

Notice of Receipt of Ballot Title for the May 19, 2020 Primary Election

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on February 26th, the City of Happy Valley Elections Officer received a ballot title for a charter amendment referred by the Happy Valley City Council to voters at the May 19, 2020 election.

Any elector may file a petition for review of the ballot title with the Clackamas County Circuit Court no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 6th (the 7th business day after the ballot title was filed with the City Elections Officer) under ORS 250.296. The elector must notify the City Elections Official (City Recorder) in writing that the petition has been filed. That notice must be given no later than 5:00 p.m. on the next business day following the day the petition is filed.

The ballot title is:

CAPTION: CHARTER AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING MAYORAL STIPEND COVERING EXPENSES OF HOLDING OFFICE

QUESTION: Shall the City Charter be amended to authorize a mayoral stipend to pay for expenses associated with holding office?

SUMMARY: The Mayor serves as the City’s political leader. In this role, the Mayor incurs regular and ordinary expenses associated with holding office, including transportation and parking costs, registration fees, and expenditures for office supplies.

Currently, these expenses must be paid by the Mayor personally or may be reimbursed by the City. The City recognizes this may represent a barrier for some community members to run for Mayor.

This measure, if approved, would amend the Charter to provide the Mayor with a \$750 monthly stipend to cover these expenses. The initial stipend amount would be modified annually for cost of living adjustments. The City’s budget committee will provide oversight of the stipend amount every even numbered year, at a minimum. Their review will ensure the stipend in place adequately covers the expenses associated with holding office. At any time, the Council may temporarily decrease or suspend the stipend if it is not needed.

The stipend would be paid beginning in July 2020. The Mayor would be prohibited from participating in any budget committee decisions related to stipend adjustments.