



Burkburnett, not just the City you live in, but the family you belong to...

Citizens of Burkburnett:

I am writing to inform you of the upcoming proposed charter amendments that will be placed on the May ballot for your consideration. The proposed charter amendments are listed on the following pages with a brief explanation.

Additionally, I believe there needs to be further explanation as to the transitional period from an at-large system to a place system should **Proposition A** be approved by the voters. There will be transition elections in 2019 and 2020.

If approved, individual/s will run for the Mayoral seat in 2019. The individual/s with the highest vote total will then be placed as the Mayor of Burkburnett. Also, the format for the elections of the two remaining seats will still be an at large format with the exception that the two candidates with the highest vote totals will be determined as Place 1 and Place 2 in the 2019 election. The individual running for commissioner receiving the highest vote total will fill Place 1 for a term of two years. The individual receiving the second highest vote total will fill Place 2 for a term of two years. After the completion of the initial term of two years, all subsequent elections for Place 1 and Place 2 shall be for a term of three years.

In the following election year, 2020, the format for the elections of the four remaining seats will still be an at large format with the exception that the four candidates with the highest vote totals will be determined as Place 3, Place 4, Place 5, and Place 6. The individual receiving the highest vote total will fill Place 5 for a term of three years. The individual receiving the second highest vote total will fill Place 6 for a term of three years. The individual receiving the third highest vote total will fill Place 3 for a term of two years. The individual receiving the fourth highest vote total will fill Place 4 for a term of two years. After the completion of the initial term of two years, all subsequent elections for Place 3 and Place 4 shall be for a term of three years.

The transition period is necessary in order to establish the Places and to set consistent term lengths. Once the transition period is completed, a true place system will be in effect for the 2021 election.

Respectfully,
Mike Whaley, CPM
Burkburnett City Manager

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

City of Burkburnett Proposition A

- FOR
- AGAINST

Shall Article IV, Sections 2, 6, 7 and 12 of the Burkburnett City Charter be amended to change the election and appointment of the members of the Board of Commissioners by: (1) electing the mayor at-large by the qualified voters of the City, (2) changing the term of office for the mayor and commissioners to three years instead of two years, (3) establishing a place system for the election of the six commissioners through an at-large election by the qualified voters of the City, (4) establishing a transition schedule from two year terms to three year terms for the mayor and commissioners and (5) establishing that the filling of a vacancy on the Board of Commissioners for an unexpired term of 12 months or less shall be by an affirmative vote of at least four of the remaining members of the Board of Commissioners and that all other vacancies will be filled by a special called election?

(1) Currently, the Mayor is elected at large as a member of the Board of Commissioners and then nominated and appointed to serve as Mayor of the Board for a period of one year.

(2) Currently, the Mayor and members of the Board, once elected, serve two-year terms.

(3) Currently, the City uses an at-large electoral system for the election of all Board members. With the current at-large system, the individuals tallying the most votes fill the vacant seats in no particular order. The proposed at-large place system would allow candidates to run for a particular seat on the Board.

(4) If the proposition is approved, this will allow for a transition period from the at-large system to the at-large place system.

(5) This action simply removes the language from the existing charter which establishes the Mayor to be nominated and appointed by the Board.

City of Burkburnett Proposition B

- FOR
- AGAINST

Shall Article IV, Section 5 of the Burkburnett City Charter be amended so that there are no term limits for the members of the Board of Commissioners?

Currently, the Board of Commissioners has a term limit of five consecutive terms.

City of Burkburnett Proposition C

- FOR
- AGAINST

Shall Article VIII, Section 8 of the Burkburnett City Charter be amended so that the requirement for calling an election for franchises within the City is consistent with the Texas Transportation Code?

This proposition amends the Charter to reflect current state law regarding franchise elections.

City of Burkburnett Proposition D

- FOR
- AGAINST

Shall Article IX, Section 7 of the Burkburnett City Charter be amended to cite the specific Tax Code provision for securing a tax warrant?

The proposition amends the Charter to reflect the current requirements in the Texas Tax Code for securing a tax warrant.

