

## **EXHIBIT “A”**

A special election will be held on May 7, 2022, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of allowing voters to determine whether to amend the Fort Worth City Charter. Persons interested in voting on these issues may contact the Fort Worth City Secretary’s Office for information about polling places and other information pertaining to the election or may visit the City’s website at [www.fortworthtexas.gov](http://www.fortworthtexas.gov).

If the proposed Propositions are adopted by the qualified voters of the City of Fort Worth, the following Charter provisions will be amended by adding the underscored words and deleting those struck through. The bracketed italicized language indicates where another proposed Proposition will amend the Charter language within that section if passed. The proposed amendments will read in their entirety as follows:

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

#### **Amendment Number 1 (Proposition F).**

##### CHAPTER III: THE CITY COUNCIL

###### §3 COMPENSATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

Commencing on ~~October 1, 2006~~ October 1, 2022, each member of the City Council, except the mayor, shall receive as ~~compensation~~ annual pay for such member’s services as an elected official, the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) per annum an amount that is equal to one-half of the average annual base rate salary for all city assistant department directors, and the mayor shall receive as ~~compensation~~ annual pay for the mayor’s service as an elected official, the sum of twenty nine thousand dollars (\$29,000.00) per annum an amount that is equal to one-half of the average annual base rate salary for all city department directors. In addition to the above, all necessary expenses incurred by the City Council in performance of their official duties shall be paid by the city. Nothing herein shall prohibit a council member from waiving the right to all or any part of such ~~compensation~~ pay or payment of expenses.

#### **Amendment Number 2 (Proposition G)**

##### CHAPTER IV: METHOD OF NOMINATING AND ELECTING MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

###### §3. [COUNCILPERSONS TO BE ELECTED FROM DISTRICTS].

With the exception of Place No. 1 to be held by the mayor as provided for in section 2 of Chapter III of this Charter, the City Council shall provide by ordinance for ten (10) single member districts so that with the exception of the mayor, one (1) member of the City Council shall be elected from each of such defined districts by the voters residing therein, and each candidate therefrom shall be a qualified elector of the city and shall have continuously resided in the Council District for which he or she seeks election for 180 days before the first allowed filing date for the election. The first allowed filing date shall not be included in calculating the 180 days.

The City Council shall, as often as census data is available, determine as nearly as practicable the population of the respective districts and shall, by ordinance, revise the boundaries of any or all of said districts to maintain a substantial equality of population in each, provided, however, that such boundaries need not be described by reference to metes and bounds. Within sixty (60) days after passage of this amendment, the City Council shall, by ordinance, designate the original district limits.

#### **Amendment Number 3 (Proposition H).**

##### CHAPTER V: THE CITY MANAGER

§ 1 [APPOINTMENT; QUALIFICATIONS; REMOVAL; ABSENCE OR DISABILITY; COMPENSATION; RESIDENCY].

The council shall appoint the city manager, who shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the city. He shall be chosen solely upon the basis of his executive and administrative training, experience, and ability, and without regard to political consideration. Qualifications being equal, preference shall be given in the selection of a resident citizen of Fort Worth for this position. No member of the council shall be chosen as city manager. The city manager shall not be appointed for a definite fixed time, but shall be removable at the will and pleasure of the council, by a vote of the majority of the entire council. ~~If removed after serving six (6) months, he may demand written charges and the right to be heard thereon at a public meeting of the council prior to the date on which his final removal shall take effect; but pending such hearing the council may suspend him from office.~~ The action of the council in suspending or removing the city manager shall be final. In case of the absence or disability of the city manager, the council may designate some qualified person to perform the duties of the office. The city manager shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the council prior to the appointment. During this term of office, the city manager shall be a resident citizen within the City of Fort Worth.

§ 3 [SAME-PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF CITY AFFAIRS; APPOINTMENT, REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES; ADHERENCE TO CIVIL SERVICE REGULATIONS].

