

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the requirements of 17 V.S.A. Sec. 2645, public hearings concerning proposed amendments to the Burlington City Charter will be held on Friday, January 17, 2014 at 12:00 noon and Monday, January 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Contois Auditorium, City Hall, Burlington, Vermont.

The Burlington City Council has voted to place the following four proposals to amend Sections of the Burlington City Charter on the ballot of the Annual City Meeting to be held March 4, 2014. Pursuant to 17 V.S.A. Sec. 2645(a)(6), the City Council has further determined that the proposed charter amendments are too long or unwieldy to set out in amended form and has determined that the printed ballot shall utilize the following short form questions. An official copy of the full proposed charter amendments is on file for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk, and copies shall be made available to members of the public upon request.

The first proposal is as follows:

“Shall the Burlington City Charter be amended to add Article 99. General Weapons Requirements Sec. 510 entitled “Ban on Firearms in Any Establishment with a First Class Liquor License,” which provides that no person may carry or possess a firearm in any location under the ownership or control of an establishment licensed to serve alcohol on its premises and which provides for specific exemptions from the prohibition and for penalties, including forfeiture of the firearm, for a violation?”

The second proposal is as follows:

“Shall the Burlington City Charter be amended to add Article 99. General Weapons Requirements Sec. 509 entitled “Safe Storage of Firearms,” which provides that no person shall store a firearm outside of his or her immediate possession or control without having locked the firearm in a safe storage depository or with a gun locking device and which provides for penalties, including forfeiture of the firearm, for a violation?”

The third proposal is as follows:

“Shall the Burlington City Charter be amended to add Article 99. General Weapons Requirements Sec. 511 entitled “Police Confiscation/Seizure of Weapons During Domestic Abuse Incident,” which provides that a police officer may confiscate a weapon in the immediate control or possession of an alleged abuser if the officer has probable cause to believe that domestic abuse has occurred and which provides penalties, including forfeiture of the weapon, for failure to submit to confiscation?”

The fourth proposal is as follows:

“Shall various sections of the City Charter, Acts of 1949, No. 298, as amended, related to city elections be further amended as follows:

1. To provide for the city to be divided into four city electoral districts and eight city electoral wards as depicted on the map on file in the chief administrator’s office, effective as of the annual meeting on March 3, 2015, and for all city elections thereafter;

2. To provide for the city council to be comprised of twelve (12) members with each of the four city districts and eight wards represented by one city councilor, with district councilors elected to two year terms beginning with the election on March 3, 2015, and with ward councilors elected for a three year term on March 3, 2015 and a two year term at the annual meeting on March 6, 2018, and two year terms thereafter;
3. To provide for the school board to be comprised of twelve (12) members with each of the four city districts and eight wards represented by one school commissioner, with district commissioners elected to two year terms beginning with the election on March 3, 2015, and with ward commissioners elected for a three year term on March 3, 2015 and a two year term at the annual meeting on March 6, 2018, and two year terms thereafter;
4. To provide for the ward election officers for each of the eight wards to be elected at the annual meeting on March 3, 2015, with three inspectors of election whose election is phased in so that each is elected for a staggered three year term ultimately, and that for the 2015 annual meeting only the ward officers of the seven wards elected prior to the 2015 annual city meeting shall serve as the election officers for those wards and the ward officers for Ward 8 shall be appointed for the 2015 election by the Board of Civil Authority; and
5. To provide for the addition of one member to the Board for the Registration of Voters so that the board is comprised of ten (10) members?"

An official copy of the proposed Charter amendments is on file for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, and copies will also be made available to members of the public upon request.