

BILL NO. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 6846 AND UPDATING LANGUAGE IN SECTIONS 2 & 3.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 6846 was approved by the City Council on August 1, 2022, which created the Charter Review Commission; and,

WHEREAS, Sections 2 and 3 of the resolution set the parameters for selecting commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it advisable to make certain changes to Resolution No. 6846;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That there is hereby established a Charter Review Commission to review the existing Charter of the City of Independence, Missouri and make such recommendations for change as the Commission may deem necessary and proper in order to amend the provisions of the existing Charter with reference to improving the mode and manner of operation and efficiency in conducting the affairs of the City and to advise the City Council on revisions which may be necessary or desirable to improve and enhance transparency and the general function of city government.

SECTION 2. That the Commission shall consist of nine citizens of the City of Independence, to be appointed by the City Council in the following manner: The City Manager shall solicit applications from candidates with the qualities of leadership, temperance, judgement, and interest in the governance of the City of Independence. Applicants will answer questions about their interest, their experience and how they would approach the work. The members should a) be in touch with the perspectives present in the community; b) command respect from local residents; and c) bolster the confidence of citizens in the process and the work of the commission. Each Councilmember, excluding the Mayor who shall have two, shall recommend three individuals from their District, or from the city as a whole in the case of the At-Large Councilmember, for final consideration by the full Council. Each member of the City Council will then rank the three finalists in each Council District, with the top finalist from each Councilmember's slate of nominees being appointed to the Commission. The Mayor shall appoint the Chairperson of the Commission. The final two Commissioners shall be selected via ranked choice voting by the City Council from the remaining pool of nominees not selected in the original round of voting. When selecting Commissioners, City Council officials will look for candidates with diverse perspectives who have experience championing community needs. Because it is imperative that the Commission is able to be detached, objective and impartial, any former Independence Mayor, City Councilmember, or City of Independence employee shall be ineligible to serve on the Commission.

SECTION 3. That Appointments to the committee will be affirmed by majority vote of the City Council at the ~~August 1, 2022~~ November 21, 2022 City Council meeting. The Commission shall begin its work as soon as practicable after all members are appointed, with the goal of recommending amendments within one year of the first meeting for consideration by the City Council in order to ensure

that proposed amendment can be placed on the April 2024 ballot in a timely manner, provided that the Commission may seek additional time to complete their review and formulate their final recommendations to the City Council.

SECTION 4. That the members of the Charter Amendment Advisory Board shall serve without compensation. Any member of the Charter Amendment Advisory Board shall be removeable at the pleasure of the City Council by a vote of at least five members of the Council, with or without cause. Any member of the Commission may be removed by the Council for malfeasance, failure to attend three or more consecutive meetings for any reason whatsoever, or willful neglect of duty.

SECTION 5. That the Charter Amendment Advisory Board shall be authorized to transact business upon the appointment of five members; no less than five members shall constitute a quorum to do business.

SECTION 6. That the Charter Amendment Advisory Board shall act as an advisory board to the City Council on matters pertaining to the revision and amendment of the City Charter. The power and duties of the Charter Amendment Advisory Board shall be as follows: 1. To meet at least monthly at a time and place selected by the membership. Said meetings shall be public meetings and shall comply with all applicable laws and ordinances governing public meetings. 2. To request of the City Manager suitable and qualified assistance should the Board ever have need for such services. 3. To study the City Charter, conduct hearings and make written recommendations to the City Council by August 1, 2023. 4. To adopt rules for the transaction of business, and to keep a record of activities and minutes of all meetings. 5. To hold and conduct meetings calculated to enlist the cooperation of all groups in the community to cooperate in effectuating the purposes of the board.

SECTION 7. That the Commission shall review best practices, shall seek citizen input, shall consult with City boards and commissions, shall review the National Civic League Model City Charter, Ninth Edition, and shall review the current Charter in order to formulate recommendations for amendment, revision, or repeal of provisions of the Charter to the City Council.

SECTION 8. That the Commission shall outline in their final report the following:

1. The substance of any proposed amendments, revisions, or repeals to the Charter (the Proposals);
2. The policy reason(s) for each Proposal;
3. Estimated fiscal budgetary impact for each Proposal;
4. Impacts of each Proposal on existing City laws, rules, practices, and procedures;
5. Proposed ballot language for each Proposal in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter.

SECTION 9. That the Commission shall consider, but not be strictly limited to, the following areas:

1. Inclusion of a mandatory Charter review provision in Article 15 and to determine the period of time between each mandatory review.
2. Procedural changes, including changing the dollar amount above which a bond is required for a public improvement project (Section 11.6) and changing the timing of initiative and referendum elections to be congruent with the Jackson County Board of Elections (Article 7).

3. Review of the formation and operation of public utilities as outlined in Sections 3.12 through 3.18.

4. Review of the Powers and Duties of the Personnel Board (Section 3.29) to ensure consistency with state and federal law.

5. Political activities, including allowable activities by City employees (Section 5.4).

6. Administrative Departments (Article 3), to ensure maximum flexibility to meet the evolving needs of the community.

7. Campaign finance, including consideration of contribution and expenditure limits (Article 5).

8. Term limits for Mayor and City Council (Article 6.2).

SECTION 10. That the City Counselor shall provide legal counsel and research to the Board as requested by them.

SECTION 11. That Ordinance No. 4429, Resolution No. 1630, Resolution No. 2266, and Ordinance No. 13023 and all other ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 12. That all other City Code provisions and ordinances and resolutions not in conflict with this ordinance are to remain in full force and effect unless previously or subsequently amended or repealed.

SECTION 13. That the procedures of the Commission shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

PASSED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2022, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

Presiding Officer of the City Council
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

City Counselor

REVIEWED BY:

City Manager

NOTE: Text being eliminated by this resolution is lined through and bolded, and text being added by this resolution is underlined and bolded.