

## Charter Language Changes:

### Section 2.04. ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS.

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(b) Terms. (i) At the first regular city election under this charter, all nine council members are to be elected, including the mayor. With respect to the three council members elected at large, the two elected council members who receive the highest number of votes are elected for four-year terms. The remaining council member will be elected for an initial term of two years. Council members elected from Council District 1 and Council District 3 and Council District 5 shall be elected for four-year terms and council members elected from Council District 2 and Council District 4 shall be elected for an initial term of two years. Commencing at the next regular election and at all subsequent elections, except as provided herein, all council members shall be elected for four-year terms. The term of the council member elected at large for the term beginning on January 2, 2014 that received fewer votes than the other member elected at large will be elected for a two year term. All subsequent terms for that office of council member shall be for four years.

(ii) This paragraph shall take effect once state legislation is enacted making the use of ranked choice voting in city elections consistent with state law. New terms of the council members will be adjusted to ensure that all three council members elected at large will be elected in the city elections in which the mayor is elected, and all five district council members will be elected in the other city elections. In the first regular city election to use ranked choice voting in which the mayor is elected to a regular term, the district council members elected from Council District 1 and Council District 3 and Council District 5 shall be elected for two-year terms. In the first regular city election to use ranked choice voting in which district council members from Council District 2 and Council District 4 are to be elected to regular terms, the two elected council members at large shall be elected for two-year terms. Following the adjustment of terms to allow these changes, all subsequent regular terms for the office of council member shall be for four years.

## ARTICLE III- NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS

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### Section 3.02. REGULAR CITY ELECTIONS.

(a) In the regular city election, each council district seat up for election shall be listed separately on the ballot, and only electors from that district shall be permitted to vote for the candidates for that council district seat.

(b) The at large council seats, including the position of mayor, shall be designated on the ballot as such and electors from the city at large may vote for candidates for these positions.

(c) Elections shall be held pursuant to Iowa law.

### Section 3.03. RUNOFF ELECTIONS.

(a) Until state legislation is enacted making the use of ranked choice voting in city elections consistent with state law, Runoff elections shall be held in lieu of primary elections. Once state legislation is enacted making the use of ranked choice voting in city elections consistent with state law, the general elections shall use ranked choice voting pursuant to Section 3.04 and runoff elections shall not be held.

(b) Runoff elections shall be held when and as specified by Iowa law.

### Section 3.04. RANKED CHOICE ELECTIONS.

(a) "Ranked choice voting" means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which (i) voters rank candidates in order of preference, (ii) tabulation proceeds in rounds such that in each of round either a candidate or candidates are elected or the last-place candidate is defeated, (iii) votes for voters' next-ranked candidates are transferred from elected or defeated candidates, and (iv) tabulation ends when the number of candidates elected equals the number of offices to be filled. "Ranked choice voting" is known as "instant runoff voting" (RCV/IRV) when electing a single office such as mayor or district council member and "single transferable vote" (RCV/STV) when electing multiple offices such as council members at large.

"Ranking" means the ordinal number assigned on a ballot by a voter to a candidate to express the voter's preference for that candidate. Ranking number one is the highest ranking, ranking number two is the next-highest ranking, and so on, consecutively, up to the number of candidates indicated on the ballot. The ballots for these elections shall allow voters to rank as many candidates as have qualified to appear on the ballot if it is feasible to do so, and the number of rankings permitted should not be limited to less than five, or as many candidates as possible consistent with state law.

(b) The county auditor may issue guidance for the proper and efficient administration of elections determined by ranked choice voting, including (i) procedures for tabulating votes in rounds, (ii) procedures for determining winners in elections for offices to which only one candidate is being elected and to which more than one candidate is being elected, and (iii) standards for ballots that are consistent with state law. Ballots shall allow voters to rank as many candidates as possible consistent with state law.