

Proposition No. 1. Compliance with State Law.

Proposition No. 1 ballot language shall read:

Shall the Fort Worth City Charter be amended where preempted by state law?

Proposition No. 2. Alternative means to Publication Requirements.

Proposition No. 2 ballot language shall read:

Shall the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to provide for electronic and other web based publications and notices instead of newspaper publications where allowed by state law?

Proposition No. 3. Annexation, Method and Procedure

Proposition No. 3 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 3 of Chapter 1 of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to clarify that the city may contract with the appropriate county to hold an election for annexation and change the words “strike out” to “marking” the ballot to conform to current practice?

In the event that Proposition 3 is approved by the voters, Section 3, “Annexation of adjacent territory; method and procedure of holding election therefore” of Chapter 1, “Organization, boundaries, annexation of adjacent territory” of the Fort Worth City Charter will be amended to clarify that the city may contract with the appropriate county to hold an election for annexation and change “strike out” to “marking” the ballot to thereafter read as follows:

§ 3. Annexation of adjacent territory; method and procedure of holding election therefore.

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 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 city may contract with the pertinent county in which the extraterritorial jurisdiction is located to 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~~ mark the ballot for ~~the~~ one or the other according as he may be for or against the proposition. Returns of such election shall

be made 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.

Proposition No. 4. City Council Terms. [3 or 4 year terms]

Proposition No. 4 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter III of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to increase the current two-year terms for the city council to ____ () year terms?

In the event that Proposition 4 is approved by the voters, Section 1, "Powers of city vested in the city council; compensation, terms" of Chapter III, "The City Council" of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to thereafter read as follows:

The powers of the city government shall be vested in a body to be known as the City Council, composed of nine (9) members, one of whom shall be the mayor. Their terms of office shall be for a period of _____ () years and until the election and qualification of their successors.

Proposition No. 5. Staggered terms for City Council Members

Proposition No. 5 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter III of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to provide for staggered terms for the council members by _____?

In the event that Proposition 5 is approved by the voters, Section 1, “Powers of city vested in the city council; compensation, terms” of Chapter III, “The City Council” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to thereafter read as follows:

OPTION ONE: DESIGNATING TERMS

§ 1. Powers of city vested in the city council; compensation, terms.

The powers of the city government shall be vested in a body to be known as the City Council, composed of nine (9) members, one of whom shall be the mayor. Their terms of office shall be for _____ years and shall be staggered so that a general election is held every _____ years so that half or as near to half is practical, of the city council is elected at each election. Their terms of office shall be for a period of two (2) years and until the election and qualification of their successors.

In order to transition from two-year terms to _____-year staggered terms, City Council Places _____, _____, _____ and _____ shall serve for () years beginning in 2017 and Places _____, _____, _____, and _____ shall serve for () years beginning in 2017. Thereafter, each person elected in shall hold office for a period of () years and until his successor is elected and qualified.

OPTION TWO: DRAWING LOTS

Staggered three (3) year terms

A general election shall be held for the council in May 2017, at which the mayor and the 8 council members elected from council districts shall be elected.

As soon as practicable after assuming office after the May 2017 general election, the City Secretary shall divide at a public hearing the council members elected from council districts into two classes by drawing lots. Class One shall consist of four council members who shall serve initial two-year terms. Class Two shall consist of four council members who shall serve three-year terms.

At the May 2019 general election, the four Class One council members elected by districts will be elected for three-year terms.

At the May 2020 general election, the Mayor and four Class Two council members elected by districts will be elected for three year terms, marking the end of the transition period.

Class One – 2022, 2025

Class Two – 2023, 2026

Staggered four (4) year terms

A general election shall be held for the council in May 2017, at which the mayor and the 8 council members elected from council districts shall be elected.

As soon as practicable after assuming office after the May 2017 general election, the City Secretary shall divide at a public hearing the council members elected from council districts into two classes by drawing lots. Class One shall consist of four council members who shall serve initial two-year terms. Class Two shall consist of four council members who shall serve four-year terms.

