



# Town of Johnstown

## TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

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**AGENDA DATE:** December 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** **Second Reading** Ordinance No. 2020-187 an Ordinance Repealing and Readopting Chapter 2 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Administration and Personnel and, as a Part Thereof, Adding Provisions Concerning Municipal Campaign Finance, and Making Related Amendments to Section 1-21 of Article II of Chapter 1 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning General Definitions.

**ACTION PROPOSED:** Consider Final Approval of Ordinance No. 2020-187

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. Ordinance No. 2020-187

**PRESENTED BY:** Matt LeCerf, Town Manager

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### **AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:**

This Ordinance was presented and approved on First Reading by Town Council on December 7, 2020. This ordinance will repeal and replace Chapter 2 of the Johnstown Municipal Code as well as providing amendments to section 1-21 of Article II of Chapter 1 of the Johnstown Municipal Code.

At the December 7, public hearing, Council requested changes to Section 2-3, 2-24 and 2-154. The changes were made to: (i) clarify that the appointment of a new Councilmember continues until a successor is elected at the next regular election; (ii) set forth Town Council's compensation; and (iii) clarify seniority for purposes of the line of succession during a disaster emergency. These changes are included in the attached updated ordinance and can be easily located as they are shown as change detect items in the ordinance. Should Council approve the item, a clean copy will be codified into the Johnstown Municipal Code.

A work session was conducted on November 9, 2020 to go over this Chapter as well as others in the Municipal Code scheduled for revisions. Changes have been made based on the feedback from Council and are included in the ordinance for your consideration. With respect to Chapter 2

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Administration and Personnel, some of the more notable changes include the following as described below.

- General definition changes
- Time for Regular Elections
- Filling of Vacancies
- Clarification regarding special meetings
- Items related to the recent April charter changes
- Slight modifications to emergency and remote meetings regarding disasters, pandemics, etc. based on our experience from this past year.
- Inclusion of a new Municipal Campaign Finance section based on changes in State Statute.
- Changes to Officers and employees regarding key staff members mentioned in the municipal code.
- Deletion of the Drug Screen and Testing section which is included in the TOJ Personnel Handbook.
- There are a couple questions Staff have regarding the sections that discuss
  - Ethics code
  - Financial disclosure by elected officials.

With respect to changes in Section 1-21 of Article II Chapter 1, the changes that are proposed are directly related to definitions. Probably the most notable includes pointing out synonyms of Board of Trustees and Town Council in instances throughout the Johnstown Municipal Code where Board of Trustees is currently used as a reference point when identifying the Town Council.

It has been some time since Chapter 2 and Section 1-21 have been revised and these are general clean up items that were requested by the Council to provide a more up to date Johnstown Municipal Code.

**LEGAL ADVICE:**

The ordinance was drafted by the Town Attorney.

**FINANCIAL ADVICE:**

Not Applicable.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve Ordinance 2020-187 as presented on second reading.

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*Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,*

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Town Manager

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