

3.01 Powers of Council

(A) All legislative power of the City shall be vested in the Council, except as otherwise provided by this Charter and the Constitution of the State of Ohio. Without limitation of the foregoing, the Council shall have and possess the following powers:

1. The power to levy taxes and assessments and incur debts subject to the limitations imposed thereon by this Charter and the Constitution of Ohio.
2. The power to adopt and to provide for the enforcement of local police, sanitary and other similar regulations, as are not in conflict with the general laws.
3. The power to provide for the exercise of all powers of local self-government granted to the City by the Constitution of the State of Ohio in a manner not inconsistent with this Charter or the Constitution of the State of Ohio.
4. The power, by ordinance or resolution, to establish or authorize the number of officers and employees in the various offices, departments, divisions, bureaus, boards and commissions of the City and to establish or authorize the establishment of the rate of their compensation, hours of work, and to provide such other fringe benefits and conditions of employment as deemed proper by the Council.
5. The power to require such bonds as in the opinion of the Council are necessary for the faithful discharge of the duties of the officers and employees of the City. The premium for said bonds shall be paid by the City.
6. The power to create, combine, change and abolish other offices, departments, divisions, bureaus, boards and commissions. The power herein expressed in this sub-section shall be exercised by ordinance or resolution.
7. The power to establish, by ordinance or resolution, the rates or charges made of consumers of all municipal utilities and services.
8. The power to acquire and to sell or otherwise convey interests in real property; and to lease, as lessor or lessee, or otherwise grant or receive interests in real property, in the manner authorized by ordinance or resolution with or without competitive bidding.
9. The power to provide for an independent audit of the accounts and records of the City, which may be in addition to audits by state offices and agencies as may be required under the general laws of Ohio.
10. To exercise all other powers granted to the Council by this Charter and by the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio.

(Amended by electorate on 8-4-20)

3.02 Composition, Term and Qualifications

(A) The Council shall be composed of six members all of whom shall be elected at large. All present council members shall continue in their term of office. Thereafter, four (4) council members shall be elected at the November 2001 regular municipal election for a term of four (4) years and two (2) council members shall be elected at the November 2003 regular municipal election for a term of four (4) years.

3.03 Clerk of Council

The Council may appoint, by a majority vote of its members, a person to serve as the Clerk of Council. The Clerk of Council shall serve at the pleasure of the Council and may be removed without cause by a majority vote of the members of Council. The Clerk of Council may hold other office or position of employment in the City. The Clerk of Council shall have those powers, duties and functions as are provided in this Charter, by the Rules of Council or by ordinance or resolution. Included in the duties of the Clerk of Council shall be the maintenance of a record of proceedings of the Council and a record of all ordinances and resolutions adopted by the Council. The Clerk of Council shall give notice of regular and special meetings of the Council to its members and to the public as may be provided by this Charter, the Rules of Council or by ordinance or resolution. The Clerk of Council shall be subject to the control of the officers of the Council and the general supervision of the Administrator. The Council, by ordinance or resolution, may require the Clerk of Council to serve as the secretary of one or more boards and commissions provided for under this Charter.

(Amended by electorate on 8-4-20)

3.04 Council Meetings

(A) The Council shall determine, by a majority vote of its members, the frequency, dates and times of regular meetings in order to properly conduct its business, but it shall hold at least two regular meetings in each month in at least eleven months of each year.

(B) Special meetings of the Council may be called, for any purpose, by the Mayor or any three members of the Council upon at least twenty-four hours notice to the Mayor and each member of the Council, which notice may be served personally or left at the usual place of residence. In the event the Mayor or any three members of the Council determine an emergency exists, the twenty-four-hour notice shall not apply.

Members of the Council and the Mayor who attend special meetings of the Council or who are present at another regular or special meeting where a special meeting is announced by the presiding officer need not receive notice of the special meeting. Members of the Council and the

Mayor may waive receipt of notice of a special meeting either prior or subsequent to the meeting.

(C) Any regular or special meeting of the Council may be adjourned or recessed to another time, date or place without giving the notice required in Division (B) of this Section.

(D) All meetings of the Council, its Committees and other Boards and Commissions of the Municipality shall be held in accordance with the general laws of Ohio pertaining to requirements for open meetings of public bodies.

3.05 Council Organization and Rules

The Council shall be a continuing body, but shall meet in the Council Chamber at its first meeting in January of each year for the purpose of organization. Council shall adopt, by majority vote of its members, its own Rules which shall not conflict with this Charter and which shall remain in effect until amended, changed or repealed by a majority vote of the members of Council. The Rules shall go into immediate effect unless a later date is specified, and shall not be subject to initiative or referendum. The Rules of Council shall provide for the number, composition and manner of appointment of committees of Council, and such other matters, as Council shall determine to be necessary for the proper functioning and government of Council.

3.06 Council Vacancies

(A) A vacancy in the Council shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Council. If the vacancy occurs subsequent to twenty days before the date when candidates for the office of Council member must file their nominating petitions or if two years or less remain in the term of the incumbent who created the vacancy, the person elected by the Council shall serve for the unexpired term. If the vacancy occurs at least twenty days prior to the date when candidates for the office of Council member must file their nominating petitions and more than two years remain in the term of the incumbent who created the vacancy, the person elected by the Council shall serve until a successor is elected at the next regular municipal election and qualified to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. The person elected for the unexpired term at the next regular municipal election shall take office on the first day of January following his or her election.

(B) If the Council shall fail to elect a person to fill a vacancy in the Council under Division (A) of this Section within forty-five (45) days after the occurrence of the vacancy, its power to do so shall lapse and the Mayor shall appoint a person to serve for the time as provided in Division (A) of this Section.

