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Introduced by Representatives Boutin of Barre City and Waszazak of Barre
City

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Municipal government; municipal charters; City of Barre;
amendments

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to approve
amendments to the charter of the City of Barre to:

(1) establish the date of the annual City meeting as the second Tuesday
in May; and

(2) separate the office of City Clerk and City Treasurer and establish the
City Treasurer as an appointed office.

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. The voters of the City approved the
amendments on May 14, 2024.

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

2 CHAPTER 1. CITY OF BARRE

3 * * *

4 § 110. FISCAL YEAR

5 The fiscal year of the City ~~and the City School District~~ shall begin on the
6 first day of July and end on the last day of June of each calendar year. The
7 fiscal year shall constitute the budget and accounting year as used in this
8 charter.

9 § 111. BONDING OF CITY OFFICIALS

10 The Mayor, councilors, members of the Police Department, City Manager,
11 Finance Director, Superintendent of Public Works, Tax Collector, ~~and~~ Clerk,
12 and Treasurer shall annually be bonded by the City for the faithful discharge of
13 their respective duties, as provided by State statute, and the expense of said
14 bonds to be paid by the City.

15 * * *

16 § 202. TIME OF ELECTIONS AND MEETINGS

17 (a) The annual City meeting of the City for the election of officers, the
18 voting of budgets, and any other business included in the warnings for the
19 meeting, shall be held on the ~~first~~ second Tuesday in ~~March~~ May, unless
20 otherwise legally warned by the Council.

21 * * *

1 § 203. SPECIAL CITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETINGS

2 Special City meetings and Special School District meetings shall be called
3 in the manner provided by the laws of the State, and the voting on all questions
4 shall be by the Australian ballot system, except for budget votes as provided in
5 section 207(d).

6 * * *

7 § 205. OFFICERS ELECTED

8 (a)(1) The legal voters shall elect biennially a Mayor and one person to
9 serve as a Clerk and Treasurer.

10 * * *

11 (3) Annually, the legal voters shall elect school commissioners to serve
12 for a term of three years, as follows:

13 (A) at the 2019 annual City meeting, and each successive three year
14 cycle after that, three school commissioners;

15 (B) at the 2020 annual City meeting, and each successive three year
16 cycle after that, two school commissioners;

17 (C) at the 2021 annual City meeting, and each successive three year
18 cycle after that, two school commissioners. [Repealed.]

19 (b) The legal voters shall elect annually Spaulding Union High School
20 District School Board members in the manner, number, and term limit as is

1 ~~specified in the Barre City/Barre Town Union High School Agreement, dated~~
2 ~~November 30, 1986, or any such successor document. [Repealed.]~~

3 § 206. VACANCIES

4 (a) In case of vacancy of any elected municipal City officer, except a
5 councilor ~~or school commissioner~~, occasioned by death, removal from the
6 City, resignation, or inability to serve, such vacancy, unless herein otherwise
7 provided, shall be filled by appointment by the City Council until the next
8 annual election. In such case, nomination may be made by any member for the
9 Council.

10 * * *

11 (c) ~~In case of a vacancy of any school commissioner, occasioned by death,~~
12 ~~removal from the City, resignation, or inability to serve, such vacancy, unless~~
13 ~~herein otherwise provided, shall be filled by appointment by the remaining~~
14 ~~members of the School Board until the next annual election. In such case,~~
15 ~~nomination may be made by any member of the School Board. [Repealed.]~~

16 * * *

17 § 301. GOVERNING BODY

18 The City shall be governed by an elected Council and by an appointed City
19 Manager and by such other officers and employees as may be duly appointed
20 pursuant to this charter, City ordinances, or general laws of the State of
21 Vermont.

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(2) Within the limitations of the foregoing, the Council shall have the power to:

* * *

(B) appoint and remove a Treasurer, and such Assistant Treasurers as shall be deemed necessary, who shall be responsible for the performance of all duties of a municipal treasurer under State law;

(C) assign additional duties to offices, commissions, or departments established by this charter, but may not discontinue or assign to any other office, commission, or department duties assigned to a particular office, commission, or department established by this charter;

~~(C)~~(D) make, amend, and repeal ordinances; and

~~(D)~~(E) adopt an official seal of the City.

* * *

§ 315. COMPENSATION OF CITY OFFICIALS

Compensation of Mayor, councilors, and other appointees and City officers:

* * *

(3) When the legal voters have authorized an annual City ~~and school~~ budget, the City Council, ~~School Board, and/or~~ or the City Manager shall not authorize appropriations, expenditures, or payment in excess of the amount

1 voted. Deficit spending shall be prohibited by the City of Barre and the City of
2 ~~Barre Schools.~~

3 * * *

4 Sec. 3. REPEALS

5 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 1, §§ 413 (School District), 516 (powers and duties
6 of Board of School Commissioners), and 517 (appointment of superintendent
7 and principal) are repealed.

8 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

9 This act shall take effect on passage.