The city manager shall be responsible to the council for the proper administration of all the city affairs placed in his hands, and shall to that end appoint and employ all directors of departments and other employees not otherwise provided for in this Charter or by ordinance. Appointments made by him shall be on the basis of executive and administrative experience and ability and of training, fitness and efficiency of such appointees in the work which they are to administer. All such directors of departments shall be immediately responsible to the city manager and may be removed by him at any time. ~~In case of removal after six (6) months' service, if the director removed so demands, a written statement shall be made by the city manager of the reason of his removal, and the director shall, if he so demands, be given a public hearing by the council before the order of removal is made final. The statement of the manager and any written reply of the director thereto shall be filed as a public record in the office of the secretary of the council.~~

In filling positions coming within the classified service list, he shall do so according to the rules and regulations that may be adopted by the civil service board, if such are available. He shall have the right to discharge any of the subordinate employees of his departments in accordance with the provisions of the civil service sections of this Charter.

CHAPTER VI: THE CITY ATTORNEY

§ 4 [TERM, REMOVAL, ABSENCE OR DISABILITY OF CITY ATTORNEY].

The city attorney shall not be appointed for a definite fixed time, but shall be removable at the will and pleasure of the council by a vote of not less than a majority of the entire council. ~~If removed after serving six (6) months, he may demand written charges and the right to be heard thereon at a public meeting of the council prior to the date on which his final removal shall take effect; but pending such hearing the council may suspend him from office.~~ The action of the council in suspending or removing the city attorney shall be final. In case of the absence or disability of the city attorney, the council may designate some qualified person to perform the duties of the office.

CHAPTER XXVIII: DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDIT

§ 3 TERM, REMOVAL, ABSENCE OR DISABILITY OF CITY INTERNAL AUDITOR.

The city internal auditor shall not be appointed for a definite fixed time but shall be removable at the will and pleasure of the City Council by a vote of not less than a majority of the entire council. ~~If removed after serving six (6) months, the city internal auditor may demand written charges and the right to be heard thereon at a public meeting of the City Council prior to the date on which the city internal auditor's final removal shall take effect, but pending such hearing the City Council may suspend the city internal auditor from office.~~ The action of the City Council in suspending or removing the city internal auditor shall be final. In case of the absence or disability of the city internal auditor, the City Council may designate some qualified person to perform the duties of the office.

#### **Amendment Number 4 (Proposition I).**

### CHAPTER XIX: THE CITY COUNCIL

#### § 1 RECALL OF COUNCILPERSONS; PROCEDURE; ELECTION OF SUCCESSORS.

Any councilperson of this city may be recalled and removed from office by the electors qualified to vote for a successor of such incumbent as herein provided. The procedure to remove councilpersons shall be as follows:

A petition signed by the qualified voters entitled to vote for a successor to the councilperson sought to be removed, equal in number to at least twenty (20) percentum of the entire number of persons entitled to vote for a successor to said councilperson at said time, demanding the recall of said councilperson shall be filed with the city secretary, provided that such petition shall contain a general statement of the grounds for which the removal is sought. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper, but each signer shall add to his signature his place of residence, giving the street and number. One of the signers to each of such papers shall make oath before an officer competent to administer oaths that each signature is that of the person whose name it purports to be. Within ~~ten (10)~~ twenty-five (25) days from the filing of such petition, the city secretary shall examine the same and from the list of qualified voters ascertain whether or not said petition is signed by the requisite number of qualified voters, and, if necessary, the council shall allow him extra help for that purpose, and he shall attach to said petition a certificate showing the result of such examination. If, by the secretary's certificate, the petition is shown to be insufficient, it may be amended within ten (10) days from the date of said certificate. The secretary shall within ~~ten (10)~~ twenty-five (25) days after such amendment is filed, if any is so filed with him, make like examination of the said amended petition, and if his certificate shall show same to be insufficient, it shall be returned to the person filing same without prejudice, however, to the filing of a new petition based upon new and different grounds, but not upon the same grounds.

If the petition be found sufficient, the secretary shall submit the same to the City Council without delay. If an election is to be held within the city for any other purpose within sixty (60) days from the date of said certificate, then the said recall election shall be held on the same day. If the councilperson in question resigns, no election shall be necessary and the vacancy shall be filled as in other cases of vacancies.

