

ORDINANCE NO.25-714

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PORT RICHEY A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CITY CHARTER SECTIONS 2.02(c), 2.02(d), 2.05(a)(1), AND 4.06(e) TO ALLOW TERMS OF OFFICE TO COMMENCE ON THE FOURTH TUESDAY IN APRIL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10.03 of the Charter of the City of Port Richey, the City Council must submit proposed amendments to the City's Charter to the City's electorate after the City Council passes the proposed amendment by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, following a review of the Charter by the City Council, it has been deemed desirable that Section 2.02(c), 2.02(d), 2.05(a)(1), and 4.06(e) of the Charter be amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section I. That Section 2.02(c) of the Charter of the City of Port Richey shall be amended to read as follows:

(c) *Election, Terms and Transition.*

- (1) At the regular municipal election of April 12th, 2011, a Mayor-Council Member shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and at the regular municipal election each three (3) years thereafter.
- (2) At the regular municipal election of April 12th, 2011, a City Council Member shall be elected for a term of two (2) years.
- (3) At the regular municipal election of April 10th, 2012, one City Council Member shall be elected for a term of one (1) year and two City Council Members shall be elected for terms of three (3) years. The lowest vote getter will serve the one-year term. In the event that the candidates are unopposed, the Councilmember receiving the one (1) year term shall be determined by drawing straws. Or in the alternative, a Councilmember may volunteer for the one-year term.
- (4) Commencing with the regular municipal election of April 9th, 2013, and at the regular municipal election each three (3) years thereafter, two City Council Members shall be elected for terms of three (3) years.
- (5) Commencing with the regular municipal election of April 8th, 2014, the Mayor-Council Member shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and at the regular municipal election each three (3) years thereafter.

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Nikki Alvarez-Soules, Esq.
Pasco County Clerk & Comptroller

- (6) Commencing with the regular municipal election of April 7th, 2015, and at the regular municipal election each three (3) years thereafter, two City Council Members shall be elected for terms of three (3) years.

The terms of all such persons shall commence on the ~~third~~ fourth Tuesday ~~and~~ in the month of April when such persons were elected to office. All such officials shall hold office until their successors shall have been elected and qualified or until their tenure of office has otherwise been terminated in accordance with the Charter or State Law.

Section II. That Section 2.02(d) of the Charter of the City of Port Richey shall be amended to read as follows:

- (d) *Vice-Mayor.* The City Council shall nominate and elect by majority vote a Vice-Mayor from amongst its members. The nomination and election shall take place on the fourth Tuesday in April at the first organizational meeting after the regular April election. The process shall repeat if the Vice-Mayor office is vacated permanently. All Council members shall be eligible for this office. The Mayor shall not nominate candidates for this office but must vote for one of the nominated Council members.

The Vice-Mayor shall act as Mayor during the absence or disability of the Mayor and shall fill the vacant office of Mayor as provided in this Charter.

In the event that the Mayor dies, resigns, becomes permanently disabled, ceases to be qualified, or is removed from office as provided by law, and other provisions of the Charter, the Vice-Mayor shall:

If one hundred and eighty days (180) or less remain in the Mayor's term, the Vice-Mayor will be declared the acting Mayor with full powers and duties as Mayor.

If more than one hundred and eighty days (180) remain in the Mayor's term, the Vice-Mayor will serve as acting Mayor and a special election shall be called to fill the vacancy. The winner of the special election for Mayor shall serve the remainder of the term that had been vacated by the previous Mayor.

The Council seat vacated by the Vice-Mayor, by and through the Vice-Mayor's assumption of the role of acting Mayor, shall be filled immediately accordingly to provisions set forth in this Charter.

In the event the Mayor is temporarily disabled, the Vice-Mayor shall assume the full power and duties as Mayor until the Mayor returns, in which event no vacancy will be deemed to exist.

Section III. That Section 2.05(a)(1) of the Charter of the City of Port Richey shall be amended to read as follows:

- (1) ~~[New Members.] On the first Monday after the election, the~~ On the fourth Tuesday in April after the election at the beginning of the regular Council meeting ~~new~~ Council members shall be sworn into office and an organization meeting shall be conducted for the purpose of acquainting the

new members with procedures and transferring authority from the members being replaced.

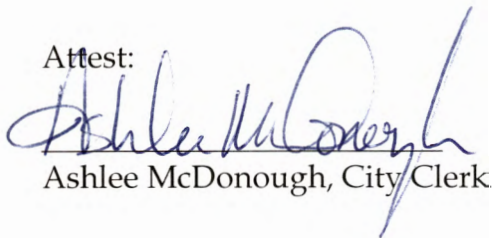
Section IV. That Section 4.06(c)[(e)] of the Charter of the City of Port Richey shall be amended to read as follows:

~~(e)~~[(e)] All elected municipal officials shall take office on the fourth Tuesday in April first Monday following the election, at which time they shall be sworn into the office by the City Clerk.

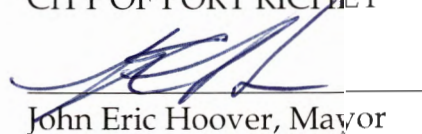
Section V. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption; provided, however, it shall not be effective until such is approved by the electorate at a referendum election thereon to ratify the terms and conditions of this Ordinance. In the event that any such referendum question shall be defeated, then this Ordinance shall be of no further force and effect.

The foregoing Ordinance No. 25-714 was read and passed on its first reading in an open and regular meeting of the City Council of Port Richey, Florida, this 14th day of January, 2025.

Attest:

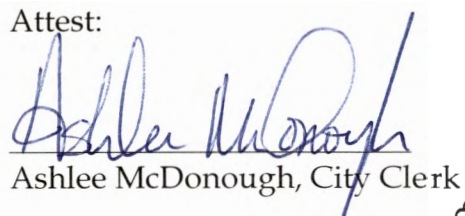

Ashlee McDonough, City Clerk

CITY OF PORT RICHEY


John Eric Hoover, Mayor

The foregoing Ordinance No. 25-714 was read and passed on its second reading in an open and regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Port Richey, Florida this 28th day of January, 2025.

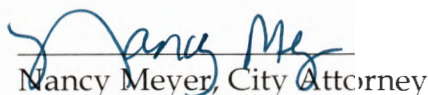
Attest:


Ashlee McDonough, City Clerk

CITY OF PORT RICHEY


John Eric Hoover, Mayor

Approved as to form:


Nancy Meyer, City Attorney

