



City of Omaha
Jean Stothert, Mayor

Office of the Mayor
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Honorable President

and Members of the City Council,

At least every ten (10) years the City Council is to create a Charter Study Convention. The purpose of the Convention is to review the operation of City Government with the possibility of recommending appropriate amendments to benefit City governmental affairs.

Attached for your consideration is an Ordinance to create a Charter Study Convention. Summarized, the Ordinance provides:

1. Convention membership of fifteen (15), with individuals representing all segments of the community which will include minorities, individuals from various income levels, business and labor representation and will include one (1) member appointed by each member of the City Council;
2. Appointment of the members by the Mayor with the concurrence of the City Council by Resolution;
3. That the Convention must convene on Monday, May 16, 2022, and complete its work within ten (10) weeks thereafter;
4. That the Mayor is to submit her list of appointments to the City Council on or before April 26, 2022;
5. That the convention must utilize, where practicable, City personnel, equipment and space; and,
6. That no expenditures shall be made unless first authorized and approved by the Mayor and City Council.

Your favorable consideration is requested.

Sincerely,

Jean Stothert, Mayor *THW*
City of Omaha

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE to create and establish a Charter Study Convention in accordance with Section 8.15 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Omaha, 1956; to provide for membership and its appointment thereto; to provide for the duties of such Charter Study Convention; to provide that the timetable by which the Charter Study Convention shall undertake of responsibility and by which it is to complete its duties; to provide for the election of officers and adoption of Rules of Procedure; to require the use of City facilities and personnel; to provide that no City funds shall be expended without prior approval by the City Council, and to provide the effective date hereof.

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

Section 1. Members – Appointment. A Charter Study Convention is hereby created in accordance with Section 8.15 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Omaha, 1956, consisting of fifteen (15) members from among residents of the City of Omaha to be appointed by the Mayor with the concurrence of the City Council; provided, however, that at least one (1) member will be appointed by each member of the City Council.

Section 2. Charter Study Convention; Duties; Recommendations. It shall be the duty of the Charter Convention to review the operation of the government of the City under the Home Rule Charter of the City of Omaha, 1956, as amended, and to make such recommendations as it may deem appropriate to the Mayor, the City Council, and the electorate concerning the changes to the Charter which it believes would be beneficial for the improvement of the governmental structure and the conduct of City affairs.

Section 3. Charter Study Convention; Convene; Report; When. The Charter Study Convention shall convene on Monday, May 16, 2022; provided, however, that the Mayor shall on or before April 26, 2022, submit to the City Council the names of those individuals to be appointed. The Convention shall make its recommendation to the Mayor, the City Council, and the electorate by not later than ten (10) weeks from the date it convenes.

Section 4. Charter Study Convention; Officers; Election; Rules of Procedure. Upon convening, the Convention shall elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary from its membership and adopt Rules of Procedure. Such rules shall provide for public hearings, and such procedures as are necessary to facilitate the conduct of its affairs in order to carry out the intent and purposes of this Ordinance.

Section 5. Charter Study Convention; Use of City Administrative Services; Equipment and Available City Hall Space Authorized; Legal Advisor. The Charter Study Convention is hereby authorized and shall, to the maximum extent practicable, utilize administrative services provided by City departments, City-owned equipment, and available office space within the Omaha/Douglas Civic Center to assist them in their study. The City Attorney shall appoint members of the Law Department to render legal opinions and advice to the Convention.

Section 6. Funds. Any expenditure of City funds by the Charter Study Convention shall be authorized and approved by the Mayor and City Council prior to being expended.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall be in full force and take effect fifteen (15) days from and after the date of its passage.

Ordinance No. _____
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INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER

_____ APPROVED BY:

PASSED _____ MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OMAHA DATE

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF OMAHA DATE

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY DATE 3/22/22

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