ORDINANCE NO. 2024-25

Introduced by: William Biddlecombe

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II, SECTION 2.08(2) OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF HURON RELATING TO POWERS OF THE COUNCIL; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 12.06 of the Charter for the City of Huron ("City") provides that amendments to the Charter may be initiated either by a five-sevenths vote of the council, or by petition to the council signed by ten per cent of the electors; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Commission was established by the electorate of the City in November 2023 to review the Charter and recommend changes; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2.08(2) Powers of the Council currently reads:

"Among other powers the council shall have authority to: ...

(2) Establish the internal organization and staffing of the departments, boards and commissions created by this charter; set up such additional departments, boards or commissions as it may deem necessary and determine their powers and duties;"

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Commission has met and recommends that certain changes be submitted to the electorate for the November 2024 general election; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Commission has requested that this Council initiate an amendment to the Charter Article II, Section 2.08(2) *Powers of the Council*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO:

Section 1: That Council hereby authorizes and directs the submission to the electors of the City of Huron at the general election to be held at the usual places of voting in said City on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, between the hours as provided by law, of the following proposal to amend Article II, Section 2.08(2) *Powers of the Council* of the Charter of the City of Huron to read (new language underlined; deleted language struck through):

"Among other powers the eCouncil shall have authority to:...

(2) Establish the internal organization of the city administration and staffing of the departments, boards and commissions created by this eCharter; set up such additional departments, boards or commissions as it may deem necessary and determine their powers and duties;"

<u>Section 2:</u> Subject to final approval by the Erie County Board of Election and any changes and/or modifications recommended by same, the ballot submitting the question of the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Charter shall read substantially as follows:

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF HURON, OHIO

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall Article II, Section 2.08(2) of the Charter of the City of Huron be amended to clarify the duties of the Council of the City of Huron with respect to its oversight of the organization of city administration?

Yes

No

Section 3: The foregoing proposed amendment, upon receiving at least a majority of the votes cast thereon at the November 5, 2024 general election, shall become effective as of January 1, 2025.

Section 4: The Clerk of this Council is hereby authorized and directed promptly to forward a certified copy of this Ordinance to the Board of Elections of Erie County, Ohio.

Section 5: The Board of Elections of Erie County, Ohio shall cause an appropriate notice to be duly given of the general election to be held on November 5, 2024, on the foregoing amendment to the Charter of this City and otherwise to provide for such election in the manner provided by the general laws of the State of Ohio.

Section 6: The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to cause the full text of such proposed charter amendment to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Huron, with the first publication to be made at least fifteen days prior to the general election to be held on November 5, 2024, as provided by Article XVIII, Section 9 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

Section 7: Unless expenses associated with this Ordinance are already contained within the City's budgeted expenses, there is hereby appropriated from the general fund a sufficient sum of money to pay the costs of carrying out the authorizations and directions of this Ordinance.

Section 8: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.