

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 1, 2022

TO: Governing Body

FROM: City Attorney

RE: Term Limits



Council had several workshops regarding term limits and duration last spring and summer. In the fall of 2021 Council requested a survey be collected to see what the public thought about limits during the November 2021 election. The results were published to Council in January for review and discussion. Last month the Mayor requested this ordinance be prepared to give Council a chance to consider moving this forward before November 2022 ballots are prepared (this timeline gives sufficient time for any referendums to be added to the November ballot). **This ordinance will act to achieve the following Council goals:**

- A. Prevent people from serving excessively long periods on the governing body, risking becoming, “career politicians”. This will allow for new ideas to cycle through the governing body.
 - **Term limit for Council Members.** Beginning in the November 2023 election cycle, a duly elected council member shall be limited to serving no more than two full consecutive terms.
 - **Term limit for Mayor.** Beginning in the November 2023 election cycle, a duly elected mayor shall be limited to serving no more than 8 years consecutively.
- B. Increasing the mayor’s term to 4 years so that mayor can better cycle a vision.
 - **Duration of single Mayoral term.** Beginning in November 2023 election cycle, a duly elected mayor’s term shall increase from 2 years to 4 years.

Next Steps if approved: This Charter Ordinance shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper, and shall take effect sixty-one days after its final publication, unless a sufficient petition for a referendum is filed in conformance with Article 12, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas. If a referendum is held, this ordinance shall become effective on the day after approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon.