

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 2.06 AND 4.06 OF THE MINNETONKA CITY CHARTER, REGARDING ELECTONS; REQUIRING USE OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING; ELIMINATING USE OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS

The City of Minnetonka Ordains:

Section 1. Preamble. The city council adopts this ordinance pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 410.12, subdivision 5.

Section 2. Section 2.06, subdivision 5 of the Minnetonka city charter, relating to special elections to fill vacancies in the city council, is amended to read as follows:

Subd. 5. Special Election Requirements.

a. Except as provided in subdivison 5.b. below, special elections must be held at the earliest date possible under state law. ~~The following provisions apply:~~

~~—(1) candidates~~ Candidates must file for office no later than four weeks before the election;

~~—(2) no primary will be held; and~~

~~—(3) the candidate receiving the highest number of votes is elected.~~

b. If a special election occurs in the same year as a regular municipal election, the council may at its option schedule the special election to occur in conjunction with the regular municipal election rather than at the earliest possible date under state law. ~~If adequate time exists to conduct a primary in compliance with state law for the special election, the provisions of subdivision 5.a. above will not apply, and the special election will be conducted in the same manner as regular municipal elections.~~

Section 3. Section 4.02 of the Minnetonka city charter is amended to read as follows:

Section 4.02. Primary ElectionsMethod of election.

~~If one or two candidates file for a particular office, they are declared the nominees, and no primary will be held. If three or more candidates file for a particular office, a primary election must be held to determine the nominees for that office. The primary for that office must be held according to the schedule for a primary before a state general election, except that it will be in the year of the city general election. In a primary, the two candidates receiving the most votes for each office are the sole nominees for that office at the regular city election. The voters shall elect the mayor and council members by the method of Single Transferable Vote, also known as Ranked Choice Voting or Instant Runoff voting. The city council must provide by ordinance the ballot format and the rules for counting the votes and breaking a tie.~~

Section 4. The city clerk is directed to submit this ordinance to the charter commission for its review, as provided by law.

The ~~stricken~~ language is deleted; the underlined language is inserted.

Section 5. The council hereby reserves its discretion to determine, after receiving the charter commission's recommendation, whether to submit this charter amendment to the voters at a general or special election or whether instead to rescind this ordinance.

Section 6. This ordinance and the charter amendments herein shall not take effect until 30 days after approved by 51 percent of the votes cast at a general or special election as determined by the city council.

Adopted by the city council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, on May 18, 2020.

Brad Wiersum, Mayor

ATTEST:

Becky Koosman, City Clerk

ACTION ON THIS ORDINANCE:

Date of introduction: May 18, 2020

Date of adoption:

Motion for adoption:

Seconded by:

Voted in favor of:

Voted against:

Abstained:

Absent:

Ordinance adopted.

Date of publication:

CERTIFIED COPY:

I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of an ordinance adopted by the city council of the City of Minnetonka, Minnesota, at a meeting held on _____, 2020.

Becky Koosman, City Clerk

Date: _____