

**MARCH 17, 2020
OFFICIAL BALLOT
CHARTER AMENDMENTS
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**Charter Amendment One
Vacancies in Office**

Section 18 and 21 of the Charter shall be amended to clarify that in the event a vacancy occurs on the city council, a special election to fill the vacant seat will only be called if the vacancy occurs more than 180 days from an otherwise scheduled general election. In the event of a vacancy in the office of mayor, the deputy-mayor will serve as mayor until a new mayor is elected.

Yes

No

**Charter Amendment Two
Compensation**

Section 19 of the Charter shall be amended to reflect and clarify the current salaries of the city council and mayor, as well as link the current cost of living adjustment to the appropriate U.S. Department of Labor Consumer Price Index.

Yes

No

Charter Amendment Three
Compensation Advisory Committee

Section 19 of the Charter shall be amended to establish an advisory committee to study and make recommendations to the council on the compensation and benefits of the council. Whether based on the committee's recommendation or on the council's own initiative any compensation changes would go into effect following the next city election.

Yes

No

Charter Amendment Four
Council Meetings

Section 24 of the Charter shall be amended to increase the minimum time from 12 to 48 hours, exclusive of weekends, for the calling of a council meeting where council action is contemplated. Meetings where no action is undertaken and meetings to address emergency situations would require 24 and 12 hours' notice, respectively.

Yes

No

Charter Amendment Five
Adoption of Ordinances

Section 29 of the Charter sets forth and duplicates many of the requirements of state law relating to the noticing of municipal ordinances. Section 29 also provides that municipal ordinances once adopted must be published and cannot go into effect for an additional 30 days. Shall Section 29 of the Charter be amended to remove such duplicative provisions and unnecessary limitations on the council's ability to adopt ordinances?

Yes

No

Charter Amendment Six
Recordkeeping

Section 32 of the Charter shall be removed to no longer require the city to publish printed binders of all ordinances and resolutions having the force of law. Such removal shall provide the city with the flexibility to provide for codification of city regulations by other means.

Yes

No

**Charter Amendment Seven
Budget Notice**

Section 44 of the Charter provides that the city budget shall be published in newspapers of general circulation along with the dates and required hearings for adoption. Notice and hearing requirements are already provided by state law and the budget is similarly required to be published in full on the city website. Shall the unnecessary and duplicative provisions of Section 44 be removed from the Charter?

Yes

No

**Charter Amendment Eight
Lapse of Appropriations**

Section 47 of the Charter shall be amended to remove a provision that requires unexpended capital appropriations to be deemed abandoned after three (3) years.

Yes

No

**Charter Amendment Nine
Capital Program**

Section 50 of the Charter and its requirement that the city annually prepare a five (5) year capital improvement program shall be removed. The city is already required, pursuant to recent changes in state law to publish its capital improvement program annually.

Yes

No

Charter Amendment Ten
Political Activities by Officers and Employees

Section 62 of the Charter shall be amended to limit city officers from holding or being a candidate for elected public office in the city or use their position to support or oppose any candidate or affect any election. Similarly, Section 62 shall be amended to prohibit the council from influencing city employees with respect to candidates or issues.

Yes

No

Charter Amendment Eleven
State Revenue Sharing

Section 73 of the Charter shall be amended to remove transitional provisions relating to the city's initial incorporation and clarifying the city's continued entitlement to state revenue sharing.

Yes

No