

The following Ordinance placing a proposed Charter amendment on the April 6, 2021 Regular City Election ballot was adopted by the Council on final reading on January 19, 2021. Proposed amendments to the current language in the Charter are shown on the next page. Text with a line through the middle indicates language that will be deleted if the amendment is approved by the voters. Text that is highlighted in yellow indicates new language that will be added to the Charter if the amendment is approved by the voters.

ORDINANCE NO. 014, 2021
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
SUBMITTING TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FORT
COLLINS A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 17 OF ARTICLE II OF THE CITY
CHARTER REVISING THE DEADLINE TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF THE
ANNUAL INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 8 of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins (“Charter”) provides that the Charter may be amended as provided by the laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Section 31-2-210, Colorado Revised Statutes, provides that Charter amendments may be initiated by the adoption of an ordinance by the City Council submitting a proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City of Fort Collins; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 17 of the Charter (“Section 17”) currently requires that Council provide for an independent audit of city books and accounts at least annually and further requires the publication of a summary of such audit within five months after the end of each fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, this provision was last updated in 1985 and since then the time required for completion of an annual independent financial audit has grown with the increasing complexity of the City’s books and accounts and the professional standards for such audits; and

WHEREAS, in many years the City is unable to provide a meaningful summary of the annual financial audit within the five-month timeframe allowed and a modest increase in time for the notice would enable the publication of a fuller summary of the audit outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to amend the Charter to increase the time for publication of the annual audit summary to seven months after the end of each fiscal year instead of five months.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That the following proposed changes to Section 17 of Article II of the City Charter shall be submitted to the registered electors of the City as “Proposed Charter Amendment No. 4” at the regular municipal election to be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021:

**ARTICLE II.
CITY COUNCIL**

Section 17. - Independent annual audit.

The Council shall provide for an independent audit at least annually by a certified public accountant of all books and accounts of the city, and shall publish a summary thereof once in the manner provided for publication of legal notices within **seven (7)** ~~five (5)~~ months after the end of each fiscal year.

Section 3. That the following ballot title and submission clause are hereby adopted for submitting Proposed Charter Amendment No. 4 to the voters at said election:

CITY-INITIATED
PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 4

Shall Section 17 of Article II of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, requiring an independent audit of city books and accounts at least annually, be amended to increase the time for publication of a summary of such audit to seven (7) months after the end of each fiscal year, instead of five (5) months?

_____ Yes/For
_____ No/Against

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading, and ordered published this 5th day of January, A.D. 2021, and to be presented for final passage on the 19th day of January, A.D. 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading on the 19th day of January, A.D. 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk