



POWER BY THE PEOPLE

A Political Action Committee
207 E. Lake Street, Suite 305
Minneapolis, MN 55408

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CITY CLERK
DEPARTMENT

December 15, 2011

City of Minneapolis Charter Commission
Attention Peggy Menshek
Minneapolis City Hall
350 S 5th St., room 304
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Minneapolis Charter Commission,

Enclosed you will find submitted, pursuant to Minn. Stats. §410.12, subd.1, Power by the People's most recent proposed amendment to the Charter of the City of Minneapolis. As the amendment exceeds 1,000 words, a summary has been included. Pursuant to the requirements of the aforementioned statute, please review the amendments as to form and return them to the committee with such modifications as you deem necessary, within the 10 days set forth in the statute.

Our last submission was found to have technical errors. We have attempted to remedy these defects. If we have missed an error please inform undersigned counsel of that fact so that it may be remedied prior to the Commission's January 4, 2012 meeting.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Rachel Nelson
Attorney, Power by the People

Enclosure: Proposed Amendment to the Minneapolis Charter Commission

CC: Martha Schiller, Chairperson, Power by the People (with enclosure)

Summary

An amendment to the Minneapolis City Charter providing for the election of Chief of Police and City Attorney to a term of four (4) years; creating the office of City Coordinator; providing for the election of City Coordinator for a term of four (4) years; providing for the election of city Mayor to a term of four (4) years; reducing the number of wards from thirteen (13) to seven (7); providing for the election of a Council Member from each ward to serve a two (2) year term; limiting the offices of Mayor and Council Member to two (2) terms; providing for the election of members of the city Planning Commission; providing that the election of the Planning Commission shall be two (2) members per ward, allowing for a total of fourteen (14) members; providing for two (2) year terms for members of the Planning Commission; and limiting membership of the Planning Commission to two (2) terms.

Chapter 1, Section 3 of the Minneapolis City Charter is amended to read:

The city shall consist of ~~thirteen~~ seven (7) Wards with as nearly equal population as practicable. Within the time specified in paragraph C hereof the Charter Commission shall readjust the boundaries of the Wards in accordance with the following standards.

(The rest of the language of Section 3 shall remain unchanged)

Chapter 2, Section 1 of the Minneapolis City Charter is amended to read:

The elective officers of the City shall be Mayor, members of the City Council (who shall be known as Council Members), the City Attorney, the City Coordinator and the Chief of Police and such members of boards or commissions as elsewhere provided in this Charter. The City Council shall consist of one (1) Council Member from each ward to be elected by the voters of the respective ward. This provision will also amend Minneapolis Code of Ordinances Sec. 21.20.

Chapter 2, Section 3 of the Minneapolis City Charter is amended to read:

Section 3. – Terms of Office of City Attorney, City Coordinator, Chief of Police, Mayor and Council Members.

The terms of office of the City Attorney, City Coordinator, and Chief of Police shall be for four (4) years. The term of the Mayor shall be for four years and the term of Council Members shall be for two years, and no person shall be elected to more than two terms for either office. Terms for all elective offices shall commence ~~commencing~~ on the first business day of January of the year following their election.

Chapter 2, Section 4 of the Minneapolis City Charter is amended to read:

A general city election for the election of ~~city officers~~ City Attorney, City Coordinator and Chief of Police shall be held every four years on the first Tuesday after the First Monday in November. A general city election for the election of the Mayor and Council Members shall be held every two years on the first Tuesday after the First Monday in November.

Chapter 3, Section 7 of the Minneapolis City Charter is amended to read:

Section 7. - City Attorney—Appointment Election —Powers and Duties.

~~The City Council shall at the time and in the manner specified in this chapter for the appointment of other city officers elect and appoint a City Attorney.~~

The Office of City Attorney shall be an elected office. In case of a vacancy occurring prior to March 1st of the year of the general City election for the Office Chief of Police, it shall be filled for the unexpired term by a special election ordered by the City Council and held City-wide. The special election shall be held within ninety (90) days after such a vacancy shall occur.

