

# BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. (5)

## AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2006

**SUBJECT: Consideration of A Charter Amendment Changing the Process for Filling Board Vacancies**

<b>DEPARTMENT: MANAGER'S OFFICE</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING: NO</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> <b>A – Resolution</b> <b>B – Current Draft Charter Amendment</b> <b>C – Memo from Town Attorney (accompanying newest draft amendment)</b> <b>D – 3/7/06 Memo from Town Attorney</b> <b>E - 11/4/05 Memo from Town Attorney</b> <b>F – Minutes of 4/11/06 BOA Meeting</b> <b>G – Minutes of 5/3/06 BOA Meeting</b> <b>H – Minutes of 9/19/06 BOA Meeting</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b> <b>CONTACT:</b> <b>Drew Cummings (918-7314)</b>

### PURPOSE

The Board has had a number of discussions regarding the possibility of seeking a charter amendment from the General Assembly. An amendment has been proposed that would do the following:

- 1) If an unexpected Board vacancy left more than a year before the next general election, then the Board of Aldermen would call a special election to fill that vacancy until the next general election.
- 2) If an unexpected Board vacancy left less than a year before the next general election, then the Board would appoint someone to fill that vacancy until the next general election.

### INFORMATION

The Orange County Board of Elections has indicated that the turnaround time between a Board of Aldermen resolution requesting a special election and getting a certified winner would be between 57-77 days. The Board of Elections has also indicated that the cost to the Town of Carrboro for a special election is currently a little under \$11,000.

### FISCAL IMPACT

Special elections currently cost in the neighborhood of \$11,000.

### RECOMMENDATION

Town staff recommends that the Board consider this proposed amendment.