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HOUSE BILL NO. 1574

Offered January 19, 2018

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 1, as amended, of Chapter III and § 3 of Chapter III of Chapter 99 of the Acts of Assembly of 1940, which provided a charter for the Town of Iron Gate, relating to town elections.*

Patron—Webert

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 1, as amended, of Chapter III and § 3 of Chapter III of Chapter 99 of the Acts of Assembly of 1940 is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 1. Administration and government.

(a) (repealed)

(b) The administration and government of the town of Iron Gate shall be vested in one body to be called the council of the town of Iron Gate, which shall consist of seven (7) members, six (6) of whom shall be known as councilmen and one to be known as mayor, all of whom shall be residents and qualified voters of the said town. The council may create, appoint, or elect such departments, bodies, boards, and other officers, or assessors or attorneys as are hereinafter provided for, or as are permitted, or required by law to be appointed by the council, or as may be deemed necessary or proper, and may fix their compensation and define their duties.

(c) At the regular municipal election to be held in the town in 1978 there shall be elected three councilmen for a period of four years and a mayor and three councilmen for a period of two years. All councilmen thereafter shall serve four-year terms. At each municipal election in 1980 and each two years thereafter there shall be elected a mayor and three councilmen. The three councilmen elected in 1978 that receive the highest number of votes shall serve four-year terms and the remaining three councilmen shall serve two-year terms. *However, beginning in 2012, the town council shall be elected at the time of the November general election.* The terms of office shall begin on the first day of ~~July~~ *January* next succeeding their election, each of whom shall serve until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

§ 3. The council.

(a) The council shall be a continuing body, and no measure pending before such body shall abate or be discontinued by reason of expiration of the term of office, or removal of the members of said body or any of them. Vacancies in the council or any office therein shall be filled within ~~thirty~~ *forty-five* days after such vacancy occurs for the unexpired term by a majority vote of the remaining members, except where otherwise inconsistent with the provisions of this charter.

(b) The council shall, by ordinance, fix the time for their stated meetings. Special meetings shall be called by the clerk of the council upon the request of the mayor, or any three members of the council; no business shall be transacted at a special meeting but that for which it shall be called, unless the council be unanimous. The meetings of the council shall be open to the public, except when the public welfare shall require executive sessions.

(c) If any member of the said council shall be voluntarily absent from three regular meetings of the council consecutively, his seat may be deemed vacant by resolution of the council and thereupon his unexpired term shall be filled according to the provisions of this act.

INTRODUCED

HB1574