The provisions regulating examination, certification and amendment of initiative petitions shall apply to recall petitions. If the petition is certified by the city secretary to be sufficient and the councilperson whose removal is sought does not resign within five (5) days after the certification to the council, the council shall order and hold a recall election in the affected district. Such election shall be held on the first available election date specified pursuant to Article 2.01b of the Texas Election Code unless the council shall request, and receive, permission from the governor to call an emergency special election. If a recall petition should be certified within thirty (30) days of an election date, the council may set the election for the next date following the impending special election date or it may request permission for an emergency special election date from the governor.

Ballots used at recall elections shall conform to the following requirements:

(1) With respect to each person whose removal is sought the question shall be submitted “Shall (name of councilperson) be removed from the office of City Councilperson?”

(2) Immediately below each such question there shall be printed the two (2) following positions, one above the other, in the order indicated:

“For the recall of (name of councilperson).”

“Against the recall of (name of councilperson).”

If a majority of the votes cast at a recall election shall be against removal of the councilperson named on the ballot, he/she shall continue in office. If the majority of the votes cast at such election be for the removal of the councilperson named on the ballot, the council shall immediately declare his/her office vacant and such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of this Charter for the filling of vacancies. A councilperson thus removed shall not be a candidate to succeed himself in an election called to fill the vacancy thereby created.

No recall petition shall be filed against a councilperson within six (6) months after he takes office, and no councilperson shall be subject to more than two (2) recall elections during a term of office.

## CHAPTER XX: THE INITIATIVE

### § 3 FILING OF PETITIONS.

Within ~~ten (10)~~ twenty-five (25) days after the filing of the petition, the city secretary shall ascertain by examination the number of registered voters whose signatures are appended thereto, and whether this number is at least twenty (20) per cent of the total number of registered voters as shown by the registration books, and he shall attach to said petition his certificate showing the result of said examination. If by the secretary’s certificate, of which notice in writing shall be given to one or more of the persons designated, the petition is shown to be insufficient it may be amended within ten (10) days from the date of said certificate by filing supplementary petition papers with additional signatures. The secretary shall, within ~~ten (10)~~ twenty-five (25) days after such amendment, make examination of the amended petition, and if his certificate shall show to be insufficient, the secretary shall file the petition in his office and shall notify each member of the committee to that effect. The final finding of the insufficiency of a petition shall not prejudice the filing of a new petition for the same purpose; but no new petition covering the same ordinance in substance shall be filed until at least six (6) months have elapsed.

### **Amendment Number 5 (Proposition J).**

## CHAPTER IX: DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

### § 1 AUTHORITY OF COUNCIL TO PROVIDE FOR DEPARTMENT; DUTIES].

The City Council is authorized to provide by ordinance for the creation of a department of finance, which department shall be charged with the administration of the financial affairs of the city, including the keeping and supervision of all accounts, the custody and disbursement of city funds and monies according to ordinances and regulations of the City Council, ~~the assessment and collection of all taxes, including special assessments,~~ the issuance of licenses and the collection of license fees, and such other duties as the City Council may, by ordinance, require.

### **Amendment Number 6 (Proposition K).**

## ~~CHAPTER XV: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH~~

### ~~{§ 1 ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION}.~~

~~The City Council shall provide by ordinance for the establishment and regulation of a department of public health.~~

**Amendment Number 7 (Proposition L).**

CHAPTER XXI: REFERENDUM

§ 5 [REFERENDUM RELATIVE TO PURCHASES AND SALES OF PUBLIC PROPERTY BY CITY.]

The City of Fort Worth may take, hold and purchase such personal property, chattels, animate and inanimate, lands and real property as may be needed for the corporate purposes of said city, whether in or out of the corporate limits of the city, and may sell, lease, alienate, exchange or encumber any real estate or personal property owned or acquired by it; provided, however, that no sale shall be made of any public property owned by said city whose value exceeds one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000.00), without first making such intention known by means of publication in the official newspaper of the city at least once a week and by posting and maintaining notice online for four (4) consecutive weeks immediately preceding the intended date of sale, during which time it shall be lawful for qualified voters, who shall not be fewer than ten (10) percent of the number of voters who voted in the most recent municipal election for mayor to petition the City Council for a referendum, in which event the matter of such sale shall be referred to the people at an election to be held for that purpose, at the time and in the way and manner to be prescribed by the City Council of said city, and in the event a majority of the votes cast at such election is in favor of such proposition, then the sale shall be made; otherwise, such sale shall not take place.

