

MOTIONS APPROVED BY THE CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE

December 14, 2022

MOTION 1 – ARTICLE V: CITY COUNCIL, SECTION 1. CITY OFFICIALS AND SECTION 2 QUALIFICATIONS.

Sections 1 and 2 of Article V of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to replace the words “Councilperson,” “Councilmen” and “Councilman” with the words “Council member” or “Council members” respectively, and all other sections in which these words are referenced in the Charter; confirm that all meetings of the City Council are to be held in accordance with state law; that the Council members and Mayor meet the requirements to be a registered and qualified voter in the City of North Richland Hills, Texas as of the filing deadline preceding the election at which he or she is a candidate; and that any member of the City Council who is convicted or pleads guilty or no contest to a misdemeanor or felony involving a crime of moral turpitude for fraud, deceit, theft or dishonesty, before or while in office, shall immediately forfeit his or her office. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 2 – ARTICLE VI: POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS. SECTION 2. DUTIES OF MAYOR -MAYOR PRO-TEM; SECTION 5. APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF CITY SECRETARY; AND SECTION 7. MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE.

Sections 2, 3, 5 and 7 of Article VI of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to allow for the appointment of additional members from among the City Council to serve in the absence or disability of the Mayor or the Mayor Pro Tem; remove the requirement for the City Council to adopt plats; remove the requirement for the City Council to appoint the Assistant City Secretary; allow City Council to appoint more than one judge; remove the requirements that a Municipal Court Judge be a resident of North Richland Hills and that the judge be elected; and remove the requirement for the Clerk of the Municipal Court to be appointed by the City Council. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 3 – ARTICLE XIV: PLANNING/BUILDING REGULATIONS – SECTION 1. PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND SECTION 2. PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION POWERS AND DUTIES.

Sections 1 and 2 of Article XIV of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to authorize the City Council to appoint alternate members to the Planning and Zoning Commission to serve in the absence or disability of any Commissioner; remove the requirements that Planning and Zoning Commissioners be removed after a public hearing and for cause, or own real property within the City; authorize Planning and Zoning Commissioners to be removed upon majority vote of the City Council; and authorize the Planning and Zoning Commission to be responsible for the approval of plats.

MOTION PASSED

CIVIL SERVICE MOTIONS:

MOTION 4 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 2 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to remove all full-time, non-appointed employees from the City’s Civil Service and provide that Civil Service coverage only applies to any full-time, sworn, Police or Fire Department employee, below the rank of Police Captain, Fire Division/ Battalion Chief, or equivalent rank, or any sworn employee in the service of the City Marshal’s Office, who has completed the required one (1) year probationary period; and define the aforementioned employee as a “Civil Service Employee.” MOTION PASSED

MOTION 5 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Sections 3, 3A, and 4 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to authorize the appointment of alternate members to serve on the Civil Service Commission in the absence or disability of any member, with all members and alternates to be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed or removed by majority vote of the City Council; add the requirement that the members and alternates be subject to any attendance requirements established by the City Council; and to change the meeting time to provide that the Commission shall meet at least annually. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 6 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 5 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to replace the current language with language to authorize the Commission to recommend Civil Service rules governing initial employment, promotions and disciplinary appeal process to the City Council for approval; provide the authority for the Commission to determine compliance with the Charter and the Civil Service Rules; authorize any three (3) Commissioners to request that an item be placed on the Commission’s agenda for consideration; authorize the Commission to hear Civil Service Employee appeals of disciplinary terminations, suspensions or demotions; and provide that the Commission shall not interfere with or provide instructions regarding the operation of any City departments to any City staff outside of the responsibilities of the Commission. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 7 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 5A of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to replace the current language with language to authorize the Civil Service Commission to make inquiries and enforce the Civil Service provisions of the Charter and the Civil Service Rules and Regulations; provide authority for the Commission to administer oaths, compel and subpoena witnesses and records pertaining to an investigation; require depositions; and adopt rules and regulations to specify the processes and procedures for conducting its investigations or exercising its subpoena power. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 8 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 5B of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be REPEALED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY CHARTER AMENDMENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 9 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Sections 6 and 23 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to change the Director of Personnel to the Director of Human Resources (or its named successor). MOTION PASSED

