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HOUSE BILL NO. 1439

Offered January 18, 2006

A BILL to amend and reenact § 12, as amended, and § 100 of Chapter 34 of the Acts of Assembly of 1918, which provided a charter for the City of Norfolk, relating to meetings of council and sale of public property.

Patrons—Howell, A.T., Abbitt, Alexander, Eisenberg, Joannou, Lewis, McClellan, Melvin, Miller, Ware, O. and Ware, R.L.

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 12, as amended, and § 100 of Chapter 34 of the Acts of Assembly of 1918 are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 12. Meetings of council.

On the first day of July next following the regular municipal election, or if such day be Saturday or Sunday, then on the following Tuesday, the council shall meet at the usual place for holding meetings of the legislative body of the city, at which time the newly elected council members shall assume the duties of their office. The time for any such meeting shall be set by ordinance adopted by council not less than thirty nor more than forty-five days prior to the election. Thereafter the council shall meet at such times as may be prescribed by ordinance or resolution. It shall hold at least one regular meeting each week, provided that it may, by the affirmative vote of a majority of its members, dispense with any twelve 16 such regular meetings in any calendar year. The mayor, any member of the council, or the city manager, may call special meetings of the council at any time upon at least twelve hours' written notice to each member, served personally or left at his usual place of business or residence; or such meeting may be held at any time without notice, provided all members of the council attend. All meetings of the council shall be public except where closed pursuant to the provisions of general law, and any citizen may have access to the minutes and records thereof at all reasonable times.

§ 100. Sale of public property.

The rights of the city of Norfolk in and to its water-front, wharf property, public landings, wharves, docks, streets, avenues, parks, bridges and other public places and its gas, water, electric and other works shall not be sold except by an ordinance passed by a recorded affirmative vote of four-fifths three-fourths of all the members elected to the council and under such other restrictions as may be imposed by law.