

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

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

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kim Stanker, City Clerk

Date: July 21, 2022

Subject: Ordinance No. 22-1948 – Proposing that Term Limits for the Mayor and Councilmembers Be Added to Section 10-3 of Article 10 of the City Charter

As directed by the City Council at its planning meeting of March 12, 2022 an ordinance has been drafted to amend the Charter to add term limits for the Mayor and Councilmembers. City Attorney Mitch Seaver has reviewed the draft, and the result is herewith transmitted.

If the ordinance is approved in second reading a resolution will be provided at the first meeting in August to include the proposition that will be placed on the ballot at the regular election of October 4, 2022 related to amending the City Charter to add term limits for the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Recommended Motion:

I move that the City Council approve in second reading Ordinance No. 22-1948 proposing that Section 10-3 of Article 10 of the City Charter be amended to reflect term limits for the Mayor and Councilmembers of no more than three (3) consecutive terms.

THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

ORDINANCE NO. 22-1948

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA; PROPOSING THAT SECTION 10-3 OF ARTICLE 10 OF THE CITY CHARTER BE AMENDED TO ADD THOSE TERM LIMITATIONS; TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE REGULAR ELECTION TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 4, 2022; CONDITIONED UPON VOTER RATIFICATION; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN, ALASKA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Charter Amendment. An amendment to Section 10-3 of Article 10 of the City Charter be amended to add those term limitations, to read as follows:

Section 10-3. Any qualified person may have his or her name placed on the ballot for the election as a candidate for mayor or councilperson by filing a petition with the city clerk, signed by at least 10 qualified voters of the city and a sworn statement of his or her candidacy, during the filing period August 1 through August 25, at 5:00 p.m. prior to the next regular election. Should August 25 be a Saturday or a Sunday, then candidates shall have until noon on the first Monday following to file their petition. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION IN THIS CHARTER, NO PERSON SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO SERVE MORE THAN THREE (3) TERMS CONSECUTIVELY AS A COUNCILMEMBER OR MORE THAN THREE (3) TERMS CONSECUTIVELY AS MAYOR. ELECTION TO SERVE THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF A TERM SHALL BE CONSIDERED A FULL TERM FOR PURPOSES OF SUCH LIMITATIONS, HOWEVER, THE PERIOD SERVED AFTER APPOINTMENT TO A VACANCY PRIOR TO AN ELECTION TO FILL SUCH VACANCY SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED A TERM FOR PURPOSES OF THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. If an office is to be filled for an unexpired term at a special election, nominating petitions shall be provided by the city clerk not later than 60 days prior to the special election and must be filed not later than 30 days before the special election. The petition may have been circulated and filed by the candidate or by one or more qualified voters other than the candidate.

Section 2. Effective Date. The proposed Charter amendment referred to in this ordinance shall become effective upon certification of the election results that amend the City Charter as set for in Section 1 has been ratified by a majority of qualified voters of the City voting on the question of the regular election to be held on October 4, 2022.

PASSED ON FIRST READING _____ July 7, 2022 _____.

FINAL PASSAGE _____.

David Kiffer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Stanker, MMC
City Clerk

March 12, 2022

Mayor/Council Term Limits

Councilmember Zenge said she asked for this topic because folks have come to her with questions as to why the City doesn't have term limits.

The following ideas were discussed:

- Three three-year terms for all seats.
- Direct the Clerk to bring back information to the Council in June 2022.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Mahtani thanked staff and members of the public for taking time out of their schedule and being here today.

Councilmember Flora welcomed Mayor Kiffer back.

Mayor Kiffer thanked staff for being here today.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the Council adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Dave Kiffer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Stanker
City Clerk