

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(6)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2006

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

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

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.