



Town of Johnstown

TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE: December 4, 2023

SUBJECT: Ballot Measures

ACTION PROPOSED: Discussion Purposes Only

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Fort Collins Ballot Measure

PRESENTED BY: Troy Mellon, Mayor

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

In April 2024, we will have a Home Rule Charter amendment going on the ballot regarding the establishment of a water policy. With the guarantee that we will have at a minimum a ballot presented to the voters, I would like to entertain the possibility of including two other charter amendments on topics that we have previously discussed.

First you will recall our discussion about wards and districts. We had some discussion about doing away with the ward/district configuration, and changing to 3 wards for the convenience of the voters. In this condition, 2 Councilmembers would be elected from each ward. The Mayoral position would still remain at-large. I would recommend that we go ahead and offer that suggestion to the voters on the next ballot. An example of the suggested changes are as shown below:

Proposed Language:

Section 2.1. - Town Council.

B. The Town Council shall consist of six (6) Councilmembers nominated and elected from the Town at large, and a Mayor, who shall be nominated and elected from the Town at large. The Town Council may enact by ordinance for the nomination and election of six (6) Councilmembers from wards ~~and districts~~; provided, however, the Mayor shall be elected at large. If and/or when the population of the Town reaches twenty thousand (20,000) **as defined at and by the decennial US Census Bureau**, the Town Council shall provide by ordinance, to be effective at the next general municipal election, for the election of six (6) Councilmembers to be nominated and elected **from three** ~~by~~ wards ~~and districts~~, and a Mayor, who shall be nominated and elected from the Town at large.

You may also recall our discussion we had regarding our Home Rule Charters language about felonies and candidates. The discussion was a result of a legal action filed by the ACLU against Aurora. In response, Fort Collins and other communities have amended their charter. Fort Collins specifically has

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amended their charter in a way that I think is appropriate and would like you to consider including this onto the April 2024 ballot to the voters. This information is attached in the packet for your review.

This is being presented to Council as a discussion item only in order for us to provide guidance and direction to Staff and Town Attorney regarding items to bring back at the next regular Council meeting scheduled on December 18 for formal action by Council.

LEGAL ADVICE:

NA

FINANCIAL ADVICE:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff is prepared to receive direction from Town Council.

Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,



Town Manager