



Dina C. Minneci
City Manager

February 2020

Dear Indian Hill Registered Voter:

On March 17, 2020, Indian Hill residents will have the opportunity to vote on Issue 1. Issue 1 represents several revisions to the City's Charter which are aimed at improving operations while bringing the Charter up-to-date and in line with other municipalities.

In May, 2019, Village Council established a Charter Review Committee. The four primary goals of the Committee were:

- (1) to make the Charter easier to understand and use;
- (2) to eliminate discrepancies and clarify confusing language within the Charter;
- (3) to highlight home rule authority which allows the Village, rather than the State, to determine practices that best fit the community; and
- (4) to bring the Charter in line with current best practices.

To meet these goals, the Charter required revision and reorganization, with a significant portion of the changes being stylistic in nature. Updates on the Charter recommendations were provided on a monthly basis in the Indian Hill Bulletin and on the Village's website.

The Committee's recommendations were discussed at the September 2019 Community Forum and were presented to Council in three separate readings, including a public hearing. On November 18, 2019, Council unanimously approved Ordinance 12-19 to be placed on the March 17, 2020 ballot.

The primary substantive Issue 1 charter amendments are highlighted as redline changes in this mailing to ease your review. The secondary revisions that the Charter Review Committee considered important but less substantive are also included in this document, but not highlighted as a redline. You may visit www.ihill.org if you would like to view either all revisions as a redline or just the Charter's final appearance if approved at www.ihill.org. The official ballot language you will see in March is on the back of this letter, and the proposed Charter amendments have also been published in the Court Index.

As with any election, Indian Hill encourages all voters to exercise their right to vote on March 17th. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at dminneci@ihill.org or 513-561-6500.

Sincerely,

Dina C. Minneci
City Manager

**MARCH 17, 2020 ELECTION
ISSUE 1
BALLOT LANGUAGE**

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

The Charter Review Committee for the City of the Village of Indian Hill (the "Village") recommends the following changes:

- Insertion of Article and Section headings, addition of a table of contents, and reorganization throughout.
- Removal or replacement of gender specific pronouns with gender neutral references
- Ensure consistency in naming, numbering, and capitalization throughout. Remove obsolete provisions referring to position of Treasurer.
- **Article 3, Section 3.2 and Article 4, Section 4.1** Reduce the timeframe for ordinances to become effective to 30 days unless passed as an emergency.
- **Article 4, Section 4.2** Clarify the involvement of the County Board of Elections in the petition initiative and referendum processes.
- **Article 5** Update to account for the current population of the Village.
- **Article 6, Sections 6.3-6.5** Increase threshold contract amounts within the Charter and clarify certain provisions within the budgeting, purchasing, and contract processes.
- **Article 6, Section 6.4** Allow the Village to establish the circumstances to go out to bid before purchasing.
- **Article 6, Section 6.5** Permit a supermajority of Council to dispose of real property outside the public bid process.
- **Article 9** Reaffirm the authority of the Village to establish or contract with an entity to provide police and fire services, acknowledging that the entity providing police services shall always be known as the Indian Hill Rangers.

Shall the proposed revised charter, as reported by the Charter Review Committee of the City of the Village of Indian Hill be adopted?

YES

NO