

Possible Charter Amendments – 2025

Council Stipend

Proposed in 2022:

Section 1. – Elected Officers: Powers and duties; stipend.

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The Mayor shall receive an annual stipend of \$8,100 for his or her service per annum, payable monthly beginning with the mayoral term that begins in 2025. Each of the Councilmembers shall receive an annual stipend of \$5,400 per annum, payable monthly, beginning with the terms that begin in 2025. The Mayor, with the consent of Council, shall appoint a five-member Compensation Commission to determine and set the appropriate monthly stipend for the Mayor and each of the Councilmembers shall receive based on the consumer price index, the City's overall budget, and other relevant factors every three years thereafter. Said Compensation Commission shall be appointed every three years and any monthly stipend increases approved by the Commission shall not become effective until the following Council or Mayoral (as applicable) term, a stipend for their services, fifty dollars per month, plus ten dollars for each regular or special meeting attended, provided, however, that no Councilmember shall receive more than one hundred dollars total stipend for any given calendar month.

Swearing In

Proposed in 2022:

Section 2. - Term of office.

The term of Councilmembers shall be for a period of two years through the 2025 elections. Beginning with the 2026 elections, elections for Councilmembers shall occur every three years, with the even-numbered ward elections occurring in 2026 and every three years thereafter, and the odd-numbered ward elections occurring in 2027 and every three years thereafter. The terms of Councilmembers chosen to represent Council wards two (2), four (4), six (6), and eight (8) shall ~~expire~~ begin on the first Tuesday of July of the next even numbered year after their election through July 2024. Beginning in 2026, the terms of Councilmembers chosen to represent even-numbered wards shall begin at six-thirty in the evening (6:30pm) on the first Tuesday following the date of the scheduled run-off election for such offices.

The term of Councilmembers chosen to represent Council wards one (1), three (3), five (5), and seven (7) shall ~~expire~~ begin on the first Tuesday of July of the next odd numbered year after their election through July 2023. Beginning in 2025, the terms of Councilmembers chosen to represent odd-numbered wards shall begin at six-thirty in the

evening (6:30pm) on the first Tuesday following the date of the scheduled run-off election for such offices.

Each elected officer shall continue to hold and to perform the duties of his office until his successor is elected and qualified, unless he is removed or forfeits his office under other provisions of this Charter.

~~The term of office of the Mayor elected at regular elections,~~ Elections for Mayor shall be occur every three (3) years. The term of the Mayor shall ~~expire~~ begin on the first Tuesday of July and each three (3) years thereafter through July 2025. Beginning with the 2028 election, and every third year thereafter, the term of the Mayor shall begin at six-thirty in the evening (6:30pm) on the first Tuesday following the date of the scheduled run-off election for such offices.

For purposes of filing and election to the positions of City Council, only persons who have been duly registered to vote in accordance with state law within the City of Norman and reside within the ward for which they seek election for the six months prior to the date of the municipal election ~~and reside in the ward from which they seek election, on the date of their filing,~~ shall be eligible to seek election to the City Council. If a candidate's ward designation has changed in the six months prior to the election due to reapportionment, then the requirement of six months durational residency shall be waived, although the candidate is still required to live in the newly established boundaries of the ward for which he or she seeks office.

City Auditor

Adopted in 2022:

Council shall by an affirmative vote of five (5) members appoint a City Auditor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the City Council as a full-time at-will employee. He or she shall be chosen by the Council solely upon the basis of his or her qualifications, including graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or a related field, Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and with a minimum of five (5) years of professional level experience in auditing, and without regard to age, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex or place of birth, and need not, when appointed, be a resident of the City or State. No member of the Council shall, during the time for which he is elected, be chosen City Auditor, nor for two years after he or she ceases to be a member. In case of absence or disability of the City Auditor, the Council may designate some qualified person to perform the duties of the office during such absence or disability. The City Auditor may be removed or suspended at any time, upon an affirmative vote of five (5) members of the Council. Should at least four (4) Councilmembers desire that a majority of Council discuss removal or suspension of the City Auditor, then a notice of such a request shall be filed with the City Clerk, who shall then place an item for Executive Session for that purpose on the Agenda of the next regularly scheduled Council meeting or at a special meeting of the Council called for that

purpose. In the event Council should desire to suspend or remove the City Auditor following the Executive Session, an additional item shall be included on the same Agenda of the meeting in which the Executive Session is to be held to consider immediate suspension or removal of the City Auditor. If the Council suspends or removes the City Auditor from office, the Council may provide for the temporary performance of the City Auditor's duties. The action of the Council in suspending or removing the City Auditor shall be final, it being the intention of this Charter to vest all authority and fix all responsibility for such suspension or removal in the Council.

Proposed Change Based on Council Feedback:

Council shall by an affirmative vote of five (5) members appoint a City Auditor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the City Council as a full-time at-will employee. He or she shall be chosen by the Council solely upon the basis of his or her qualifications, including graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or a related field, proof of having obtained one of the following professional certifications: Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), or other equivalent professional certification and with a minimum of five (5) years of professional level experience in auditing, and without regard to age, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex or place of birth, and need not, when appointed, be a resident of the City or State....