

Resolution No. 25628

A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article XIII of the City Charter to change the title of "Corporation Counsel" to "City Attorney."

Amended - 9-9-77

CF-283-467

INTRODUCED SEP 6 1977	BY EXECUTIVE REQUEST
REFERRED SEP 6 1977	TO COMMITTEE OF WHOLE
REPORTED	BY
PASSED SEP 9 1977	BY SEP 9 1977
FILED SEP 9 1977	FIRST PUBLICATION

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RESOLUTION 25628

PROPOSITION _____

A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article XIII of the City Charter to change the title of "Corporation Counsel" to "City Attorney."

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE:

That Article XIII of the Charter of The City of Seattle relating to the Law Department be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIII

The Law Department

Section 1. OFFICERS; APPOINTMENT; REMOVAL: The law department shall consist of a city attorney who shall appoint the assistant city attorneys and city prosecutors, who may be removed at will.

Section 2. QUALIFICATIONS: The city attorney shall be an attorney of the supreme court of the state, and have been in the practice of his or her profession in the City of Seattle for at least four years next prior to his or her election.

Section 3. DUTIES OF CITY ATTORNEY: The city attorney shall have full supervisory control of all the litigation of the city, or in which the city or any of its departments are interested, and shall perform such other duties as are or shall be prescribed by ordinance.

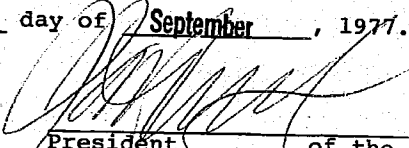
Section 4. DUTIES OF ASSISTANTS AND CITY PROSECUTORS: The assistant city attorneys and the city prosecutors shall perform such duties as shall be required by the city attorney.

Section 5. The city attorney shall appoint under civil service rules, supervise and control all other officers and employees in the law department.

Section 6. Wherever in this Charter, or in any ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation of the city, the term "corporation counsel" appears, such term shall be deemed to mean and

1 refer to the city attorney.

2 PASSED the City Council the 9 day of September,
3 1977 and signed by me in open session in authentication of
4 its passage this 9 day of September, 1977.



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7 President of the City Council

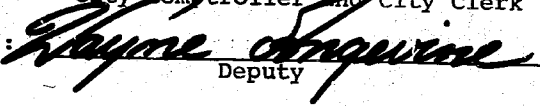
8 Filed by me this 9 day of September, 1977.

9 ATTEST:



10 City Comptroller and City Clerk

11 By:



12 Deputy
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THE CITY OF SEATTLE

LAW DEPARTMENT

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CLAIMS MANAGER

V. L. PORTER

September 2, 1977

City Council
Seattle

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to your request by letter of August 31, 1977 and in accordance with oral instructions from Mr. Casey Jones, Executive Director, we have prepared and forward herewith proposed resolutions and propositions amending the City Charter as follows:

- (1) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article XVI of the City Charter to provide for the establishment of a personnel and civil service system by ordinance, and repealing Article V, Section 11 of the City Charter relating to the City Personnel Director.
- (2) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article III, Section 1 of the City Charter to provide for the creation, consolidation and reorganization of City departments, divisions and offices by ordinance; amending Article VII to provide for the establishment by ordinance of a Board of Public Works to ensure that all contracts for public works are awarded and carried out in accordance with law, and providing for the designation of the City official newspaper by said Board; and amending Article XI, Section 1 of the City Charter relating to the Department of Parks and Recreation to eliminate the four year term of the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation and the membership of such officer on the Board of Public Works and City Planning Commission.
- (3) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article VIII, Section 1 of the City Charter to eliminate the requirement that the City Comptroller issue all licenses.

City Council
September 2, 1977
Page 2

- (4) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article VI, Section 2 and repeal Article VI, Section 3 of the City Charter to eliminate the requirement for a competitive examination of candidates for the position of Chief of Police.
- (5) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article XIII of the City Charter to change the title of "Corporation Counsel" to "City Attorney."

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSITIONS

- (6) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article XVI, Section 1 of the City Charter to provide for selection of one member of the Civil Service Commission by the City Council.
- (7) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article XVI, Section 9 of the City Charter to extend the probationary period for firefighters to twelve months.
- (8) A RESOLUTION AND PROPOSITION to amend Article V, Section 11 and Article XVI, Section 9 of the City Charter to provide that the chief examiner and secretary of the Civil Service Commission shall hold no other position or office in the public service of the City.

With respect to the proposed amendment of Article VIII Section 1 (Item (3) above) to eliminate the requirement therein that the City Comptroller issue all licenses, you ask that we advise whether such proposed amendment "will in fact enable the legislative authority to determine by ordinance who shall issue licenses." We advise that such is the purpose and effect of the proposed amendment.

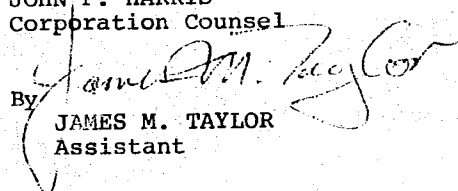
In connection with the proposed amendments of Articles VI and VII (Items (2) and (4) above) you ask that we draft language that would accomplish the City Council's intent that the Mayor file a statement of reasons for removal of the Chief of Police and members of the Board of Public Works "whether the removal is by firing or forced resignation." For such purpose we have included language in Section 1 of proposed Article VII and the proposed amendment of Section 2 of Article VI requiring that upon the resignation of such officers ". . . in response to the mayor's request, the

City Council
September 2, 1977
Page 3

mayor shall file with the city council a statement of his reasons for making such request."

Yours very truly,

JOHN P. HARRIS
Corporation Counsel

By 
JAMES M. TAYLOR
Assistant

JMT:vf

