



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Andy Quittner, City Attorney

Date: June 14, 2022

Subject: Resolution Calling a General and Special Election for November 8, 2022.

This year, as dictated by the City Charter, an election must be held to elect City Council Members for Districts Three, Five, Seven and Eight. The election is to be conducted on the uniform election day which is November 8, 2022.

The County manages the election in conjunction with state issues, other municipalities, school districts and special districts. The election contract with the County will be presented by separate resolution. Since the County now uses vote centers and resident can vote at any polling location within the county. Wherever they are they will receive the proper ballot – including that for their council district.

The exact location of polling places is still being worked out. Due to safety concerns, most schools are no longer willing to host a polling location. As soon as these are finalized the Order and Notice of Election will be brought to Council for approval.

In 2020, City Council approved submitting 9 suggested changes to the City Charter to the public for consideration. For not well explained reasons the county election officials failed to place the charter amendments on the ballot. It is proposed that the same changes, plus one additional change be placed on the ballot this November. Last year's memo detailing the changes is included in this agenda item. In short, most are due to changes in state law with respect to publication requirements.

A new change is being suggested to remedy, what is generally a rare situation, with regard to the harsh reality of council term limits. In the present Charter there is a hard limit of eight years that results in limiting a person that fills an unexpired to as little as a total of five years. This would have been the case in calling a special election for someone to fill Council Member Follis's term. The suggested change would allow for a

person to fulfill an unexpired term of less than two years and still be eligible to run for an entire two terms thereafter (effectively up to a maximum of ten years).

Candidates may begin filing on July 25, 2022, with the final date being August 22, 2022. The new Council Member districts will apply to this election.