

**CITY OF MANOR
SPECIAL ELECTION
CHARTER AMENDMENT**

NOVEMBER 3, 2020

The proposed amendments shall take effect upon their adoption and the entering of an order by the City Council declaring the amendments adopted. The proposed amendments affect only the Articles and sections listed below and submitted for amendment to read as follows (*with proposed new language being underlined, bolded, and italicized and language proposed to be removed is struck through*):

**PROPOSITION H
Posting of Notices on City Website**

**Article I
Incorporation, Form of Government and Powers of the City**

Section 1.07. – Annexation and Disannexation.

The council may by ordinance unilaterally annex or disannex any land, property or territory upon its own initiative, upon a petition submitted by a majority of the voters residing within the territory being annexed or disannexed or upon petition by the owners of the property, **as authorized by applicable law**. The procedure for the establishment, modification or extension of the city boundaries, including the annexation or disannexation of territory, may not be inconsistent with any applicable requirements and limitations established by state law; provided that absent procedures being established by state law the action may be taken by ordinance adopted after one public hearing is held at least ten but not more than 20 days after notice of such public hearing is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city **and posted on the City's website**. Upon final passage of an ordinance, fixing, establishing or modifying the boundaries of the city or annexing or disannexing any property by any method prescribed herein, the boundaries of the city shall be so extended or modified as provided in such ordinance. Upon an ordinance annexing property into the city, the territory described in the ordinance shall become a part of the city, and the said land and its residents and future residents shall be bound by the acts, ordinances, codes, resolutions and regulations of the city.

A good and sufficient legal description of the land area being considered for annexation or disannexation, together with a map or plat prepared at the initiator's expense showing the location of such land area, shall be presented to the council at a public meeting prior to final action on such annexation or disannexation. Land disannexed from the city shall not be relieved from any unpaid lawful assessments or taxes levied by the city against the property while such land or property was a part of the city.

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Article V. Elections

Section 5.01. - Notice and Order for Elections.

City elections shall be ordered and notice thereof given as provided in the Texas Election Code. The council shall establish the procedures and order elections except as provided therein. If not otherwise provided for by state law, all elections shall be ordered at least 62 days prior to the date of election and notice shall be given by publication and posting on the City's website not more than 30 days and not less than 20 days immediately preceding the date of election. Notice of election shall be published in a newspaper published within the city, and if there be no such publication, notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the city.

Section 6.10. - Procedure and Results of Election.

Not more than 30 and not less than 15 days prior to the special election, the city secretary shall cause the proposed or referred ordinance to be published in its entirety at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and posted on the city's website until the date of the election.

The ballots used when voting upon such proposed and referred ordinances shall set forth the nature of the ordinance sufficiently to identify the ordinance and shall also set forth a proposition as provided in this charter. If a majority of the qualified voters voting on a proposed initiative ordinance vote in its favor, it shall be considered adopted upon certification of the election results and shall be treated in all respects in the same manner as ordinances adopted by the council. If conflicting ordinances are approved at the same election, the ordinance receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail.

An ordinance adopted by initiative may not be repealed or amended at any time prior to the expiration of two years from the date of its adoption, except at an election held for such purpose or such amendment being approved by the council by not less than six affirmative votes.

If a majority of the qualified voters on a referred ordinance vote against the ordinance, it shall be considered repealed upon certification of the election results. If a majority of the qualified voters voting on a referred ordinance vote for the ordinance, it shall be upheld; in such event, [it] may not again be the subject of a petition within 12 months following the date of such election.

Article VIII. Finance

Section 8.05. - Budget Process and Adoption.

The city manager is responsible for the timely preparation and presentation of the budget and shall present his or her recommended or draft budget to the city council no later than 60 days prior to October 1st of each year. In the absence of the truth-in-taxation calculations being provided in advance of the sixtieth day, the city manager shall provide a draft budget and a

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recommended budget not less than ten days following receipt from Travis County of the calculations, if after the sixtieth day before October first (1st). The proposed budget shall become a public document and record when presented to the council. From and after its receipt of the budget, the city council shall:

- (a) At the first council meeting for which timely notice may be given, cause to be posted in city hall and on the City's website a general summary of the proposed budget and a notice stating the time and places where copies of the budget are available for public inspection; of a public hearing on the budget; and such other public hearings as are required by state law.
- (b) After public hearing(s) the council may adopt the budget with or without amendment. The council may amend the proposed budget to add, increase, decrease or delete any programs or amounts, except expenditures required by law or for debt service; provided that no amendment shall increase the authorized expenditures to an amount greater than the total of estimated funds available from all sources.
- (c) The budget shall be finally adopted by ordinance not later than September 30th; provided that if the council takes no final action on or prior to such day, the budget as submitted by the city manager is deemed to have been finally adopted by the council.

Section 8.11. - Bonds and Financial Obligations.

The council may by ordinance authorize the issuance of any tax or revenue bonds, refunding bonds, certificates of obligation, warrants, notes, certificates of participation, tax anticipation notes or other evidence of indebtedness or obligation, for any permanent public improvement or any emergency, or any other public purpose not prohibited by law, subject only to the following limitations:

- (a) No general obligation bonds, other than refunding bonds, shall be issued except as approved by a majority vote at an election held for such purpose;
- (b) No indebtedness or obligation shall be issued except in compliance with the requirements of state law;
- (c) No form of indebtedness other than general obligation bonds approved by public vote may be issued without public notice and a public hearing being held in compliance with state law; the ~~published~~ notice, published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and posted on the city's website, must clearly summarize the relevant statutory provisions providing for a petition and election, if any; and
- (d) The authorization for bonds authorized but not issued shall expire ten years after the date of authorization.

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Article XI. Public Utilities, Franchises and Contracts

Section 11.02. - Franchises.

The council shall have the power and authority to grant franchises for the use and occupancy of streets, avenues, alleys and any and all public property belonging to or under the control of the city. Except as specifically authorized and provided otherwise by state law, no individual, organization, entity, political subdivision, corporation, public utility or any provider of public service shall provide any service within the city requiring the use or occupancy of any street, public right-of-way or property without first being granted a franchise or permit to use such city facilities. The franchise ordinance or permit shall fully describe the terms of the agreement, and regardless of the title given, shall be subject to the terms of this Article. The terms of such agreements shall be explicit so as to protect the interests of the citizens and shall include but not be limited to the terms prescribed in this charter. No franchise ordinance or permit shall be passed except on two readings held after a public hearing for which ten days' notice is given in a newspaper of general circulation in the city *and posted on the City's website, unless applicable state or federal law requires the issuance of the franchise or permit within a specific time period, in which case the franchise ordinance or permit will be approved in accordance with the procedures established by ordinance.*