

**Chapter 7**

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

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**[HISTORY: Adopted as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

## GENERAL REFERENCES

Zoning – See Ch. 167.  
Building construction – See Ch. 203.  
Land development – See Ch. 208.  
Waste disposal – See Ch. 216.  
Water – See Ch. 218.  
Subdivision of land – See Ch. 235.

### ARTICLE I

#### **Board of Health**

**[Adopted as Art. 11, Section 1, of the revised bylaws of Halifax]**

#### **§ 7-1. Duties.**

It shall be the duty of the Board of Health to look after the sanitary conditions of the town. It shall make such regulations as it judges necessary for the public health and safety with respect to nuisances, sources of filth, causes of sickness within the town and articles that are capable of containing infection and contagion that might be brought into or conveyed from the town. It shall enter complaint against all persons offending the laws of the commonwealth regarding health or its regulations and prosecute the same to a final judgment.

### ARTICLE II

#### **Planning Board**

**[Adopted as Art. 12, Sections 1 through 4, of the revised bylaws of Halifax]**

#### **§ 7-2. Establishment; statutory provisions.**

There shall be a Planning Board with all of the powers and duties provided for said Board in MGL c. 41, § 81A, and any acts in amendment thereof or in addition thereto.

#### **§ 7-3. Conduct of business.**

The Board shall meet, choose its own officers and adopt such rules and regulations affecting its government as may from time to time be necessary, recording the same forthwith with the Town Clerk, the Registry of Deeds and the Land Court.

#### **§ 7-4. Adoption of standards.**

The Planning Board shall adopt the Minimum Requirements for Residential Construction, applicable to the Town of Halifax, promulgated by the Federal Housing Authority (July 1959 Edition) as a minimum standard for residential construction within the town.

**§ 7-5. Duties.**

The Planning Board shall, from time to time, make careful studies and, when necessary, prepare plans of the resources, possibilities and needs of the town and, upon the completion of any such study, shall submit to the Selectmen a report thereof with its recommendations. It shall report to the Annual Town Meeting giving information regarding the condition of the town and any plans or proposals for its development and estimates of the cost thereof and shall, at the same time, furnish a copy of its report to such state agency as is charged with advisory duties as to municipal planning.

**ARTICLE III  
Board of Appeals  
[Adopted as Art. 23 of the revised bylaws of Halifax]**

**§ 7-6. Establishment; membership.**

A Board of Appeals shall be hereby established, to consist of five (5) regular members and two (2) associate members, to be appointed by the Selectmen.

**§ 7-7. Terms.**

The terms of said five (5) members shall be for one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5) years, and thereafter for terms of five (5) years. The terms of said two (2) associate members shall be for four (4) and five (5) years, and thereafter for five (5) years.

**§ 7-8. Statutory provisions; disqualification of members.**

The Board of Appeals created hereby shall also serve as a Board of Appeals under MGL c. 40A, § 14; however, in the event that any member so appointed shall become a member of the Planning Board, he shall be disqualified from serving on the Board of Appeals during his tenure as a Planning Board member.

**§ 7-9. Adoption of rules.**

The Board of Appeals shall adopt rules not inconsistent with MGL c. 41, §§ 81U, 81Z and 81AA, and MGL c. 40A, § 18, for conducting its business and otherwise carrying out the purpose of said statutes.

**§§ 7-10 through 7-12 (Reserved).**

Editor's note: Former §§ 7-10, Eligibility for appointment, 7-11 Income restriction, and 7-12, Members' decisions, were deleted by 5-12-1997 ATM Arts. 50, 51 and 52, respectively.

ARTICLE IV  
**Park Commission**  
[Adopted as Art. 13 of the revised bylaws of Halifax]

**§ 7-13. Responsibilities.**

The Park Commission shall be responsible for the upkeep of all town-owned parklands and town landings.