ORDINANCE NO. 14-2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SEMINOLE, FLORIDA SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SEMINOLE A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 6.05 OF THE CITY CHARTER TO AMEND THE LENGTH OF TERM FOR A MEMBER OF COUNCIL APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY FOR WHICH NO CANDIDATE QUALIFIES; PROVIDING FOR A REFERENDUM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section 10.03 of the Seminole City Charter requires the establishment of a Charter Review Committee during the month of January 1999 and each five years thereafter with an expressed purpose to review the operations of City government in order to recommend amendments to the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council appointed a Charter Review Committee in January 2024 which has completed a comprehensive review of City government and provided the Mayor and Council with recommended charter amendments; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed such recommendations and has determined this Ordinance amending the City Charter to be in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the City of Seminole.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEMINOLE, FLORIDA, HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Section 6.05 of the City Charter of Seminole is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 6.05. - Uncontested Elections.

In the event the number of candidates who qualify is the same or less than the vacancies to be filled, each unopposed candidate shall be deemed to have voted for himself/herself and no election shall be held. Any vacancy on the Council or the Mayor's office for which no candidate qualifies shall be temporarily filled by appointment of a majority of the new Council until the next regular election for the entirety of the term.

Section 2. The City Council shall separately adopt a Resolution setting forth the proposed ballot statement and ballot summary in a manner that conforms with applicable state law.

<u>Section 3</u>. The City Clerk is hereby directed to notify the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections that the referendum item provided in this Ordinance and the corresponding Resolution shall be considered on the same ballot as the election to be held on November 5, 2024.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall be published in accordance with the law.

<u>Section 5</u>. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption. The referendum measure shall take effect only upon the approval of a majority of the City electors voting at the referendum election voting on this issue.

APPROVED ON FIRST READING:

PUBLISHED: Jewe 12,

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON

SECOND AND FINAL READING:

11, 2024

5, 2024

Leslie Waters, Mayor

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City Clerk