At the May 2019 general election, the four Class One council members elected by districts will be elected for four-year terms.

At the May 2021 general election, the Mayor and four Class Two council members elected by districts will be elected for three year terms, marking the end of the transition period.

Class One – 2023, 2027

Class Two – 2025, 2029

Proposition No. 6. Increase the number of Council Members

Proposition No. 6 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter III and other references to the number of council members in the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to increase the number of council members from nine (9) to _____ () council members beginning the first election following the 2020 census and adoption of the new redistricting map by the City Council?

In the event that Proposition 6 is approved by the voters, Section 1, “Powers of city vested in the city council; compensation, terms” of Chapter III, “The City Council” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended, in part, to thereafter read as follows:

The powers of the city government shall be vested in a body to be known as the City Council, composed of nine (9) members, one of whom shall be the mayor. Their terms of office shall be for a period of two (2) years and until the election and qualification of their successors.

Beginning with the first election following the 2020 census, the City Council shall be composed of _____ () members one of whom shall be the mayor.

Proposition No. 7. Compensation of the Mayor and City Council.

Proposition No. 7 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 3 of Chapter III of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to increase the compensation of council members from the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per year to _____ (\$_____) and the compensation of the mayor from twenty-nine thousand (\$29,000) per year to _____ (\$_____) per year starting October 1, 2016?

In the event that Proposition 7 is approved by the voters, Section 3, “Compensation of the members of the City Council” of Chapter III, “The City Council” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to increase the compensation of council members to _____ (\$_____) per year and the compensation of the mayor to _____ (\$_____) per year to thereafter read as follows:

§ 3. Compensation of the members of the City Council.

Commencing on October 1, 2014, each member of the City Council, except the mayor, shall receive as compensation for such member's services the sum of _____ thousand dollars (\$____,000.00) per annum and the mayor shall receive as compensation for the mayor's service, the sum of _____ thousand dollars (\$____,000.00) per annum. 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 or payment of expenses.

Proposition No. 8. Vacancies in the City Council.

Proposition No. 8 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 4 of Chapter III of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to allow a majority of the City Council to appoint a qualified person from the district whose place has been vacated to serve the unexpired term if the vacancy occurs twelve (12) months or less prior to an unexpired term?

In the event that Proposition 8 is approved by the voters, Section 4, "Vacancies in the City Council; how filled" of Chapter III, "The City Council" of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to thereafter read as follows:

§ 4. Vacancies in the City Council; how filled.

Vacancies in the City Council shall be filled by special elections from the districts whose places have been vacated. Vacancies in the office of mayor shall be filled under the provisions applicable to other council members except that the district of the mayor shall be the city as a whole. These special elections shall be held on the first available election date specified in the Texas Election Code unless the council shall request, and receive, permission from the governor to call an emergency special election. If vacancies should occur within thirty (30) days of the special 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 from the governor.

In the event any candidate for a vacancy fails to receive a majority of all votes cast for all the candidates for such vacancy at such special election, the mayor shall on the first day following the completion of the official count of the ballots cast at said special election issue a call for a run-off election pursuant to Chapter IV, section 2, to be held in accordance with the Texas Election Code to determine who shall be elected. Such new council members, when duly qualified and elected, shall serve for the unexpired period of the terms of the council members whose offices are being filled.

However, no such elections shall be held where said vacancy shall occur within a period of twelve (12) months or less ~~of less than ninety (90) days~~ prior to a general election as specified in Chapter IV, section 2. When a vacancy shall occur twelve (12) months or less ~~less than ninety (90) days~~ prior to the general election as specified in Chapter IV, section 2, a majority of the remaining council members may appoint a

qualified person from the district whose place has been vacated to serve the unexpired term.

