



Consideration of Charter Amendments

May 9, 2023 Council Work Session

QUESTIONS:

1

What questions do Councilmembers have on the Charter Amendments presented?

2

Are there any Amendments councilmembers would like to bring forward in November 2023?

Candidate Races

- Mayor
- City Councilmember Districts 2, 4 and 6
- Poudre School District Board of Education Directors

Charter Ballot Question: Candidate Qualifications

- Amends the qualification language to match the State Constitution language.
- Ordinance to refer adopted by ordinance on second reading April 18, 2023. Will be on November ballot.

Other Potential Ballot Questions or Issues

- Any other Charter amendments the Council may refer
- Any sustainable funding ballot issues the Council may refer
- Any voter initiatives referred to the ballot
- Other ballot questions or issues referred by the County or State

Referendum Process Clean-up

- Two potential areas of changes to consider (one or both could move forward):
 - A) Cleaning up contradictory provisions in Article X between Sections 2 and 5 regarding when an ordinance subject to referendum is presented to Council for reconsideration.
 - B) Changing timing for when a protested ordinance is stayed to better align with Fort Collins ordinance effective dates.
- Discussed by Election Code Committee as an area for potential changes.

Ordinance Publication Requirements

- Removing requirement to publish two times ordinances by title and number in a newspaper of general circulation in addition to publishing in full on the City's website.
- This has not yet been discussed. With declining subscription rates and reduced newspaper publication schedules creating challenges with meeting timing requirements, staff is recommending discussion of removing this requirement while maintaining transparency through existing City channels.

Computation of Time Provision

- Various timing requirements and deadlines in the Charter create uncertainty due to a lack of general provision for computation of time.
- This has been discussed on occasion as an issue; no specific direction has been given.

Residency Requirements

- The Charter currently contains residency requirements for certain positions. Based on position title, these requirements include living in Fort Collins, living within the Urban Growth Area (known since late 2000 as the Growth Management Area (GMA)), or living within 5 miles of the city limits boundary.
- A) Should the Council consider a change to remove most residency requirements from the Charter, staff recommends keeping the City Manager requirements in the Charter and bringing Code language that mirrors the Charter requirements for the other positions to ensure no immediate change.
- B) If there is not a desire to remove any residency provisions from the Charter, updating references to the Urban Growth Area to the Growth Management Area would add clarity to the provisions in Article II, Section 12 and Article IV, Section 3.
- Discussed and considered moving residency requirements out of Charter in 2021 and 2022.

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