MOTION 10 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 9 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to add “PROMOTIONS; VACANCIES” to the title; replace the current language with language that the City Civil Service Commission shall recommend that the City Council adopt Rules and Regulations by ordinance governing all Civil Service positions, promotions, original appointments, transfer or demotions, including method of examination and eligibility lists; and that the City Council shall make the final determination on the adoption of such rules. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 11 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 10, of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be REPEALED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY CHARTER AMENDMENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 12 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 12 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to clarify that upon initial employment, all Civil Service Employees shall serve a probationary period of twelve (12) months.

MOTION PASSED

MOTION 13 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 14, of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be REPEALED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY CHARTER AMENDMENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 14 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 16 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to clarify that the Department Head is responsible for initiating a suspension of a Civil Service Employee; changing the time frame that the Commission shall hold an appeal hearing from a suspension from thirty (30) days to forty (45) days after it receives notice of appeal; modifying the Commission’s authority to reinstate employees;

restricting the Commission’s authority to reinstate an employee if the employee has been finally convicted of a criminal act; and removing the Commission’s authority to punish and hold a Department Head in contempt for refusing to reinstate an employee. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 15 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 16A of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to replace the current language with language that provides the purpose of the Civil Service laws; that the members of the Commission are directed to administer the Civil Service laws in accordance with the purpose; and provides that the Commission, when sitting as a Board of Appeals, is to conduct any such appeal hearing fairly and impartially, and render a fair and just decision, considering only the evidence presented before them in such hearing. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 16 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 18 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to specify that the correct venue for filing an appeal of the Commission’s decision is the District Court in Tarrant County, Texas, and remove any language related to preferential treatment of such appeal. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 17 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Sections 19, 20, 25 and other sections referencing such terms, of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to replace “head of a department” with “Department Head” and replace “employee” with the defined term of “Civil Service Employee.” MOTION PASSED

MOTION 18 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 22, POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, and Section 22A, LEAVES OF ABSENCE, of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be REPEALED IN THEIR ENTIRETY BY CHARTER AMENDMENT. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 19 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 23 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to remove the requirement that the Civil Service Rules and Regulations be distributed to each department and replace that requirement with language that the Civil Service Rules and Regulations be made available to all City Service Employees and that the Director of Human Resources shall keep copies on hand for review upon request, instead of distribution. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 20 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 24 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to clarify that only sworn Civil Service Employees at the time of passage of any such Charter Amendment will be entitled to Civil Service classification; clarifying such sworn employees will not be required to take any competitive examination for the position they currently occupy; and removing the six (6) month requirement for being in the classified civil service. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 21 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 25 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter shall be amended to delete paragraphs four (4) through ten (10) and clarify that the remaining provisions apply to Civil Service Employees as defined and not to permanent and temporary employees in the classified service.

MOTION PASSED

MOTION 22 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 25A of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter shall be amended to add authority for the City Manager to exercise discretion to increase vacation accruals for Civil Service Employees on a temporary or permanent basis. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 23 – ARTICLE XVII: CITY CIVIL SERVICE.

Section 26 of Article XVII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to delete the second and third paragraphs and replace the language with language that requires all disciplinary action for violations of this Article to be administered in accordance with the North Richland Hills Personnel Policy Manual and Civil Service Rules and Regulations. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 24 – ARTICLE XVIII: GENERAL PROVISIONS – SECTION 6. OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER.

Section 6 of Article XVIII of the North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to authorize the summary of the caption and the penalty of adopted ordinances that assess a fine, fee or penalty to be published once in the City's official newspaper. MOTION PASSED

MOTION 25 – GENERAL INCONSISTENCIES OR CONFLICTS.

The North Richland Hills City Charter be amended to remove any redundancies or inconsistencies, correct any typographical errors, modify language as necessary to make it gender neutral, and remove or modify any language that conflicts with or is preempted by other state or federal legislation. MOTION PASSED