

No. M-15. An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the city of Montpelier.

(H.787)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

The general assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the city of Montpelier as set forth in this act. Proposals of amendment were approved by the voters on March 6, 2012.

Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 5 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 5. CITY OF MONTPELIER

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Subchapter 5. City Meetings; Nomination and Election of Officers

§ 501. CITY MEETINGS

(a) On the first Tuesday of March in each year, a meeting of legal voters of said city shall be held as designated on the warning for such meeting, at a place or places to be appointed by the city council of said city, and a warning shall be posted in at least three public places within the limits of said city, and at least twelve days previous thereto, which warning shall be signed by the city clerk, or, in case of the city clerk's failure, by the mayor, provided that, if the annual meeting shall fail to be held for want of warning before mentioned, or for any other cause, the city shall not be thereby prejudiced, and the several officers hereinafter mentioned may, at any time thereafter, be elected at a

special meeting, called for that purpose, as hereinafter provided; and provided, further, that any business required by this charter or the general law to be transacted at the annual city meeting may be transacted at such special meeting.

(b) The warning for annual and special city meetings shall, by separate articles, specifically indicate the business to be transacted, including the offices and the questions to be voted upon. The warning also shall contain any legally binding article or articles requested by ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of the city or any nonlegally binding article or articles requested by five percent (5%) of the registered voters of the city and filed with the city clerk not fewer than 40 days before the day of the meeting.

(c) A vote taken at an annual or special meeting shall remain in effect unless rescinded or amended.

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§ 503. SPECIAL CITY MEETING

The city clerk when directed by the city council, or ~~when requested in writing upon written application~~ by ~~five~~ ten percent (10%) of the legal voters of ~~said~~ the city to do so, shall call a special meeting of the voters of the city in the same manner as is provided for the calling of the annual meeting; in case of the failure of the city clerk to call such special meeting as aforesaid, that duty shall be performed by the mayor, except that special meetings to authorize

public improvements and the incurring of debt to pay for the same shall be warned as hereinafter provided in Subchapter 11. The city council shall call the special meeting within 60 days of the application being received by the city clerk. The city council may rescind the call of a special meeting initiated by it, but not a special meeting called upon the application of ten percent of the registered voters.

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§ 514. RECONSIDERATION AND RESCISSION

(a) Action taken on a warned article at an annual or special meeting may be submitted to the voters at a subsequent annual or special meeting on motion of the city council or pursuant to a petition requesting reconsideration or rescission signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the registered voters and filed with the city clerk within 30 days following the date of the annual or special meeting at which the action was taken.

(b) A majority vote in favor of reconsideration or rescission shall not be effective unless the number of votes in favor of reconsideration or rescission exceeds two-thirds of the number of votes cast for the prevailing side at the original meeting.

§ 515. SCHOOL BUDGET

The school budget shall be voted by separate ballot during regular voting hours.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Approved: May 7, 2012