

**New or amended language in *BOLD Italics*.
Language deletions appear as strikethroughs.**

Proposed Charter Amendment City of Wooster:

This amendment, if passed would:

- a. Clarify the Charter definition of compensation.
- b. Reduce the number of Compensation Commission members from nine to seven for ease of recruitment.
- c. Allow for flexibility in the scheduling of City Council meetings.
- d. Changes the title of “emergency ordinances” to “ordinances in need if immediate enactment.” This title allows for more clarity for the public.
- e. Allows notice of public meetings to be made electronically in addition to traditional methods.

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage

Shall Article II of the Charter of the City of Wooster be changed and amended as follows:

ARTICLE II
THE COUNCIL

SECTION 2.03. COMPENSATION AND BONDS.

Compensation and bonds for City officials and employees shall be established by ordinance of Council. ***The definition of “compensation” includes monetary compensation, such as wages, salary, and benefits.*** This does not preclude the City Administration's negotiating with City employee groups regarding wages and ~~fringe~~ benefits. Salaries ***and benefits*** of elected officials for the ensuing term shall be set at least five days prior to the last day for filing candidacy and may not be changed during the term.

Commencing on or about January 1, 2011, and every four years thereafter, Council, in consultation with the Mayor, will appoint a Compensation Commission consisting of ~~nine~~ ***seven*** resident electors who will be charged with reviewing and making recommendations to the Mayor and Council ~~of the amounts~~ ***regarding the salary amount*** to be paid the Mayor and members of Council. No more than ***four*** members of the Compensation Commission shall be of the same political party.

SECTION 2.07. MEETINGS OF COUNCIL.

In each calendar month, excepting July and August, the Council shall hold at least two regular meetings, the time and place of which shall be prescribed by ordinance. ***Meetings may be scheduled in the months of July and August as determined by the Mayor and the Council President, but are not required. Any meeting of Council may be cancelled if, as determined by the Mayor and the Council President, there is no business before Council.***

A majority of all Council members elected or duly appointed shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a lesser number may adjourn by majority vote from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance or resolution.

Special meetings may be held on the call of the Mayor or of a majority of the members and, whenever practicable, upon no less than twelve hours' notice to each member. If a member cannot be located personally, a written notice of the time and date of the special meeting shall be left at his last known place of residence in the City.

SECTION 2.11. ~~EMERGENCY~~ ORDINANCES IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT.

When necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and welfare or safety, or providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department or division, the Council, by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members, may adopt an ~~emergency~~ ordinance which shall set forth and define the specific facts necessitating *the immediate enactment of the ordinance* ~~emergency~~. Such ~~emergency~~ ordinances shall require no public hearings and shall take effect at the time indicated therein. ~~Emergency~~ Ordinances *in need of immediate enactment* shall be published as other ordinances after passage.

SECTION 2.12. ACTIONS NOT PERMITTED TO BE *IMMEDIATELY ENACTED AS EMERGENCIES*.

No action of Council authorizing the surrender or joint exercise of its powers, or in granting a franchise, or in establishing new positions, classified and unclassified, or in the enactment, amendment or repeal of any zoning or building resolution or ordinance, or in the changing of any ward boundaries, or in authorizing any change in the boundaries of the Municipality, shall be enacted *immediately* as an ~~emergency ordinance~~.

SECTION 2.17. PUBLICATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES.

All resolutions and ordinances must be published after enactment by title, number, and summary within the City. Such publication shall announce that a copy of the resolution or ordinance is available at the office of the Clerk of Council. As used in this Charter, the terms "published" and "publication" shall mean to post the legislation or summary thereof in at least three public places as are designated by ordinance of Council, and to take such other actions as may be provided by Council. *One of the three public places may be publishing by means of electronic media.*