Should a vacancy occur in the office of mayor, the mayor pro tem shall serve until a special election shall be called under the rules pertaining to filling vacancies among the other council members. If members of the City Council seek the office of mayor in such a special election, they shall first resign from the City Council, and special elections, simultaneous to the mayoral election, shall be held in their districts under the terms specified above.

Proposition No. 9. Swearing in of City Council Members.

Proposition No. 9 ballot language shall read:

Shall the first paragraph of Section 5 of Chapter III of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to provide that the newly elected city council members can be sworn in at the same meeting at which the election results are canvassed?

In the event that Proposition 9 is approved by the voters, the first paragraph of Section 5, “Meetings of council and committees open to the public; quorum; regulation of proceedings; council to provide rules of procedure” of Chapter III, “The City Council” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to allow the newly elected city council members can be sworn in at the same meeting at which the election results are canvassed to thereafter read as follows:

§ 5. Meetings of council and committees open to the public; quorum; regulation of proceedings; council to provide rules of procedure.

~~At the first City Council meeting after the City Council meeting canvassing the election results, the elected members of the new Council shall meet at City Hall and take the oath of office.~~ At the City Council meeting canvassing the election results, the elected members of the new Council shall attend the meeting and take the oath of office. If an elected member of the new Council cannot attend the meeting where the election results are canvassed, the member shall take the oath of office at the next City Council meeting. Special meetings may be called by the Mayor or by any three (3) Councilmembers. Such call shall be in writing and shall state the object of the meeting, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting other than that specified in the call. The Council shall meet at such times and places as may be prescribed by ordinance or resolution but not less than forty-four (44) regular and special meetings shall be held each calendar year.

Proposition No. 10. Employees Allowed to Run for Office.

Proposition No. 10 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 8 of Chapter III of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to delete the provision that appointed officers and employees of the city forfeit their position with the city if they

become a candidate for nomination or election to any public office in order to comply with state law that allows employees to remain employed while running for office?

In the event that Proposition 10 is approved by the voters, Section 8, “Relating to City Councilperson accepting different office and providing for forfeiture of offices and positions of aspirants for compensated office” of Chapter III, “The City Council” of the Fort Worth City Charter will be amended to delete the reference to appointed officers and employees of the city forfeit their position with the city if they become a candidate for nomination or election to any public office in order to comply with state law to thereafter read as follows:

§ 8. Relating to City Councilperson accepting different office and providing for forfeiture of offices and positions of aspirants for compensated office.
No person elected to the City Council shall, during the term for which he/she was elected, be appointed to any office or position in the service of the city. If a member of the council shall become a candidate for nomination or election to any public office, other than that of councilperson, he/she shall forfeit his/her place in the council; but shall continue to hold the office until a successor is duly qualified in cases in which such holdover is required by state law. ~~and any appointive officer or employee of the city who shall become a candidate for nomination or election to any public office shall immediately forfeit the office held under the city or employment held under the city.~~

Proposition No. 11. Residence Requirements for Persons Seeking Election to the City Council.

Proposition No. 11 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter IV of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to clarify that a person seeking election to the city council must have resides in the district for which he or she seeks election for 180 days prior to the first allowed filing date for the election?

In the event that Proposition 11 is approved by the voters, Section 1, “Councilperson, Eligibility” of Chapter IV, “Method of Nominating and Electing Members of the City Council” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to clarify that a person seeking election to the city council must reside in the district for 180 days prior to the first allowed filing date for the election to thereafter read as follows:

§ 1. Councilperson, Eligibility.

Only qualified voters under the laws of Texas, twenty-one (21) years of age and over, who have continuously resided in the Council District for which he or she seeks election for ~~six (6) full months before~~ 180 days before the first allowed filing date for the election, shall be eligible to the office of councilperson. The first allowed filing date shall not be included in calculating the 180 days.

