

Ordinance No. 20-2020.

By Council Member Kelley.

An emergency ordinance authorizing the submission to the electors of the City of Cleveland of a proposal to amend Section 27 of the Charter of the City of Cleveland relating to salary and attendance of Council members.

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health and safety in that it must be certified to the election authorities immediately in order for the question to appear at a special election to be held on March 17, 2020, and providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council authorizes the submission to the electors of the City of Cleveland at a special election to be held at the usual places of voting in the City of Cleveland on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, of proposal to amend the Charter of the City of Cleveland by amending existing Section 27 to read as follows:

Section 27. Salary and Attendance of Council Members.

The salaries of the members of the Council first elected under this Charter shall be fixed by the outgoing Council. Thereafter the Council may, by ordinance passed in any even numbered year, change the salary of members of the Council thereafter elected. The annual salary of members of Council shall be increased each year by an amount which shall be computed by applying that percentage of the immediately preceding year's salary that is equal to the percentage for increases in salaries and wages established for that year in a majority of the collective bargaining agreements between the City and the various unions recognized by the City. Such increase shall be effective on January 1st of each year. The salary of a member of the Council shall be paid in equal semimonthly installments. The Council may by ordinance provide compensation for its President in addition to that which he or she receives as a member of the Council. For each absence of a member from regular meetings of the Council, unless authorized by a two-thirds vote of all members thereof, there shall be deducted a sum equal to two percent (2%) of the annual salary of each member. Absence from ten (10) consecutive regular meetings shall operate to vacate the seat of a member unless such absence is authorized by the Council.

Section 2. That the forgoing proposed amendment to the Charter, on receiving at least a majority of the votes cast at the March 17, 2020, special election, shall become effective immediately on its adoption.

Section 3. That the Clerk of this Council is authorized to promptly forward a certified copy of this ordinance to the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County.

Section 4. That the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County shall cause an appropriate notice to be given of the election to be held on March 17, 2020, on the foregoing amendment to the Charter of this City and otherwise to provide for the election in the manner provided by the general laws of the State of Ohio.

Section 5. That the Clerk of Council is authorized to cause the full text of the proposed amendment to the Charter to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in the City of Cleveland, with the first publication to be made at least fifteen days prior to the special election to be held on March 17, 2020, as provided in Article XVIII, Section 9 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio, Section 731.211 of the Revised Code, and Section 200 of the Charter of the City of Cleveland.

Section 6. That the ballot submitting the question of the adoption of the amendment shall read as follows:

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CITY OF CLEVELAND
A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall Chapter 5, Section 27 of the Charter of the City of Cleveland be amended to limit the increase of the annual salary of a member of Council to the same percentage increase received by a majority of unions recognized by the City?

Section 7. That this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed January 6, 2020.
Effective January 7, 2020.