



TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Karl R. Amylon, City Manager

DATE: June 24, 2020

RE: **Resolution No. 20-2784 - Proposing That The Certification Of Election Results Be Extended; Proposing That Section 10-2 Of The City Charter Be Amended To Reflect The Terms Of Office Of The Mayor And Councilmen Shall Begin No Later Than The Second Monday After The Election; Providing That Such Amendment Be Submitted To The Voters For Approval Or Rejection At The Regular Election To Be Held On October 6, 2020; Directing The City Clerk To Take Such Action As Is Necessary To Place The Amendment Before The Qualified Voters Of The City Of Ketchikan On October 6, 2020; And Establishing An Effective Date**

The attached resolution was prepared by City Clerk Kim Stanker, who requested that it be placed before the City Council for consideration at its meeting of July 2, 2020. If adopted, Resolution No. 20-2784 provides for submitting to the voters at the regular election of October 6, 2020, a ballot proposition amending Section 10-2 of the City Charter to allow for the certification of election results be extended to reflect the terms of office of Mayor and Councilmembers to begin no later than the second Monday after the election. The ballot proposition would also remove language qualifying the Mayor-elect and Councilmember-elect within one month of their respective terms. The rationale for the Charter amendment is detailed in the City Clerk's transmittal memorandum and requires no elaboration on the part of my office.

Ms. Stanker will attend the City Council meeting of July 2, 2020, in order to address any questions and/or concerns that Councilmembers may have.

A motion has been prepared for City Council consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the City Council adopt the motion approving Resolution No. 20-2784 proposing that the certification of election results be extended; proposing that Section 10-2 of the City charter be amended to reflect the terms of office of the Mayor and Councilmen shall begin no later than the second Monday after the election; providing that such amendment be submitted to the voters for approval or rejection at the regular election to be held on October 6, 2020; directing the City Clerk to take such action as is necessary to place the amendment before the qualified voters of the City of Ketchikan on October 6, 2020; and establishing an effective date.

Recommended Motion: I move the City Council approve Resolution No. 20-2784 proposing that the certification of election results be extended; proposing that Section 10-2 of the City charter be amended to reflect the terms of office of the Mayor and Councilmen shall begin no later than the second Monday after the election; providing that such amendment be submitted to the voters for approval or rejection at the regular election to be held on October 6, 2020; directing the City Clerk to take such action as is necessary to place the amendment before the qualified voters of the City of Ketchikan on October 6, 2020; and establishing an effective date.

**Office of the City Clerk
City of Ketchikan, Alaska**

**Kim Stanker, City Clerk
Taylor Lee, Deputy City Clerk**

To: Karl Amylon, City Manager

From: Kim Stanker, City Clerk

Date: June 23, 2020

Subject: **Resolution No. 20-2784 – Proposing Section 10-2 of the Charter be Amended Regarding Certification of Mayor and Councilmembers**

Attached is a resolution that would amend Section 10-2 of the City Charter to allow for the certification of election results be extended to reflect the terms of office of the mayor and councilmembers to begin no later than the second Monday after the election, and removing language regarding qualifying within one month of their term.

The City Charter states that “The terms of office of the mayor and councilmen shall begin on the first Monday after their election.” Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City is promoting and preparing for an increased number of absentee and early voters. This change will ensure the canvass board has an additional week to review all absentee and early voter ballots to certify the election.

To file for the mayor or a councilmember seat they must be a registered voter of the City, and to qualify they must obtain ten signatures from other registered voters of the City. This resolution will also remove the redundant language regarding the mayor or councilmen elect qualifying within one month after the beginning of their term or be removed.

If the resolution is approved, a proposition will be placed on the ballot at the regular election of October 6, 2020 related to term of office of the mayor and councilmen.

Recommended Motion:

I move the City Council approve Resolution No. 20-2784 proposing the terms of office of the mayor and councilmen shall begin no later than the second Monday after their election; proposing that Section 10-2 of the City Charter be amended to reflect that change; and providing that such amendment be submitted to the registered voters for approval or rejection at the regular election to be held on October 6, 2020.

CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2784

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA PROPOSING THAT THE CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS BE EXTENDED; PROPOSING THAT SECTION 10-2 OF THE CITY CHARTER BE AMENDED TO REFLECT THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN SHALL BEGIN NO LATER THAN THE SECOND MONDAY AFTER THE ELECTION; PROVIDING THAT SUCH AMENDMENT BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS FOR APPROVAL OR REJECTION AT THE REGULAR ELECTION TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 6, 2020; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS IS NECESSARY TO PLACE THE AMENDMENT BEFORE THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN ON OCTOBER 6, 2020; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Ketchikan, Alaska as follows:

Section 1: Charter Amendment. Pursuant to Section 10-2 and of the Charter of the City of Ketchikan, Alaska, the City Council proposes that the Charter of the City of Ketchikan be amended as provided in the ballot proposition set forth in Section 2 below, and that such proposed Charter Amendment be submitted to the qualified voters of the City for approval or rejection as the regular election to be held on October 6, 2020. The City Clerk is directed to publish the proposed Charter Amendment as required by Section 10-9 of the Charter and Section 1.08.040 of the Ketchikan Municipal Code and to do all other things necessary to hold the election and place the question of this Charter Amendment before the qualified voters of the City.

Section 2: Proposition to be submitted to the voters. The proposed Charter Amendment to be submitted to the voters for approval or rejection is set forth in the following proposition. Provisions to be added are underlined and provisions to be deleted are shown in brackets [] with strikethrough language.

Proposition No. 1

(Note: Provisions to be added are underlined and provisions to be deleted are shown in brackets [] with ~~strikethrough language~~.)

Shall Section 10-2 of Article X of the City Charter be amended to read as follows:

Filing.

Section 10-2. Three-Year Terms – Election at Large – Nonpartisan Elections

At the regular election in 1960, two councilmen shall be elected; and at the regular election in 1963, and each three years thereafter, three councilmen shall be elected. At the regular election in 1961, and each three years thereafter, a mayor and two councilmen shall be elected. At the regular election in 1962, and each three years thereafter, two councilmen shall be elected.

The mayor and councilmen shall be elected for terms of three years, and shall serve thereafter until their respective successors are elected and qualify; provided that, if fewer councilmen are elected and qualify in any year then provided for in this section

(because of failure of other candidates to file or for other cause), then lots shall be cast in a meeting of the council and under its direction to determine which of the councilmen whose terms are about to expire shall continue to serve.

The terms of office of the mayor and councilmen shall begin [~~on the first~~] no later than the second Monday after their election. ~~If the mayor-elect or a councilman-elect fails to qualify within one month after the beginning of his term, his election shall be void.~~

The mayor and councilmen shall be elected at large, by the qualified voters of the entire city, by secret ballot. The election shall be nonpartisan, and no party designation or emblem shall be placed on the ballot.

Charter Amendment, Yes _____ ☐

Charter Amendment, No _____ ☐

Section 3: This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council for the City of Ketchikan on this 2th day of July, 2020.

Robert R. Sivertsen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Stanker, City Clerk