

H.73

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of Barre

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

Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the City of Barre as set forth in this act. Voters approved the proposals of amendment on November 6, 2018.

Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 1 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 1. CITY OF BARRE

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§ 103. WARDS ESTABLISHED

There shall be three wards for the City of Barre and the boundaries of the wards shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Civil Authority subject to the approval of the City Council. The boundaries shall be fixed so as to provide equal or near equal distribution of population among the three wards in accordance with the most recent federal census.

§ 104. GENERAL CORPORATE POWERS

(a) The City shall have all the powers granted to towns and municipal corporations by the Constitution and laws of this State together with all the implied powers necessary to carry into execution all the powers granted; it may

enact ordinances not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of Vermont or with this charter, and impose penalties for violation of those ordinances ~~not in excess of a fine of \$500.00, together with~~ as allowed in 24 V.S.A. § 1974a, in addition to the costs of prosecution, ~~or imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or both.~~

(b) The City may purchase real property, or interest in real property, within or without its corporate limits, for the public benefit. The City may acquire real property by gift, devise, lease, or condemnation and may sell, lease, mortgage, hold, manage, and control such property as its interest may require.

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§ 105. ORDINANCES — SUBJECT MATTER

The general grant of ordinance promulgating authority in section 104 shall include the authority:

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(g) To adopt and enforce ordinances relating to the mediation of landlord-tenant issues by the Housing Board of Review.

§ 106. ~~[Same—]~~ ORDINANCES; ENFORCEMENT; ADOPTION

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§ 107. [~~Same~~] ~~INTRODUCTION; FIRST AND SECOND READINGS;~~
PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCES; ADOPTION PROCESS

(a) Every ordinance shall be introduced in writing. The enacting clause of all ordinances shall be “The Council of the City of Barre hereby ordains. . . .” If the Council passes the proposed ordinance upon first reading, it shall cause it to be published in the form passed in a newspaper of general circulation in the City ~~in the form passed~~ or such other manner of publication as acceptable in State law, at least once, together with a notice of the time and place when and where there will be a public hearing to consider the same for final passage. The first such publication shall be at least three days prior to the date of the public hearing.

(b) After the public hearing, the Council may finally pass the ordinance with or without amendment. If the Council amends the proposed ordinance, then it shall cause the amended ordinance to be published at least once together with a notice of the time and place of the public hearing, at which such amended ordinance will be further considered and which publication shall be at least three days prior to the public hearing. Once the ordinance is adopted by the Council, the City Clerk shall cause the ordinance as adopted to be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the City or such other manner of publication as acceptable in State law, and said ordinance shall take effect ~~20~~ 14 days after the date of the publication.

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§ 527. POWERS

The Housing Board of Review shall have ~~the~~:

(1) the power to decide disputes related to security deposits;

(2) all other powers as outlined in 24 V.S.A. §§ 5001–5008; and

(3) the powers necessary to act as a mediator in landlord–tenant issues

pursuant to an ordinance adopted under subsection 105(g) of this charter.

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Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.