

Fiscal Note

Any fiscal impacts are anticipated to be minimal. Beginning in 2025, alders will be elected to staggered terms with some alders being on the ballot every year. No appropriation is required.

Title

Amending Sections 2.03(3) and (5) of the Madison General Ordinances related to filling Common Council vacancies to amend the process for filling Common Council vacancies.

Body

DRAFTER’S ANALYSIS: This ordinance requires the Common Council Executive Committee to rank its top two preferred candidates to fill a vacancy in the position of alder. It also requires that, when a vacancy occurs on or prior to November 15th, that a special election be held at the following Spring Election to elect a successor to the appointed alder.

The Common Council of the City of Madison do hereby ordain as follows:

1. Subsection (3) of Section 2.03 entitled “Procedure to Fill Vacancies on the Common Council” of the Madison General Ordinances is amended as follows:

“(3) The Common Council Executive Committee shall review the applications and, following opportunities for personal candidate interviews, shall recommend to the Common Council a candidate selected for confirmation to fill the vacancy. ~~If more than one individual applies for the position, the Committee shall rank at least its top two preferred candidates.~~ If the Common Council Executive Committee is unable to agree on a candidate to recommend, it may recommend more than one candidate, or it may reopen the application process to seek additional applicants.”

2. Subsection (5) of Section 2.03 entitled “Procedure to Fill Vacancies on the Common Council” of the Madison General Ordinances is amended as follows:

“(5) The If a vacancy occurs after November 15th of the first year of an alder’s term, the appointed and confirmed candidate shall serve until an alderperson is elected pursuant to sec. 17.23(1), Wis. Stats. and is qualified. If a vacancy occurs on or prior to November 15th of the first year of an alder’s term, the appointed and confirmed candidate shall serve until an alderperson is elected at a special election scheduled on the same day as the Spring Election of the following year.”