Proposition No. 12. Deletion of Right of Public Hearing by Department Directors

Proposition No. 12 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 3 of Chapter V of the Fort Worth City Charter be revised to delete the right of department directors to request a public hearing by the City Council before his/her removal by the city manager is final?

In the event that Proposition 12 is approved by the voters, Section 3 “Proper administration of city affairs; appointment, removal of directors and employees; adherence to civil service regulations” of Chapter V, “City Manager” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be revised to delete the right of department directors to request a public hearing by the City Council if removed by the city manager to thereafter read as follows:

§ 3. 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 city 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.

Proposition No. 13. Deletion of Right of Public Hearing by Certain Appointed Officials

Proposition No. 13 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter V, Section 4, of Chapter VI and Section 3 of Chapter XXVII of the Fort Worth City Charter be revised to delete the right of the city manager, the city attorney and the internal auditor to request a public hearing by the City Council if removed after serving six (6) months?

In the event that Proposition 13 is approved by the voters, Section 1, “Appointment; qualifications; removal; absence or disability; compensation; residency” of Chapter V,

“The City Manager”, Section 4, “Term, removal, absence or disability of city attorney” of Chapter VI, “Department of Law” and Section 3, “Term, removal, absence or disability of city internal auditor” of Chapter XXVII, “Department of internal audit” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be revised to delete the right of officials appointed by the City Council to request a public hearing by the City Council if removed after serving six (6) months in each section:

~~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/city attorney/city internal auditor] shall be final.~~

Proposition No. 14. Appointment and Removal of Municipal Judges.

Proposition No. 14 ballot language shall read:

Shall Chapter VII of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to add a new section to provide that municipal judges will be appointed and removed for cause by a majority vote of the City Council?

In the event that Proposition 14 is approved by the voters, Chapter VII, Municipal Court of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to add the following new section to provide a process for the appointment and removal of municipal judges to thereafter read as follows:

§ 3. Appointment and removal of municipal judges.

The chief judge and associate judges shall be selected and appointed by majority vote of all the members of the city council to serve specified terms. Initial appointment and reappointment to any term is at the sole discretion of the city council.

The chief judge and associate judges may be removed during their term of office by a majority vote of all members of the city council. Removal may include any one or more of the following grounds: dereliction of duty, incompetency, incapacity to serve, misconduct or conduct discrediting the position.

Proposition No. 15. Assessment and Collection of Taxes

Proposition No. 15 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter IX of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to remove the assessment and collection as a duty of the department of finance to reflect the current practice of assessing and collecting all taxes, including special assessments, is performed by the county?

In the event Proposition No. 15 is approved by the voters, Section 1, “Authority of council to provide of department; duties” of Chapter IX, “Department of Finance” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to delete the reference that the department of finance shall assess and collect of all taxes, including special assessments, to reflect the current practice of assessing and collecting all taxes, including special assessments, is performed by the county to thereafter read as follows:

§1. Authority of council to provide of 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.

Proposition No. 16. Adoption of Budget in Accordance with State Law.

Proposition No. 16 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 2 of Chapter X of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to provide for budget hearings, adoption and publication of the budget, appropriation ordinance and tax levy ordinance in accordance with state law?

In the event that Proposition 16 is approved by the voters, Section 2 “Annual Appropriations Budget” of Chapter X, The Budget and Financial Procedure Relating Thereto” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to provide that the hearings and publication be in accordance with state law to thereafter read as follows:

§ 2. Annual ~~appropriations ordinance~~ Budget.

