



## **Summary of the Town of Bedford Charter**

- 1986 Charter Commission elected
- 1987 Charter adopted
- 1988 Town Council Elected (7 at large members)
- Appointed Town Manager serves as Chief Administrative Officer
- Budget - Remains in control of the voters at the Budgetary Town Meeting. Typically held the day after election/voting day in March. All financial matters except bonding which goes on the ballot.
- Zoning Amendments – Remains in control of the voters via the ballot.
- The Town Council serves as the legislative body for all other matters.
- Referendum Petitions can be filed by 5% of the registered voters within 30 days of any decision by the Council to move the item to a special election.
- 2004 Citizen Petitions sought to move to Official Ballot (SB2) form of government for the budget and to create 5 wards with 2 at large Councilors, both failed.
- 2020 Population: 23,322.