**Amendment Number 8 (Proposition M).**

CHAPTER XXII: IMPROVEMENT AND PAVING OF STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

§ 4 PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENT OF HIGHWAY, SIDEWALKS AND CURBS; CONTRACTS; PAYMENT; LIEN; SALE; DEED.

Subject to the terms hereof, the cost of such improvement may be paid wholly by the city or partly by the city and partly by owners of property abutting on such improvements and benefited thereby. But the whole cost of constructing any sidewalk or curb ~~shall~~ may be required to be paid by the owners of such abutting property, and the owner of any railroad or street railroad having any track or tracks, switch or turn-out in a highway ordered to be improved ~~shall~~ may be required to pay the whole cost of such improvement between the rails and tracks of said railroad or switch or turn-out, and two (2) feet on the outside thereof. The portion of the cost of such improvement payable by the owner of such railroad or street railroad, and all costs of collection, ~~shall~~ may be a special tax against and secured by lien upon the roadbed, ties, rails, fixtures, rights, and franchises of such railroad or street railroad and the owner thereof. After the execution of a contract by the city for any such improvement, the City Council ~~shall~~ may, by ordinance, levy a special assessment upon the roadbed, ties, rails, fixtures, rights and franchises of such railroads or street railroads for the portions of said cost payable by the owners thereof, which assessment shall be a lien on such property from the time of levy, prior and superior to all encumbrances thereon, except lawful taxes. Such assessment shall become due and delinquent as shall be specified by said ordinance, and if not paid as therein provided, shall be enforced as in the case of the collection of taxes under this Charter, by the advertisement and sale of the property rights and franchises levied on. The officer making said sale shall execute to the purchaser a deed similar to the one executed when property is sold for ad valorem taxes, and the recital of such deed that all legal prerequisites to the validity of said sale have been complied which shall be prima facie evidence of the truth thereof, and so accepted without further proof. Such tax and lien may also be enforced by suit in any court having jurisdiction.

**Amendment Number 9 (Proposition N).**

CHAPTER XXIV: ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES; PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO ISSUANCE AND SALE OF BONDS

§ 1 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION.

All property, real, personal or mixed, lying and being within the corporate limits of the city on the first day of January, shall be subject to taxation, excepting such property as may be exempt from taxation under the Constitution, and the laws of the State of Texas. It shall be the duty of the tax assessor and collector, ~~in accordance with deadlines specified under state law, on or before the first day of August of each year or as soon thereafter as practicable,~~ to make and return to the City Council a full and complete list and assessment of all property, both real and personal, held, owned or situated in the city on the first day of January of each year and not exempt from municipal taxation

**Amendment Number 10 (Proposition O).**

CHAPTER XXVI: FRANCHISES AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

~~§ 6 COUNCIL TO PASS ORDINANCE REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT.~~

~~It shall be the duty of the City Council to pass an ordinance requiring all public service corporations operating within the corporate limits of the city to file a sworn annual report of the receipts from the operation of the said business for the current year, how expended, how much therefor for betterments or improvements, the rate of tolls or charges for services rendered to the public, and any other facts or information that the council may deem pertinent for its use in intelligently passing upon any questions that may arise between the city and the said public service corporations; said reports to be filed with the city secretary, and preserved for the use of the City Council.~~

**Amendment Number 11 (Proposition P).**

CHAPTER XXVII: MISCELLANEOUS

§ 17 CONTRACTS FOR OFFICIAL ADVERTISING; OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER.

The City Council shall periodically ~~annually~~ let contracts for the official advertising of the city ~~for the ensuing fiscal year~~. For this purpose, the council shall advertise for bids, setting forth distinctly and specifically the work to be done, including the type and space to be used, and asking for sealed bids therefor. The advertisement for bids must be published twice. The second publication must be on or before the tenth day before the first date bids may be submitted. The council shall let the contracts for such official advertising to the lowest and best responsible bidder publishing a newspaper in the City of Fort Worth, which is a newspaper of general circulation, which newspaper has been published in said city for at least two (2) consecutive years prior to the time of awarding the contracts, and which newspaper meets all applicable requirements of state law for the publication of legal notices for the City of Fort Worth; provided that the council may reject any and all bids, if found excessive, and advertise for new bids. The newspaper to which the award of such advertising is made shall be known and designated as the official newspaper of the city. All official publications made by the city shall be made in the official newspaper.