Public hearings on the manager’s proposed budget shall be held and notice of such hearings shall be provided in accordance with applicable state law; however, no less than one (1) public hearing shall be held on the budget following notice of such hearing. The budget shall not be adopted at the same meeting as the public hearing. The annual appropriations ordinance providing funding for the proposed budget, shall be introduced for first reading at the first City Council meeting following the council’s receipt of the city manager’s proposed budget. A along with a corresponding ad valorem tax levy ordinance shall also be considered by the City Council at the same meeting the City Council considers approving the budget. introduced at the same time. Public hearings on the appropriations ordinance and the tax levy ordinance shall be a part of each regular City Council meeting agenda until such a time as these ordinances are adopted. The appropriations ordinance shall be published in the city’s official newspaper after its initial reading. The City Council shall not approve the budget (second reading of the appropriations ordinance) until at least ten (10) days after this publication. Following the

~~second reading and final passage of the appropriations ordinance, it shall again be published in the city's official newspaper, along with a schedule of changes made by the council to the city manager's originally proposed budget. Upon approval of the budget, the caption of the appropriations ordinance shall be published once, and the caption and penalty of the ad valorem tax levy ordinance shall be published twice in the City's official newspaper. The final approved budget and the full text of each ordinance shall be posted on the city's website and filed in the city secretary's office and made available for public inspection. The budget will become effective upon this—second publication. approval by City Council. The appropriations ordinance and ad valorem tax levy ordinance shall become effective upon publication in accordance with this section.~~

Proposition No. 17. Independent Audit

Proposition No. 17 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 11 of Chapter X of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to state the duties of the outside auditor as it relates to the city's budget?

In the event that Proposition 17 is approved by the voters, Section 11 "Independent audit" of Chapter X "The budget and financial procedure relating thereto" of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to clarify the duties of the outside auditor as it relates to the city's budget to thereafter read as follows:

§ 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 include the certification of ~~all statements~~ compliance with the budget adoption process required under section 2 of this chapter of the Charter ~~Such statements shall and shall include an audit of the city's~~ 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

Proposition No. 18. Deletion of Public Health Department.

Proposition No. 18 ballot language shall read:

Shall Chapter XV of the Fort Worth City Charter be deleted in its entirety since the functions of a city health department are performed by Tarrant County?

In the event that Proposition 18 is approved by the voters, Chapter XV “Department of Public Health” of the Fort Worth City Charter will be deleted in its entirety.

Proposition No. 19. Recall of Councilperson, Procedure; election of successors

Proposition No. 19 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter XIX of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to increase the time from ten (10) days to twenty-five (25) days for the city secretary to review a petition submitted by the voters to recall any councilmember?

In the event that Proposition 19 is approved by the voters, Section 1 “Recall of councilpersons; procedure; election of successors” of Chapter XIX “Recall of councilpersons” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to increase the time from ten (10) days to twenty-five (25) days for the city secretary to review a petition submitted by the voters to recall any councilmember to thereafter read as follows:

§ 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.

Proposition No. 20. The Initiative

Proposition No. 20 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 3 of Chapter XX of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to increase the time from ten (10) days to twenty-five (25) days for the city secretary to review a petition submitted by the voters to propose ordinances?

In the event that Proposition 20 is approved by the voters, Section 3 “Filing of Petitions” of Chapter XX “The Initiative” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to increase the time from ten (10) days to twenty-five (25) days for the city secretary to review a petition submitted by the voters to propose ordinances to thereafter read as follows:

§ 3. Filing of Petitions.

Within twenty-five (25) ~~ten (10)~~ 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 sufficient it may be amended within twenty-five (25) ~~ten (10)~~ days from the date of said certificate by filing supplementary petition papers with additional signatures. The secretary shall, within ten (10) 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.

Proposition No. 21. The Initiative

Proposition No. 21 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 5 of Chapter XXI of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to reduce the number of newspaper publications for the sale of property valued at more than \$125,000 from once-a-week for four weeks to one time with a requirement that notice also be placed on the city’s webpage for four consecutive weeks?

In the event that Proposition No. 21 is approved by the voters, Section 5 “Referendum relative to purchases and sales of public property” of Chapter XXI “Referendum” of the Fort Worth City Charter will be amended to reduce the number of newspaper publications for the sale of property valued at more than \$125,000 from once-a-week for

four weeks to one week and add a requirement that notice also be placed on the city's webpage for four consecutive weeks to thereafter read as follows:

§ 5. Referendum relative to purchases and sales of public property.

