

**From Concord Finance Committee Report – August 2020  
(Article not moved at Town Meeting)**

**PERSONNEL BYLAW AMENDMENT**

**ARTICLE 6.** To determine whether the Town will vote to strike the text of the Personnel Bylaw in its entirety and replace it with the following, or take any other action relative thereto:

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The Town of Concord Personnel Bylaw

1. The Town Manager shall be entrusted with the administration of the Town's personnel system.
2. The Town Manager shall adopt and may amend rules and regulations establishing a lawful, equitable, and efficient system of personnel administration for Town employees. The personnel system shall make use of modern concepts of personnel management and shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements: (i) personnel policies indicating the rights, obligations and benefits of employees; (ii) a classification plan; (iii) a compensation plan; (iv) a method for appointing employees based on merit principles; (v) a record keeping system; and (vi) other elements that are deemed necessary. All Town agencies and positions shall be subject to the rules and regulations adopted under this section, except elected officers, employees of the school department, and as otherwise provided under chapter 150E of the General Laws. Furthermore, all compensation and benefit programs shall not exceed the limits established by appropriation.
3. The Personnel Board shall be composed of three members appointed by the Select Board for three (3) year terms.
4. The Personnel Board shall, at the request of the Town Manager, advise the Town Manager regarding his obligations under this Bylaw.

*This proposed comprehensive amendment to the Personnel Bylaw would give the Town Manager authority for establishment of the Town's personnel administration system, including the classification and compensation plan. Currently, the Personnel Board oversees and Town Meeting approves the system for non-union employees, and the Town Manager has authority for union and personal contracts. Given the constantly shifting landscape of employment law and trends, the Personnel Board recommends that the Town Manager be given full authority for the Town's personnel systems. The classification and compensation plan has been addressed via the Consent Calendar for many years now, and amendments to the Bylaw have consistently been approved by Town Meeting as proposed. The proposed reassignment of authority will support a personnel system that is: (1) efficient, (2) responsive to changing operational needs, employment laws and workforce trends, (3) effective for recruitment and retention of employees, and (4) consistent with a Strong Town Manager form of government.*