**Amendment Number 12 (Proposition Q).**

CHAPTER I: ORGANIZATION, BOUNDARIES, ANNEXATION OF ADJACENT TERRITORY

§ 3 ANNEXATION OF ADJACENT TERRITORY; METHOD AND PROCEDURE OF HOLDING ELECTION THEREFOR.

Territory adjoining and contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Fort Worth may be annexed to the said city in any one of the two (2) several ways herein specified:

(1) In the event that an election to ascertain the sentiment of the persons residing in such territory so seeking annexation be deemed necessary, then the election shall be called and conducted in accordance with state law. Such election may be conducted directly by the city or under contract by election officials in the counties in which the territory is located following procedure shall apply, to wit: ~~The proclamation for such election shall be made by the mayor of the city, and he shall also designate the polling places and name the election judges and clerks, who shall be selected from the residents of said territory. Only persons, residents of said territory, who are qualified voters under the laws of the State of Texas, shall be permitted to exercise the right of suffrage at such election. The polls at such election shall be open from seven o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, and the expenses of conducting such election shall be borne by the City of Fort Worth. The ballot to be used therefor shall contain the words "For Annexation" and "Against Annexation," and the voter shall strike out the one or the other according mark the ballot as he may be for or against the proposition. Returns of such election shall be made and canvassed in accordance with state law to the City Council by the officers of the election depositing the tally sheets and other adjuncts to the election with the city secretary, and thereafter as soon as practicable the council shall canvass the returns, and in the event it is found that a majority of all the votes cast at such election are favorable to such annexation, then and thereupon the council may by ordinance declare such territory annexed to the City of Fort Worth and an integral part of the same. In the event of annexation, persons residing in such territory shall hereafter be entitled to all the rights and privileges of other citizens of said city and be bound by the laws, ordinances, rules and regulations governing other citizens of said City of Fort Worth; and the council shall have power to agree and obligate itself to the citizenship of such territory so seeking admission to apply to the improvements of streets and public grounds in said territory a portion or all of the funds raised by taxation for street improvement for a given number of years, not to exceed five (5), insofar as the same may be collected from the property situated in said territory, and may also have authority, if in the judgment of said council, it should be just and equitable, to further agree and obligate itself to apply to the improvement of the streets in said territory during said years additional sums not to exceed fifty (50) per cent in any one year of the amount that may be collected for such purpose from the property situated in such territory.~~

(2) Additions to the territory of the City of Fort Worth may be made pursuant to any laws that may be passed by the Texas Legislature relative to the extension of the corporate limits of cities, and applicable to the City of Fort Worth.

**Amendment Number 13 (Proposition R).**

CHAPTER X: THE BUDGET AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RELATING THERETO

§ 11 INDEPENDENT AUDIT.

The council shall cause an independent audit to be made of the books of account, records and transactions of all the administrative departments of the city at least once yearly. Such audits, during such fiscal year, shall be made by one or more certified public accountants who, for the three (3) years next preceding, having held a certificate issued by the state board of accountancy of the State of Texas, or by a state maintaining an equal standard of professional requirements, which entitles the holder of such certificate to a Texas certificate. The auditor or auditors to make the said audit shall be selected by the council, and shall be responsible to the council. The duties of the auditor or auditors so appointed shall consist of performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in financial statements and expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. ~~include the certification of all statements required under section~~

~~2 of this chapter of the Charter. Such statements shall include a balance sheet, exhibiting the assets and liabilities of the City, supported by departmental schedules, and schedules for each utility publicly owned or operated; summaries of income and expenditures, supported by detailed schedules; and also comparisons, in proper classification, with the last previous year. The report of such auditor or auditors for the fiscal year shall be printed and a copy thereof shall be furnished to each member of the council, the city manager and to each citizen who may apply therefor. The original report of the said auditors shall be kept among the permanent records of the city.~~