

Resolution 2023- 46

Failed

A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Ashland City to amend their current Charter which was last amended in 2023 by the Private Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee and ratified by Resolution 2023-21 on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Legislature amended Tennessee Code Annotated 6-53-110 which becomes effective January 1, 2024 whereas an individual who has to be qualified to run in a specific district may not be elected at large.

WHEREAS, the Town's Charter provides under Section 4 that the City shall be divided into three wards.

WHEREAS Section 8 (a) of the Charter it provides that an election shall be conducted to elect a Mayor and six (6) councilmen including two (2) Councilmen from each of the three (3) wards of the Town, all by electors from the Town at large.

WHEREAS Section 8 of the Charter provides that elections shall be held every even-numbered year on the first Thursday in August. At the election held in August, 2024, and every other even-numbered year thereafter, one (1) Councilman for each ward and the Mayor shall be elected. At the election held in August 2026, and every other even-numbered year thereafter, one (1) Councilman shall be elected for each ward. The terms of the Mayor and Councilman shall begin at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Council in September next following their election, and they shall serve for a term of four (4) years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

WHEREAS Section 4 and Section 8 of the Charter are not in compliance with the modification in the law pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 6-53-110 that takes effect January 1, 2024.

WHEREAS the City Mayor and the City Council for the Town of Ashland City, Tennessee desire to modify the current Charter to address the change in the law and to abolish wards in the Town of Ashland City and have all councilmen qualified to run at large and be elected at large.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council request the General Assembly to amend their current Charter with the proposed changes. The following changes are set out as follows:

Section 4 of the Charter shall be deleted in its entirety.

Section 8 (a) of the Charter shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

At the election held on the first Saturday in December 1999, a nonpartisan election was conducted by the county election commission pursuant to the election laws of this State, to elect a Mayor and six (6) Councilmen, including two (2) Councilmen from each of the three (3) wards of the Town, all by the electors of the Town to be elected at large. Any elector who has been a resident of the Town for at least two (2) years may be qualified as a candidate by submitting a nominating petition to the county election commission in accordance with state law. Elections shall continue to be nonpartisan. Beginning in 2024, all wards are abolished and councilmen are qualified at large and elected at large.

Section 8 (d) shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

At the election held in December 1999, each elector voted for six (6) candidates for Councilman based upon the three wards that were established at the time. The three (3) Councilmanic positions from each ward in December 1999 that received the highest number of votes were elected for a term of four (4) years. The three (3) candidates for the Councilmanic positions from each ward receiving the second highest number of votes were elected for terms of two (2) years. The Mayor and Councilmen elected in each regular Town elections thereafter shall serve a term of four (4) years. Elections shall be held every even-numbered years on the first Thursday in August beginning 2024. Beginning at this election, all Councilmanic positions and the Mayor's position that are up for election shall be qualified as a candidate at large and elected at large. The terms of the Mayor and Councilmen shall begin at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Council in September next following their election, and they shall serve a term of four (4) years and until their successors are elected and qualified. All elections shall be conducted in conformity with the requirements of this Charter and the election laws of the State.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of Ashland City, Tennessee that the revised Charter, as set out above, is hereby approved to be presented to the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee for adoption.

Adopted this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

J. S. [Signature]  
Mayor

[Signature]  
City Recorder

Votes:

Yes 3

No 4

FILED