



Official Release

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Three Amendments to Kettering's Charter on November ballot

Kettering, OH – At the election to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2006 and at the regular places of voting in the City of Kettering, three separate, proposed amendments to the City of Kettering Charter will appear on the ballot. The three proposed Charter amendments were proposed by the 2006 Charter committee, chaired by former Mayor Marilou Smith.

“The Charter committee consisted of a number of very respected and dedicated Kettering citizens,” says Mark Schwieterman, City Manager. “We very much value the process that the committee went through in evaluating our current charter and while the proposed changes do not directly change the way we do business on a day to day basis, they are important enough to send to the ballot.”

The amendments read as follows:

Issue 22 – Section 3-4 Removal and Vacancies: Council shall declare vacant the seat of any of its members who shall cease to be qualified as a member of Council. Council members shall at all times be qualified electors of the City. No member of Council shall hold any other elected public office, hold any other City office or City employment. The following shall not be considered holding another City office or holding City employment: membership of a board, commission, committee or similar group by appointment of City Council; holding the office of Mayor or Vice Mayor of the City. Holding the office of notary public, being a member of the Armed Forces of Ohio or the United States, or having the status of trustee or director without pay of a public institution shall not disqualify a member of Council. No member of Council shall hold the position of chief or lead executive officer of any political subdivision of Ohio, or be employed by another State of Ohio political subdivision in a position that is mandated by the State, appointed by the governing body of that other political subdivision and requires performing duties prescribed by State law.

Law Department Explanation: This proposed amendment is for the purpose of clarifying and explaining other public offices that a member of City Council may hold.

Issue 23 – Section 3-2 Members and Terms: Members-at-large, including the Mayor, were elected at the general municipal election in November of 1993 and shall be elected every fourth year thereafter. District members were elected at the general municipal election in November of 1995 and shall be elected every fourth year thereafter.

Law Department Explanation: This proposed amendment is only for the purpose of clarifying when the offices of the Mayor and members of City Council shall stand for election. This amendment does not change the length of terms and does not change the current election cycle.

This amendment only clarifies the current schedule on which the offices of Mayors and members of City Council stand for election and when their terms begin and end.

Issue 24 – Section 6-1 Creation and Change of Departments: The Council by ordinance may create, change and abolish offices, departments, divisions, agencies and boards and commissions, other than those established by this Charter. Council by Ordinance may change the name of any board or commission that is established by this Charter, however, Council shall not change the function and duties of any such board or commission.

Law Department Explanation: This proposed amendment is only for the purpose of allowing City Council to change the name of any board or commission that is established by the Charter. The change must be by Ordinance adopted by the City Council. The City Council cannot change the function and duties of any board or commission established by the Charter.

Residents with questions about any of the Charter amendments may call the City at 296-2412.

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