

STAFF REPORT
September 13, 2021

Topic: Proposed ballot question for a Charter Amendment

Discussion: The City is required to review and make adjustments to its ward boundaries, if needed, after the release of the 10-year Federal Census data. Because of Covid-19, the data which is usually released in the spring was delayed until the summer this year. Detailed local data is still not available at this time.

The recommended changes to ward boundaries will not be completed in time to place the matter on the municipal election ballot on November 2 as would be the norm. Not having the question on that particular ballot will necessitate the City holding a special election, most likely in January, for this one specific item.

To avoid the cost and inconvenience of holding this special election, an alternative approach to approving ward boundaries is being proposed. This approach would have the City Council set boundaries after a duly noticed public hearing and with a 2/3rd majority vote threshold.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact in moving this question to the November 2021 ballot. If the question is approved by the voters, the City will not have to incur the cost of holding a special election in all six wards.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval as presented.

This report submitted by: Scott Myers, City Manager

Proposed motion:

"I move to waive a reading of this Resolution in its entirety and to read by title only."

"I move to approve language to Article I of the City Charter as presented in Resolution 2021-17 and to add the question to the ballot for the Municipal Election to be held on November 2, 2021."