

City of Solon

Record of Ordinances

Requested by the
Charter Review Commission

ORDINANCE NO: 2021-144

INTRODUCED BY: Russo

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XII OF THE SOLON CHARTER
PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 2, PERTAINING TO DIRECTOR OF
LAW AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Council convened a Charter Review Commission during the year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Commission has proposed amendments to the Council; and

WHEREAS, this Council, pursuant to Article XII of the City Charter, proposes to submit amendments to the electors of the City of Solon at the next regular municipal election, being the election to be held on November 2, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Solon, State of Ohio, two-thirds of the members elected or appointed hereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That Article VI, Section 2 of the City Charter which previously read:

SECTION 2. DIRECTOR OF LAW.

The Director of Law shall be the head of the Law Department and shall be appointed by the Mayor as provided in Article V, Section 5(c). He shall serve the Mayor, the Council, the administrative departments and the officers, boards and commissions of the City as legal counsel in connection with municipal affairs, and, subject to the direction of the Mayor or the Council, shall represent the City in all proceedings in Court or before any administrative board. He shall perform all other duties now or hereafter imposed upon city solicitors under the laws of Ohio unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the Council, and he shall perform such other duties consistent with his office as the Mayor or the Council may request. No person shall act as Director of Law unless duly admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio.

Be amended as follows:

SECTION 2. DIRECTOR OF LAW.

The Director of Law shall be the head of the Law Department and shall be appointed by the Mayor as provided in Article V, Section 5(c). He **The Director of Law** shall serve the Mayor, the Council, the administrative departments and the officers, boards

and commissions of the City as legal counsel in connection with municipal affairs, and, subject to the direction of the Mayor or the Council, shall represent the City in all proceedings in Court or before any administrative board. ~~He shall perform all other duties now or hereafter imposed upon city solicitors under the laws of Ohio unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the Council, and he shall perform such other duties consistent with his office as the Mayor or the Council may request. No person shall act as Director of Law unless duly admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio.~~ **The Director of Law shall be admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio, hold an active license in good standing to practice law in the State of Ohio, have held such license in good standing for at least five years, and have experience in municipal or governmental law.**

SECTION 2. That the foregoing proposed amendment upon receiving at least a majority of the votes cast thereon at the November 2, 2021 general election shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

SECTION 3. That the ballot language submitting the question of the adoption of the aforesaid amendment shall read substantially as follows:

"PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT
CITY OF SOLON
A Majority Affirmative Vote is necessary for passage.

Shall Article VI, Section 2 of the Charter be amended to require the Director of Law to be admitted to practice law in the State of Ohio, hold an active license in good standing to practice law in the State of Ohio, have held such license in good standing for at least five years, and have experience in municipal or governmental law?

YES
NO"

SECTION 4. That the Clerk of Council be, and she hereby is, authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Ordinance to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections for an election to be held at the next regular municipal election which shall occur not less than sixty nor more than one hundred and twenty days after passage of the Ordinance which this Council finds to be the election on November 2, 2021.

SECTION 5. That the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County shall cause an appropriate notice to be given of the election to be held on November 2, 2021, on the foregoing amendment to the Charter of this City and otherwise to provide for such election in the manner provided by the general laws of the State of Ohio.

SECTION 6. That the Clerk of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to cause the full text of such proposed Charter amendment to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Solon, with the first publication to be made at least fifteen days prior to the general election to be held on November 2, 2021, as provided by Article XVII, Section 9 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio and Ohio Revised Code Section 731.211.

SECTION 7. That there is hereby appropriated from the general fund a sufficient sum of money to pay the costs of carrying out the authorization and directions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City, and for the further reason that this Ordinance is required to be immediately effective in order to file a certified copy of this Ordinance and the proposed form of the ballot question with the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County not later than sixty (60) days prior to the November 2, 2021 election, as provided herein; wherefore, provided this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of Council elected or appointed, it shall take effect immediately upon its passage and execution by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: August 16, 2021



Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council