

MEMO

TO: Burlington City Council

FROM: Kenneth A. Schatz, Esq., City Attorney

RE: Short Titles and Text for March 2, 2010 Annual City Meeting
Charter Change Questions

DATE: January 20, 2010

Consistent with our usual and customary practice, I would request that the City Council consider passing a motion at its January 25, 2010 meeting approving the use of summaries for the proposed charter amendments on the ballot for the March 2, 2010 Annual City Meeting.

The motion should state that the summaries are being utilized because the City Council determines that the proposed charter amendments are too long or unwieldy to set out in the ballot in amended form.

It should also be noted for the record that complete copies of the proposed charter amendments are available in the Chief Administrator's Office and an official copy of the proposed charter amendments shall be maintained conspicuously in each ballot booth for inspection by voters during the balloting.

The following are recommended short titles and text for your consideration and approval:

Charter Change – Clarification of Mayoral Appointment Process

Shall Sections 116 and 127 of the City Charter be amended to clarify that the role of commissions in the Mayoral process of making department head appointments, evaluations and reappointments shall consist of the Mayor inviting two applicable commissioners, chosen by the chair, to participate in interviews for appointments and the full applicable commission shall participate in annual evaluations and make a formal recommendation to the Mayor concerning reappointments?

Charter Change – Elimination of Majority Vote Requirement and Instant Runoff Voting For Election of Mayor

Shall Sec. 5 of the City Charter be amended to decrease the percentage of votes needed to elect a mayor from more than a 50% majority to a 40% plurality and to eliminate instant runoff voting for the election of the Mayor?

lb/c: KAS 2010/ Short Titles and Text for March 2, 2010 Annual City Meeting Charter Change Questions