#200-A (0-2019-2) 7/30/18

ORDINANCE NUMBER O- 20965 (NEW SERIES)

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE _____JUL_ 3 0 2018

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION AT THE MUNICIPAL SPECIAL ELECTION, CONSOLIDATED WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018, ONE MEASURE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER BY AMENDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 39.1 RELATING TO SELECTION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Constitution, article XI, section 3(b), California Elections Code (Elections Code) section 9255(a)(2), and San Diego Charter (Charter) section 223, the Council of the City of San Diego (Council) has authority to place Charter amendments on the ballot to be considered at a Municipal Election; and

WHEREAS, by San Diego Ordinance O-20963 introduced and adopted on July 17, 2018, the Council has called a Municipal Special Election to be consolidated with the California State General Election to be held November 6, 2018, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City of San Diego (City) one or more ballot measures; and

WHEREAS, the current appointment process for public members of the City's Audit Committee provided in Charter section 39.1 requires a majority of a five-member screening committee to recommend nominees from a pool of at least two candidates for each vacant position; and

WHEREAS, the current process takes at least six months to a year, and requires multiple steps to recruit and screen applicants; and

WHEREAS, City staff reports that the current appointment process often results in a limited or inadequate number of qualified applicants; and

WHEREAS, City staff recommends that Charter section 39.1 be amended to allow the Council to waive the requirement that at least two candidates be considered for an Audit Committee public member appointment when a sitting incumbent applies, and is eligible for reappointment; and

WHEREAS, the Council now desires to submit to the voters at the Municipal Special Election one measure amending Charter section 39.1 to allow the pool requirement to be waived under circumstances identified in the ballot measure; and

WHEREAS, this proposed Charter amendment was heard and reviewed by the Rules Committee, and the Council, through this Ordinance, now seeks to place the proposed amendment on the November 6, 2018, Municipal Special Election ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Council's proposal, on its own motion, of a Charter amendment is governed by California Constitution, article XI, section 3(b), Elections Code section 9255(a)(2), and California Government Code section 34458, and is not subject to veto by the Mayor; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1. One measure amending the City Charter by amending Article V, section 39.1, related to selection of public members of the City's Audit Committee is hereby submitted to the qualified voters at the Municipal Special Election to be held on November 6, 2018, and consolidated with the California State General Election to be held on the same date, with the measure to read as follows:

MEASURE

ARTICLE V

EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

SECTION 39.1: AUDIT COMMITTEE

Notwithstanding any other Charter provision to the contrary, the Audit Committee shall be appointed as provided under this section. To ensure its independence, the Audit Committee shall be composed of two members of the City Council and three members of the public. The two Councilmembers shall be appointed by the Council, one of whom shall serve as Chair of the Audit Committee. The three public members of the Audit Committee shall be appointed by the City Council from a pool of at least two candidates for each vacant position, to be recommended by a majority vote of a screening committee comprised of a member of the City Council, the Chief Financial Officer, the Independent Budget Analyst and two outside financial experts appointed by the other three members of the screening committee and confirmed by the City Council. The City Council may waive the requirement for appointment from a pool of at least two candidates when a sitting incumbent applies, and is eligible for reappointment. Public members of the Audit Committee shall possess the independence, experience and technical expertise necessary to carry out the duties of the Audit Committee. This expertise includes, but is not limited to, knowledge of accounting, auditing and financial reporting. The minimum professional standards for public members shall include at least 10 years of experience as a certified public accountant or as a certified internal auditor, or 10 years of other professional financial or legal experience in audit management. The public members of the Audit Committee

shall serve for terms of four years and until their successors have been appointed and qualified. Public members of the Audit Committee are limited to two full consecutive terms, with one term intervening before they become eligible for reappointment. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, appointments shall be made so that not more than one term of office shall expire in any one year.

The Audit Committee shall have oversight responsibility regarding the City's auditing, internal controls and any other financial or business practices required of this Committee by this Charter. The Audit Committee shall be responsible for directing and reviewing the work of the City Auditor and the City Auditor shall report directly to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall recommend the annual compensation of the City Auditor and annual budget of the Office of City Auditor to the Council and shall be responsible for an annual performance review of the City Auditor. The Audit Committee shall recommend to the Council the retention of the City's outside audit firm and, when appropriate, the removal of such firm. The Audit Committee shall monitor the engagement of the City's outside auditor and resolve all disputes between City management and the outside auditor with regard to the presentation of the City's annual financial reports. All such disputes shall be reported to the Council. The Council may specify additional responsibilities and duties of the Audit Committee by ordinance as necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this section.

END OF MEASURE

Section 2. The measure shall be presented and printed upon the ballot and submitted to the voters in the manner and form set out in Section 3 of this ordinance.

Section 3. On the ballot to be used at this Municipal Special Election, in addition to any other matters required by law, there shall be printed substantially the following:

MEASURE CHARTER AMENDMENT REGARDING REAPPOINTMENT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEMBERS. Shall City Charter section 39.1 be amended to allow the City Council to waive a requirement that the Council consider	YES	
at least two applicants for appointment to a position as a public member of the Audit Committee, when the Council wishes to reappoint a sitting public member who is eligible for another term?	NO	

- Section 4. An appropriate mark placed in the voting square after the word "Yes" shall be counted in favor of the adoption of this measure. An appropriate mark placed in the voting square after the word "No" shall be counted against the adoption of the measure.
- Section 5. Passage of this measure requires the affirmative vote of a majority of those qualified electors voting on the matter at the Municipal Special Election.
- Section 6. The City Clerk shall cause this ordinance or a digest of this ordinance to be published once in the official newspaper following this ordinance's adoption by the City Council.
- Section 7. In compliance with San Diego Municipal Code section 27.0402, this measure will be available for public examination for no fewer than ten calendar days prior to being submitted for printing in the sample ballot. During the examination period, any voter registered in the City may seek a writ of mandate or an injunction requiring any or all of the measure to be amended or deleted. The examination period will end on the day that is 75 days prior to the date set for the election. The Clerk shall post notice of the specific dates that the examination period will run.
- Section 8. A full reading of this ordinance is dispensed with prior to its passage, a written or printed copy having been available to the City Council and the public prior to the day of its passage.

Section 9. Pursuant to sections 295(b) and 295(d) of the Charter of the City of San Diego, this ordinance shall take effect on the date of passage by the City Council, which is deemed the date of its final passage.

APPROVED: MARA W. ELLIOTT, City Attorney

Ву

Prescilla Dugard

Deputy City Attorney

PMD:jdf 07/02/18

Or.Dept: IBA

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