



City of Duluth

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Minutes - Draft

City Council

MISSION STATEMENT: *The mission of the Duluth City Council is to develop effective public policy rooted in citizen involvement that results in excellent municipal services and creates a thriving community prepared for the challenges of the future.*

TOOLS OF CIVILITY: *The Duluth City Council promotes the use and adherence of the tools of civility in conducting the business of the council. The tools of civility will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issues that face the city. These tools include: pay attention, listen, be inclusive, do not gossip, show respect, be agreeable, apologize, give constructive criticism and take responsibility. [Approved by the council on August 25, 2003]*

Friday, August 14, 2015

12:00 PM

Council Chamber

Special Council Meeting

ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Councilors Zach Filipovich, Sharla Gardner, Howie Hanson, Jennifer Julsrud, Linda Krug, Joel Sipress and President Emily Larson

Absent: 1 - Councilor Jay Fosle

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

1. **15-034** Donn Larson communication regarding the proposed ranked choice voting ballot question (15-0516R).

Attachments: [Communication](#)

This Petition/Other Communication was received.

RESOLUTION TABLED

COMMITTEE 2

BY COUNCILOR KRUG (INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS)

2. **15-0516R** RESOLUTION FIXING THE BALLOT QUESTION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE AS TO RANKED CHOICE VOTING.
RESOLUTION FIXING THE BALLOT QUESTION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE AS TO RANKED CHOICE VOTING.
CITY PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS, a petition for a proposed amendment to the Duluth City Charter changing the procedure for the election of the mayor and city councilors to a ranked choice voting system was presented to the Duluth charter commission and forwarded to the city council; and

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2015, the city clerk examined the petition and certified the petition to be sufficient.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed Charter amendment changing the city's election procedure for the city's mayor and city councilors be submitted to the voters at the general election to be held on November 3, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the question submitted on the ballot read as follows:

Shall the Duluth City Charter be amended to adopt Ranked Choice Voting, also known as Single Transferable Vote, as the method for electing the mayor and the city councilors without a separate primary election and with ballot format and rules for counting votes to be adopted by ordinance?

Yes. _____

No. _____

A "Yes" vote means the Duluth City Charter will be amended to adopt Ranked Choice Voting as the method for electing the mayor and city councilors with the ballot format and rules for counting votes to be adopted by ordinance.

A "No" vote means the Duluth City Charter will not be amended to adopt Ranked Choice Voting as the method for electing the mayor and city councilors.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to fix the November 3, 2015, ballot question for voters to decide whether to adopt ranked choice voting for mayoral and city council elections.

Attachments: [FILIPOVICH AMENDMENT \(REPLACEMENT 2\)](#)

[SIPRESS AMENDMENT](#)

[JULSRUD/FILIPOVICH AMENDMENT](#)

Councilor Krug moved to remove the resolution from the table, which motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Councilor Krug moved to suspend the rules to hear speakers on the resolution, which motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Katie Humphrey, Andrew Beeman , Cory Cusick, Manilan Houle, Gary Anderson, Bob Wahlman, Katherine Hansberry , Stefan Heikel, Jordan Bissell and Henry Helgen expressed support for the resolution.

Councilor Sipress stated that will be withdrawing his amendment.

Councilor Filipovich moved to amend the resolution, which motion was seconded, discussed and passed unanimously.

Councilor Julsrud moved to amend the resolution, which motion was seconded, discussed and passed as follows:

A motion was made that this Resolution be adopted as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 8 - Councilors Filipovich, Gardner, Hanson, Julsrud, Krug, Sipress and President Larson

Absent: 1 - Councilor Fosle

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

COMMITTEE 2

BY PRESIDENT LARSON (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

3. **15-0555R** RESOLUTION SUBMITTING A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER II, SECTION 5, OF THE CITY CHARTER TO THE VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2015, GENERAL ELECTION.

RESOLUTION SUBMITTING A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER II, SECTION 5, OF THE CITY CHARTER TO THE VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2015, GENERAL ELECTION.

CITY PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS, the city council has determined that a proposed amendment to Chapter II, Section 5, of the Duluth City Charter allowing the charter commission to determine the fee paid to council members, as set forth in Ordinance No. 15-061 on file in the office of the city clerk, be submitted to the electors of the city of Duluth for their ratification or rejection in the manner provided for by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city council hereby submits such proposal to the voters of the city of Duluth at the general municipal election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2015.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the question submitted on the ballot read as follows:

Shall the Duluth City Charter be amended to have the fee paid to city

council members determined by the charter commission, approved by a two-thirds vote of the city council and the new fee taking effect the January after the next municipal election?

Yes _____

No _____

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution is to place on the general election ballot a proposed amendment to Chapter II, section 5, of the City Charter allowing the charter commission to determine the fee paid to city council members and to have the fee approved by a two-thirds vote of the city council. New fees will take effect the January after the municipal election held subsequent to the city council vote.

At this time, 1:15 p.m., Councilor Julsrud left the meeting.

A motion was made that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 6 - Councilors Filipovich, Gardner, Julsrud, Krug, Sipress and President Larson

Nay: 1 - Councilor Hanson

Absent: 2 - Councilors Fosle and Julsrud

The meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.