

6/24/2019

RESOLUTION M- 4017

A RESOLUTION to submit to the voters of the City of Vancouver a proposal to amend Article II, Section 2.05 of the City Charter regarding the process by which payroll, bills, invoices and other claims are approved by the City Council.

WHEREAS, a Charter Review Committee (“Committee”) was appointed by the City Council on December 3, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Committee held eight meetings between January 24 and June 6, 2019, to review proposed amendments to the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Committee presented their recommendations to the City Council on June 17, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a duly noticed hearing on the 24th day of June, 2019 and considered the recommendations of the Committee and voted to submit the proposed amendment to the Charter below to the voters.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. That the following amendment to Article II, Section 2.05 of the City Charter, as last amended on November 6, 1973, requiring all bills, invoices and other claims against the city be audited before payment and reviewed and approved by the city council at the next regularly scheduled public meeting within one month from issuance of payment, be submitted to the voters of the City of Vancouver:


(Proposed language to be deleted is shown by ~~strike through~~. Added language is shown by underline.)

Article II

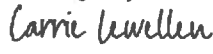
Section 2.05 Powers and Duties: The city council shall have the power to enact ordinances or resolutions, adopt rules and regulations, appoint and remove the city manager, fix all salaries, adopt the budget, control indebtedness, and the issuance of bonds, and to provide for an independent audit of any department or office. It may punish its members and others for disorderly or otherwise contemptuous behavior in its presence, and expel for such behavior in its presence, any member by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of its members, specifying in the order of expulsion the cause thereof. It shall at least once each year hear a report from the head of each city department and division. All other powers of the city and the determination of all matters of policy, whether enumerated in this charter or not, are vested in the city council. ~~The city council shall approve before payment, all bills, invoices and other evidences of claims, demands, or charges against the city government, and shall approve and confirm payrolls.~~ All bills, invoices and other claims presented against the city by persons furnishing materials, rendering services or performing labor, or for any other contractual purpose, shall be audited, before payment, by an appointed auditing officer. The city council shall review and approve claims at the next regularly scheduled public meeting within one month from issuance of payment.

ADOPTED at regular session of the Council of the City of Vancouver, this 24th day of June, 2014.

Signed this 24th day of June, 2019.

DocuSigned by:

56CB1500632F403...
Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

661359AD277E439...
Natasha Ramras, City Clerk
By: Carrie Lewellen, Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form:

DocuSigned by:

A4C4768B6D2D446...
E. Bronson Potter, City Attorney

City of Vancouver
Proposed Charter Amendment No. 4

Concerns changing the claims process to conform to state law.

This amendment to Section 2.05 would authorize the City Council to review and approve all bills, invoices or claims at its next regularly scheduled public meeting, if held within one month of issuance of payment. The claims would be audited, before payment, by an appointed auditing officer.

Should this amendment to the Charter be enacted?

Yes

No

Explanatory statement:

Current Law: The charter requires that the City Council approve payroll, bills, invoices and other claims prior to payment. This is inconsistent with Washington State law and with current City practice.

Result of passage: This amendment to Section 2.05 would authorize the City Council to review and approve all bills, invoices or claims, at its next regularly scheduled public meeting, if held within one month of issuance of payment. The claims would be audited, before payment, by an appointed auditing officer.

Full Text:

Section 2.05 Powers and Duties: The city council shall have the power to enact ordinances or resolutions, adopt rules and regulations, appoint and remove the city manager, fix all salaries, adopt the budget, control indebtedness, and the issuance of bonds, and to provide for an independent audit of any department or office. It may punish its members and others for disorderly or otherwise contemptuous behavior in its presence, and expel for such behavior in its presence, any member by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of its members, specifying in the order of expulsion the cause thereof. It shall at least once each year hear a report from the head of each city department and division. All other powers of the city and the determination of all matters of policy, whether enumerated in this charter or not, are vested in the city council. The city council shall approve before payment, all bills, invoices and other evidences of claims, demands, or charges against the city government, and shall approve and confirm payrolls. All bills, invoices and other claims presented against the city by persons furnishing materials, rendering services or performing labor, or for any other contractual purpose, shall be audited, before payment, by an appointed auditing officer. The city council

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