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MEMO

TO: Burlington City Council

FROM: Kenneth A. Schatz, Esq., City Attorney *KAS*

RE: Utilization of short titles; short form questions for proposed charter changes

DATE: January 19, 2011

Consistent with our usual and customary practice, I would request the City Council to pass a motion at its January 24 meeting approving the use of the attached summaries of the ballot questions on the proposed charter change amendments. The motion should state that summaries are being utilized because the City Council determines the questions are too long or unwieldy to be set out in complete form. It should also be noted for the record that complete copies are available for inspection in the Chief Administrator's Office and available to individuals upon request to the Chief Administrator's Office.

Enclosures

lb/c: KAS 2011/City Council re Short Form Questions for 3-1-11 Annual City Meeting

Short Form Titles and Text for March, 2011 Annual City Meeting Charter Change Questions

Charter Change – Majority Vote Required for Election of Mayor

Shall Sec. 5 of the Burlington City Charter be amended to increase the percentage of votes needed to elect a mayor from a 40% plurality to at least 50% of all votes cast for that office?

Charter Change – Composition of Board of Finance

Shall Sec. 154 of the Burlington City Charter be amended to change the composition of the board of finance by making the chief administrative officer a non-voting member and adding an additional city councilor?

Charter Change – City Council Rules, Valid Majority

Shall Sec. 48(46) of the Burlington City Charter be amended to clarify the city council's authority to enact rules providing that as long as a quorum exists, a valid majority for taking action may be a concurrence of a majority of those present and voting?