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 one time and by placing it on the city's webpage for four (4) consecutive weeks starting the first week it is published in the official newspaper a week for four (4) consecutive weeks, 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.

Proposition No. 22. Clarify who can pay for the cost of construction of sidewalks

Proposition No. 22 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 4 of Chapter XXII of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to state that the city may pay, in whole or in part, for the cost of construction of sidewalks and curbs?

In the event Proposition 22 is approved by the voters, Section 4 Pavement improvement of highway, sidewalks and curbs; contracts; payment; lien; sale; deed of Chapter XXII, "Improvements and paving of streets and highways" of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended and thereafter read as follows:

§ 4. Pavement improvement of highway, sidewalks and curbs; contracts; payment; lien; sale: deed.

Subject to the terms hereof, the cost of such improvement, including the construction of any sidewalk of curb, may be paid wholly 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 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 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 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, 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.

Proposition No. 23. Correct title to reflect that improvement contracts are signed by the City Manager.

Proposition No. 23 ballot language shall read as follows:

Shall the title of Section 6 of Chapter XXII of the Fort Worth City Charter be corrected to specify that the city manager signs improvement contracts?

In the event that Proposition 23 is approved by the voters, the title of Section 6, “Improvement contracts; signature by the Mayor” of Chapter XXII, “Improvements and paving of streets and highways” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to thereafter read as follows:

§ 6. Improvements- contracts; signature by ~~mayor~~ city manager.

The bids having been accepted by the City Council, the city shall enter into contract with the contractor, to whom the work is let, for its performance. Such contract shall be signed by the city manager or his or her designee and attested by the corporate seal affixed by the city secretary, or other officer designated by the council, and shall be approved as to form by the City Council.

Proposition No. 24. Reporting by the Tax Assessor

Proposition No. 24 ballot language shall read as follows:

Shall Section 1 of Chapter XXIV of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to allow the tax assessor-collector to provide a list of assessments of real and personal property owned in the City to the City Council by a deadline as established under state law?

In the event that Proposition 24 is approved by the voters, Section 1, “Property subject to taxation” of Chapter XXIV, “Assessment and Collection of Taxes; provisions relative to issuance and sale of bonds” of the Fort Worth City Charter shall be amended to allow the tax assessor to submit a list of assessments of real and personal property owned in the City to the City Council in accordance with state law to thereafter read as follows:

§ 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 on or before the first day of August of each year or such other deadline as established by state law ~~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.

Proposition No. 25. Annual Reporting by Public Service Corporations

Proposition No. 25 ballot language shall read:

Shall Section 6 of Chapter XXVI of the Fort Worth City Charter which requires all public service corporations operating within the city to file an annual report of the receipts of their business operation be deleted in its entirety?

In the event that Proposition 25 is approved by the voters, Section 6, “Council to pass ordinance requiring all public service corporations to file an annual report” of Chapter XXVI, Franchises and public utilities” of the Fort Worth City Charter will be deleted in its entirety and this section reserved for future use.

Proposition No. 26. Contracts for Official Advertising

Proposition No. 26 ballot language shall read as follows:

Shall Section 17 of Chapter XXVII of the Fort Worth City Charter be amended to allow the city’s contract with a newspaper for official advertising of the city to have a term of more than one year?

In the event that Proposition 26 is approved by the voters, Section 17 “Contracts for official advertising; Official newspaper” of Chapter XXVII “Miscellaneous” of the Fort Worth City Charter will be amended to delete the requirement that the city contract for official advertising of the city on an annual basis to allow for longer contract terms to thereafter read as follows:

§ 17. Contracts for official advertising; Official newspaper.

The City Council ~~shall annually~~ may let contracts for the official advertising of the city for one or more fiscal years. ~~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.