



Why should Ogunquit have a Charter?

Charter Review Commission - 2 September 2020

- **Maine’s Constitution – Home Rule = VIIIth Amendment**
- **Charter - Pros & Cons**

| Non-Charter Towns in Maine = 427 | Charter Towns = less than 66 |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No burning need – follow State Statutes • If it works, don’t fix it • Town Administrative Codes & Ordinances • Both written on paper vs etched in stone • Charter = another layer of regulation • Time, effort & expense of Charter Reviews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Rule – Decentralized Power (900+ vs 36 pages) • Right to govern unless prohibited (Federal/State) • Each town’s Charter is unique – needs & values • Charter describes governmental structure • Charter governs powers, duties & responsibilities • Amendments must be approved by voters • Enhances voter interest & participation |

- **Surrounding Non-Charter Towns: Kennebunkport. Berwick & North Berwick**
- **Ogunquit’s Charter History**
 - 1913 – First Legislative Charter approving the Ogunquit Village Corporation (street lights)
 - 1980 – Second Legislative Charter establishing the Town of Ogunquit (L.D. 9590)
 - 1991 – Ogunquit Adopted its First Town Charter, approved by the Town’s voters
 - 2020 – Ogunquit’s Charter Review Commission commenced on August 4th - Charter #18