

1 H.504

2 Introduced by Representatives Howard of Rutland City, Howland of Rutland

3 Town, Keyser of Rutland City, and Maguire of Rutland City

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Municipal and county government; municipal charters; City of

7 Rutland; amendments; approval

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to approve
9 amendments to the charter of the City of Rutland to limit the maximum
10 penalty for violation of an ordinance to the maximum penalties authorized
11 under 24 V.S.A. § 1974, increase the tax on the grand list for purposes of
12 replacing fire equipment, establish a tax on the grand list for purposes of
13 replacing police equipment, require the City's Purchasing Agent to make
14 purchases based on bids whenever the value of the proposed purchase exceeds
15 the amount established in the City's Purchasing Policy, reorganize the
16 composition of the Board of Commissioners of the Rutland Redevelopment
17 Authority, and establish staggered terms for the members of Board of
18 Commissioners of the Authority.

19 An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of
20 Rutland

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

2 Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

3 The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the City
4 of Rutland as set forth in this act. Voters approved the proposals of
5 amendment on November 5, 2024 and March 4, 2025.

6 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 9 is amended to read:

7 CHAPTER 9. CITY OF RUTLAND

8 * * *

9 § 5.3. VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES

10 (a) The Board of Aldermen may provide penalties for the violation of any
11 ordinance, regulation, or bylaw. In no case shall the penalty exceed
12 ~~imprisonment for one year or a fine of \$500.00, or both, per violation the~~
13 maximum penalty allowed under 24 V.S.A. § 1974.

14 * * *

15 § 8.5. ASSESSMENT OF TAXES

16 The Board of Aldermen shall annually, during the first ~~twenty (20)~~ 20 days
17 of July, assess upon the grand list of the City taxes sufficient to meet the
18 following requirement:

19 * * *

20 (2) Taxes required for general City purposes, which shall not exceed
21 ~~\$.85~~ \$0.85 upon the dollar of the grand list except if a larger sum has been

1 authorized by the legal voters of the City in a meeting warned for that purpose;
2 but the tax for general City purposes shall not include the tax annually assessed
3 on the grand list for the support of the schools in the City.

4 * * *

5 (5) Taxes required for the replacement for fire equipment, which shall
6 not exceed ~~\$.0175~~ \$0.0225 on the dollar of the grand list, except if a larger
7 sum has been authorized by the legal voters of the City in a meeting warned
8 for that purpose.

9 (6) Taxes required for the municipal employees pension fund, which
10 shall not exceed ~~\$.06~~ \$0.06 on the dollar of the grand list, except if a larger
11 sum has been authorized by the legal voters of the City in a meeting warned
12 for that purpose.

(7) Taxes required for the replacement of public works, ~~police,~~ *police,*
and recreation equipment, which shall not exceed ~~\$.012~~ \$0.012 on the dollar of
the grand list, except if a larger sum has been authorized by the legal voters of
the City in a meeting warned for that purpose.

13 * * *

(10) Taxes required for the replacement of police equipment, which
shall not exceed ~~\$.0180~~ *\$0.018* on the dollar of the grand list, except if a
larger sum has been authorized by the legal voters of the City in a meeting
warned for that purpose.

* * *

§ 17.3. REQUISITIONS

(a) All purchases made under section 17.1 of this charter shall be made upon written requisitions therefor upon the Purchasing Agent. The Purchasing Agent shall immediately proceed to purchase under the provisions of the ordinances the property so required and to distribute it accordingly taking a receipt therefor upon the original requisition. The Purchasing Agent shall then forward the requisition to the City Clerk. Purchases in excess of \$3,000.00 the amount identified in the City's Purchasing Policy shall be awarded upon bids as ~~hereinafter~~ set forth in this subchapter.

* * *

§ 36.5. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; COMPOSITION

(a) The administration, management, and supervision of the Authority shall be vested in a Board of Commissioners, except as provided otherwise herein. The Board shall consist of ~~nine members, all of whom shall be residents of the City of Rutland for their respective terms of office. One member of the Board shall be the City Treasurer, and one member will be appointed from the Board of Aldermen for a one year term. The remaining seven members of the Board shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Board of Aldermen pursuant to the charter of the City of Rutland. All members appointed except for members appointed for creation of this Board shall serve for periods of~~

1 ~~three years. Upon creation, three members shall be appointed for a term to~~
2 ~~expire on April 1 of the third calendar year after appointment; two members~~
3 ~~shall be appointed for a term to expire April 1 of the second calendar year after~~
4 ~~appointment; and two members shall be appointed for a term to expire on~~
5 ~~April 1 of the first calendar year after appointment. All terms shall thereafter~~
6 ~~expire on April 1 of the third calendar year following appointment. A person~~
7 ~~appointed to fill an unexpired term shall serve to the end of that term. At the~~
8 ~~creation of the Commission, the appointments may only be denied by a~~
9 ~~majority vote of the Board of Aldermen and then thereafter, all appointments~~
10 ~~will be made pursuant to the charter of the City;~~

11 (1) the City Treasurer;

12 (2) one member, appointed by the Board of Aldermen for a one-year
13 term;

14 (3) six members, who shall be residents of the City for their respective
15 terms of office, appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Board of
16 Aldermen pursuant to this charter; and

17 (4) one member, who shall be a property owner within the City and a
18 resident of Rutland County, appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the
19 Board of Aldermen pursuant to this charter.

20 (b) Except for members appointed for the creation of the Board, members
21 shall serve for three-year terms.

1 (c) Upon creation, three members shall be appointed for a term to expire on
2 April 1 of the third year after appointment, two members shall be appointed for
3 a term to expire April 1 of the second year after appointment, and two
4 members shall be appointed for a term to expire on April 1 of the first year
5 after appointment. All terms shall thereafter expire on April 1 of the third
6 calendar year following appointment. A person appointed to fill an unexpired
7 term shall serve to the end of that term. At the creation of the Commission,
8 the appointments may only be denied by a majority vote of the Board of
9 Aldermen, and thereafter all appointments shall be made pursuant to this
10 charter.

11 (d) Annually the Board shall elect a Chair, Treasurer, and Clerk whose
12 names shall be certified to the City Clerk.

13 ~~(e)~~(e) If any commissioner or employee of an Authority owns or controls
14 an interest, direct or indirect, in any property included or planned to be
15 included in any project, ~~he or she~~ the commissioner or employee immediately
16 shall disclose the same in writing to the Authority and such disclosure shall be
17 entered upon the minutes of the Authority, and that person ~~will~~ shall refrain
18 from any participation in that matter, but ~~will~~ shall not be precluded from
19 involvement in any other matters.

20 * * *

Sec. 2a. REDESIGNATION

24 App. V.S.A. chapter 155E (Town of West Rutland) is redesignated as

24 App. V.S.A. chapter 162.

1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on passage.