustees, Housing Authority, Planning Board, School Committee, Voc. School Board.