



CITY OF MARSHALL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Presenter:	Pamela Whitmore
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, January 9, 2024
Category:	NEW BUSINESS
Type:	ACTION
Subject:	Introduction of an Ordinance Amending the City Charter and Call for Public Hearing
Background Information:	<p>The City Attorney, City Administrator and Clerk met in October 2023 and identified various recommended updates to the Charter both to address gender neutrality and to comply with statutory changes that have occurred in the past few years. At the meeting, there will be a detailed overview of the proposed amendments; however, below sets forth a general overview and the reasons for those proposed changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleting his/her, he/she and him/her. Reason for deletion: eliminate preferred personal pronouns in favor of titles or nongendered pronouns. • Amend existing language to comply with statutory changes related to special election dates. • Amend existing language to clarify timing of council resignations and how to proceed if there is a tie on an appointment. • Amend language regarding process and requirements for redistricting of wards to comply with statutory changes. • Amend language regarding voting requirements if a member of the decision-making body joins the meeting remotely via interactive technology to comply with recent statutory changes. • Adding language to provide Council with authority to create a table for non-substantive ordinances, not of a general or permanent nature, that are not otherwise codified in code. • Amend language of 5.02, expenditures for Petitioners, to comply with requirements set forth in a United States Supreme Court decision to allow hiring of individuals to go door to door to try to get signatures on a petition but to still prohibit paying individuals people to actually sign the petition. • Adding language to Section 7.01 to clarify that Council may, through adoption of policy, create authority for the City to identify and expend funds on expenditures that benefit the community as a whole; are directly related to governmental functions; and primarily benefits the public interest (not private interest). This allows the city more flexibility to promote and support its community.
Fiscal Impact:	None
Alternative/Variations:	
Recommendations:	<p>1) To introduce the amendments to the city Charter recommended by the Charter Commission 2) Call for public hearing to be scheduled for February 13, 2024, at or after 5:30 p.m. to consider amending the Marshall City Charter 3) Publish notice of the hearing on January 19, 2024, and include the text of the proposed amendments in the notice.</p>