



Settled 1752
JAMESTOWN
NORTH CAROLINA

Town of Jamestown
Town Council Special Meeting
July 5, 2019
10:00 am
Council Chambers
Agenda

- A. Call to Order
- B. Discussion of staggering the terms of Town Council, including the Mayor-Kenny Cole, Town Manager
- C. Adjournment

Mayor
Lynn Montgomery

Town Manager
Kenneth C. Cole

Town Attorney
Beth Koonce



Council Members
Georgia Nixon, Mayor Pro Tem
Martha Stafford Wolfe
Rebecca Mann Rayborn
John Capes

TOWN OF JAMESTOWN AGENDA ITEM

ITEM ABSTRACT: Staggered Terms

AGENDA ITEM #: B



CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

ACTION ITEM

INFORMATION ONLY

MEETING DATE: July 5, 2019

ESTIMATED TIME FOR DISCUSSION: 10 min.

DEPARTMENT: Administration

CONTACT PERSON: Beth Koonce, Town Attorney

SUMMARY:

At the May 21, 2019 meeting, Town Council approved the ordinance amending the town Charter of the Town of Jamestown to implement four year staggered terms for the members of Town Council and the Mayor. The Town published a notice stating that the Town Council adopted the ordinance amending the Charter to implement four-year staggered terms. This amendment was subject to any referendum petitioned for and conducted pursuant to G.S. 160A-103.

On June 24, 2019, a petition was submitted to the Town Clerk requesting Town Council call for a special election to submit the charter amendment to a vote. This petition was forwarded to the Guilford County Board of Elections and was validated on July 1, 2019(attached).

The Town Council must:

Accept the petition and put the amendment to a vote by the citizens of Jamestown for the November 2019 election.

If approved by the voters, the Town Charter will be amended. The successful Candidates filing for 2019 Council election will come under the new terms, if the ordinance is adopted. The two candidates for Council receiving the highest number of votes would be elected to a 4-year term. The two candidates receiving the next highest number of votes would be elected for a 2-year term and would be up for reelection in 2021, where they would run for a 4-year term, thus starting the staggered terms. The Mayor is elected separately and would be elected for a 4-year term at the 2019 election.

A letter will be given to all potential candidates by the Board of Elections.(attached). Our Town Attorney will have a resolution at the time of our meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: July 1, 2019 letter from Guilford County Board of Elections, July 5, 2019 Letter to Potential Candidates.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION NEEDED: Conduct a vote to amend the Charter by the voters for the November 2019 election.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: N/A

SUGGESTED MOTION: Move to accept the Petition to amend the Town Charter by the voters for the November 2019 election. The ordinance amending the Charter of the Town of Jamestown to implement four-year staggered terms for the members of Town Council and Mavor.

FOLLOW UP ACTION NEEDED: Notify the Guilford County Board of Elections.



GUILFORD COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

July 1, 2019

Katie McBride, Jamestown Town Clerk
PO Box 848
Jamestown, NC 27282

Dear Ms. McBride,

This letter is to inform you of the Certification of the petition to call for a special election that would amend the Jamestown Charter to allow for 4-year staggered terms.

Pursuant to North Carolina law, the petition has been checked against the registration records of the Guilford County Board of Elections and that 324 names out of 356 signatures have been determined to be qualified. Our records indicate that 298 signatures were needed for certification.

Attached is the submitted petition with valid signatures so marked.

Sincerely,

Charlie Collicutt
Director
Guilford County Board of Elections

enc.

Cc: Robert Frederick



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NORTH CAROLINA

July 5, 2019

Dear Candidate:

On the ballot for the November 2019 election, the citizens of Jamestown will be voting on the staggering of terms for Town Council Members. Currently Jamestown Town Council Members are all up for re-election every two years. If approved by citizens, this vote will **not** extend the terms of office for the current Council Members.

One of the following will apply:

1. If the citizens **elect to have** staggered terms, candidates elected to a Council Seat will be serving a four-year or a two-year term. The two candidates with the most votes will serve a four-year term and the remaining two elected council members will serve a two-year term. The candidate elected as Mayor will serve a four-year term.
2. If the citizens **elect not to have** staggered terms, all candidates filing for Mayor and Council will be running to serve a two-year term.

Our community relies on the dedication of individuals, such as you, who take pride in our community and the initiative to become involved in the local municipal government process. We thank you!

Kenneth C. Cole, Town Manager