The City Attorney may appoint two Deputy City Attorneys, who shall be in the unclassified service, and the City Attorney may, by and with the consent of the City Council, appoint such other assistants and clerical force as may be necessary.

(The rest of the language of Section 7 shall be unchanged)

Chapter 6, Section 1 of the Minneapolis City Charter is amended to read:

The mayor shall be vested with all the powers of said city connected with and incident to the establishment, maintenance, appointment, removal, discipline, control and supervision of its police force, subject to the limitations herein contained and the provisions of the civil service chapter of this Charter, and may make all needful rules and regulations for the efficiency and discipline, and promulgate and enforce general and special orders of the government of the same, and have the care and custody of all public property connected with the police department of the city. ~~The executive committee shall, by and with the consent of a majority of all the members of the city council, appoint for a term of three (3) years commencing January 2, 1980, some suitable person as chief of police, subject to removal upon the recommendation of the executive committee by a vote of a majority of all of the members of the city council. The Chief of Police shall be an elected office.~~ Such position shall be in the unclassified service. The term of office of each chief of police shall be three (3) years from and after the second day of January of the year of appointment. In case of a vacancy occurring otherwise, the appointment shall be for the unexpired term. prior to March 1st of the year of the general City election for the Office Chief of Police, it shall be filled for the unexpired term by a special election ordered by the City Council and held City-wide. The special election shall be held within ninety (90) days after such a vacancy shall occur. Ten (10) days prior to the appointment of a chief of police, the executive committee shall file with the city clerk the name of all persons the executive committee is then considering for the appointment. The chief of police may be reappointed by a majority of all members of the city council. In the event that the council does not reappoint within thirty (30) days of the termination of the term, the executive committee shall within sixty (60) days thereafter make a new appointment. Persons holding the position of chief of police shall be entitled to the same employee benefits as persons in the classified service except as to appointment and removal. If the person appointed chief of police is a member of the classified service, such person shall be deemed to be on leave of absence during the tenure as chief of police, and upon the termination of service as chief of police shall be returned to his or her permanent civil service classification. If no vacancy is available in that permanent civil service classified position, seniority shall prevail and the person most recently certified to such position shall be returned to the permanent civil service

classification held prior to such certification. The Mayor shall also appoint, subject to the provisions of the civil service chapter of this Charter, all members of the police force and other employees of the department prescribing the title, rank and duties of each, and report a list thereof to the city council and the civil service commission.

(The rest of the language of Section 1 shall remain unchanged)

Chapter 13, Section 1 of the Minneapolis City Charter shall be amended as follows:

There shall be in the City of Minneapolis and executive department of the City to be known as the "City Planning Department," which shall serve as the staff of a City planning commission consisting of fourteen (14) persons. Members of the Planning Commission shall be elected with two members being elected from each of the city's seven (7) wards. The term of office shall be two (2) years, and no member of the commission may be elected to more than two (2) terms. Election dates and dates of the terms shall be governed by Chapter 2, Sections 3 and 4 of this Charter. ~~One shall be the Mayor; one shall be a person selected by the County Board of the county of Hennepin as its representative; the City council, the School Board, and the Park Board shall each select one of its own members of any of the above bodies or boards shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council; and one (1) legal voter of the municipality not a member of any of the above bodies or boards shall be appointed by the City Council in January of each even-numbered years.~~

~~Each year the Mayor shall appoint two (2) members to serve for terms of two (2) years each, commencing on the first day of February of the year of their appointment. The terms of appointed members serving for terms to expire in July 1978, and July 1979, shall terminate on January 31, 1978, and the terms of members appointed for terms to expire in July 1980, and July 1981, shall each terminate on January 31, 1979. Vacancies for any unexpired term shall be filled by appointments or selection as in the first instance.~~

~~The members or the representatives of a member of the Commission except those who are paid by the City or any other public body or agency for attending or serving on the Commission shall be paid for each official meeting attended such amount as the City Council shall establish from time to time by ordinance, with a limitation of one (1) meeting per day and four (4) meetings per month; the Commission may with the approval of the Mayor, employ engineers or other persons and incur such other expenses as are deemed necessary.~~

(The remaining language of Section 1 shall remain unchanged)