



**OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL CITY ELECTION
BURLINGTON, VERMONT
MARCH 7, 2023
WARD 4**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the ovals. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write their name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

FOR NORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMISSIONER Two-Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	FOR WARD CLERK Two-Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	FOR INSPECTOR OF ELECTION Three-Year Term Vote for not more than ONE
KENDRA SOWERS <input type="radio"/> <small>Burlington</small>	AMY BIELAWSKI-BRANCH <input type="radio"/> <small>Burlington Democratic</small>	
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: RANK CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCILOR IN ORDER OF CHOICE

To vote:

- Completely fill in the oval in the 1st column for your 1st choice candidate.
- Optionally, fill in the oval in the 2nd column for your 2nd choice candidate.
- You may rank as many or as few of the candidates as you would like.
- To rank a write-in candidate, write the person's name in the write-in space and fill in the oval that corresponds with the ranking of your choice.
- **Fill in no more than one oval per column.**
- **Fill in no more than one oval per candidate.**
- **Do not skip rankings.** For example, do not fill in 1st and 3rd choices without filling in a 2nd choice.

FOR NORTH DISTRICT CITY COUNCILOR Two Year Term Only ONE vote per candidate. Only ONE vote per column.		
	1st Choice	2nd Choice
MARK BARLOW <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <small>Burlington Independent</small>		
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 2

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS
QUESTIONS**

- TO VOTE IN FAVOR of any of the following questions, fill in the oval marked YES.
- TO VOTE AGAINST any of the following questions, fill in the oval marked NO.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

1. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

“Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$104,144,584 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$21,325.14 per equalized pupil. Spending at this level could produce a property tax rate increase of 4.03% (current estimate).”

YES

NO

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF A CARBON POLLUTION IMPACT FEE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND LARGE EXISTING COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS 50,000 SQUARE FEET OR LARGER

“Shall the City Council, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the City, be authorized starting January 1, 2024, to implement a carbon pollution impact fee in the permitting process, with the fee to be set by resolution starting at up to \$150 per ton and rising annually at the rate of regional inflation but capped at no more than a 5 percent annual increase, for:

- new construction buildings that install fossil fuel thermal energy systems instead of using renewable energy systems or renewable fuels, with the exception that the fee would not be implemented until January 1, 2026 for domestic water heating systems in new construction multi-family residential buildings with more than 4 units; and
- for existing commercial and industrial buildings 50,000 square feet or larger when the building is installing fossil fuel thermal energy space conditioning or domestic water heating systems instead of using renewable systems or renewable fuels?”

The fee proceeds could support one or more of the following: capital investments in converting the City’s vehicle fleet to electric vehicles; a new City fund to support clean heating technology installations for low-income Burlington households and renters; and/or in the case of existing building payors, greenhouse gas emissions reductions projects at their building or facilities in Burlington.

YES

NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

3. CHARTER CHANGE RE WARD BOUNDARIES

“Shall Article 2, City Election Areas Defined, Section 2, Election boundaries of the City Charter, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, related to city elections be further amended to provide for the four city electoral districts and eight city wards to be redistricted to reduce the population deviation among the most populated and least populated district to no more than 10% as shown in a map entitled “Ward Redistricting, 8 Wards – 4 Districts, 12 councilors, Requested Edits to December Map (City Edits v2), Map Date: January 20, 2023”, effective as of the annual meeting in March of 2024, and for all city elections thereafter?”

YES

NO

4. CHARTER CHANGE RE REQUIREMENTS FOR LEGAL RESIDENT VOTERS WHO ARE NOT UNITED STATES CITIZENS

“Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further amended to add Section 8a, Requirements for legal resident voters who are not citizens, to Title II, Article 4, Qualifications of Voters, to allow legal residents who are not citizens of the United States but reside in the United States on a permanent or non-temporary basis in compliance with federal immigration laws to register as legal voters for City of Burlington and Burlington School District local elections, and to vote for local officers and on local public questions, provided such residents are at least 18 years of age, reside in the City of Burlington, and have taken the Voter’s Oath?”

YES

NO

5. CHARTER CHANGE RE QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS AND SITING OF POLLING PLACES

“Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further amended by amending Title II, Article 4, Qualifications of Voters, and Title II, Article 8, Method of Conducting Elections, to permit all legal voters residing in a ward or City district to cast a ballot for local officers and local public questions specific to the ward or City district at the time of casting the ballot, and to allow for the City Council, in conjunction with the City Clerk’s Office and election officials, to: determine the number and location of polling places; locate polling places in each ward unless a more accessible facility is available outside the ward, which shall be in as close proximity as possible to the ward in which each over resides; and, if more than one polling place is located within the same building, to locate each polling place so that it is separate and distinct from the others?”

YES

NO

6. CHARTER CHANGE RE ABILITY TO USE RANKED CHOICE VOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF MAYOR, SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND WARD ELECTION OFFICERS

“Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further amended by amending Title II, Section 5, Election to be by ballot; method of election; runoff elections, to adopt ranked choice voting for the elections of Mayor, school board commissioners, and ward election officers?”

YES

NO

Pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2645, the following two proposals to amend the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, are made by petition of at least five percent of voters of the City of Burlington. Official copies of the proposals were received by the City Clerk on December 8, 2022. Public hearings were held on January 17, 2023 and January 23, 2023. As required by 17 V.S.A. § 2645(a)(5)(A), the City Council does not have the authority to revise a charter proposal made by petition.

7. CHARTER CHANGE RE CREATION OF INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY CONTROL BOARD

“Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further amended by amending Title VI, Article 64, Section 189, and Title VI, Article 65, Section 190 to remove the existing Article 65, Removal or Suspension, Section 190, Chief may remove member for cause; hearing, and replace it with language providing for an independent department of the city, comprised of an independent community police department control board with the power to review and make findings on any incident or complaint against a police officer, including the chief, and to discipline or remove a member of the police force, including the chief, whenever a member of said force is found to have become incompetent, inefficient or incapable from any cause, is or has been negligent or derelict in their official duty, is guilty of any misconduct in their private or official life, or for any other just cause?”

The independent community control board shall consist of no less than seven (7) and no more than nine (9) members, selected by an appointment committee established by the City Council with Mayor presiding and consisting of: representatives selected by seven (7) community-based organizations; the Director of the Racial Equity Inclusion & Belonging Office, or their designee; and, one (1) City Councilor. No member of the independent community control board shall have ever been employed by a law enforcement agency. For time spent working on the independent community control board, members shall be entitled to fair compensation no less than that set by the city’s livable wage ordinance.

The independent community control board shall have the power to establish and maintain an investigative office, which shall have an appropriation adequate to conduct the work of the office, may employ a director, and may hire other staff or consultants, including independent legal counsel. The investigative office shall have the power to receive, investigate, and present to the independent community control board any complaint against a police officer, and to issue subpoenas to produce documents or compel testimony.”

YES

NO

8. CHARTER CHANGE RE PROPOSITION ZERO

“Shall the Charter of the City of Burlington, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, be further amended to grant voters additional powers to, by petition, initiate non-binding ballot questions, binding initiatives proposing ordinances, and referenda repealing ordinances, provided that, in the case of binding initiatives and referenda, the City Council fails to adopt or repeal the ordinance at issue?”

YES

NO

