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HOUSE BILL NO. 1764

Offered January 13, 2021

Prefiled December 22, 2020

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 3.1, as amended, 3.2, 3.7, as amended, and 5.1 of Chapter 669 of the Acts of Assembly of 1972, which provided a charter for the Town of Crewe in Nottoway County, and to repeal Chapter 6 (§§ 6.1 through 6.4) of Chapter 669 of the Acts of Assembly of 1972, relating to town council; elections and powers.

Patron—Wright

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 3.1, as amended, 3.2, 3.7, as amended, and 5.1 of Chapter 669 of the Acts of Assembly of 1972 are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.1. Election, qualification and term of office of councilmen and mayor.

(a) The Town of Crewe shall be governed by a town council composed of seven councilmen and a mayor, all of whom shall be qualified voters of the town, to be elected from the town at large.

(b) The mayor and councilmen in office at the time of the passage of this act shall continue in office until the expiration of the terms for which they were elected. An election for mayor and councilmen shall be held on the first Tuesday in May, 1972 and every two years thereafter. ~~The mayor and councilmen elected on the first Tuesday in May, 1972 shall enter upon their duties on the first day of September, 1972 and shall serve until the first day of July, 1974. The mayor and councilmen elected on the first Tuesday in May, 1974 and thereafter, shall enter upon their duties on the first day of July next succeeding his or their election, and shall each serve for a term of two years~~

(c) *Beginning with the regular municipal election to be held on the first Tuesday in May 2022, the terms of the mayor and town council shall be governed as follows:*

1. The mayor shall be elected to serve a term of four years expiring June 30, 2026, and the term of office of the mayor shall be every four years thereafter.

2. The four members of the town council who are elected with the highest number of votes shall serve a term of four years, each expiring June 30, 2026, and the term of office of four members of the town council shall be every four years thereafter.

3. The three members of the town council who are elected with the fewest number of votes shall serve a term of two years, each expiring June 30, 2024, and the term of office of three members of the town council shall be every four years thereafter.

4. The terms of office shall commence on July 1 following the election. The mayor and members of the town council shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

§ 3.2. Vacancies on council.

Vacancies on the town council shall be filled ~~for the unexpired portion of the term by a majority vote of the members of the council; such vacancies to be filled by qualified voters of the town pursuant to the Code of Virginia.~~

§ 3.7. Meetings of council.

The town council shall fix the time of their stated meetings, and they shall meet at least once a month. A journal shall be kept of its official proceedings and its meetings shall be open to the public. Four members of the town council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting. Special meetings may be called at any time by the mayor or by any ~~three~~ *two or more* members of the council; provided that the mayor and all council members are duly notified in writing a reasonable period of time prior to such meeting, and no business shall be transacted at a special meeting thereof, except that for which it shall be called. If all members are present, this provision may be waived by a majority vote of the council.

§ 5.1. Appointments.

The town council shall appoint a town clerk, ~~a chief of police, a town sergeant,~~ a town attorney and such other officers as they deem necessary. *The town manager shall have the authority to appoint, suspend, or terminate the chief of police with the consent of the town council by majority vote.* Each officer appointed under this section shall be directly responsible to the town council and mayor. Such officers shall perform such duties as are required by general law, as well as such additional duties not inconsistent with general law as this charter or the council may prescribe.

2. That Chapter 6 (§§ 6.1 through 6.4) of Chapter 669 of the Acts of Assembly of 1972 is repealed.

INTRODUCED

HB1764