

MEASURE Q

FULL TEXT

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF SUISUN CITY SETTING TERM LIMITS FOR OFFICES OF MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL BY ADDING SECTION 2.04.060 “TERM LIMITS” TO CHAPTER 2.04 OF TITLE 2 OF THE SUISUN CITY MUNICIPAL CODE

WHEREAS, the City of Suisun City currently does not have term limits for the offices of the Mayor and members of the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, the anticipated positive aspects of term limits for the offices of the Mayor and members of the City Council include the following:

- Encourages new people to get involved in local government
- Broadens the base of potential candidates
- Encourages fresh ideas
- Provides voters with more choices
- Increases voter turnout
- Encourages broader representation of different neighborhoods; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable that term limits be established for the elected offices of Mayor and members of the City Council, and it is the purpose and intent of this Ordinance to achieve the positive impacts of term limits mentioned above pursuant to Government Code Section 36502.

NOW THEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, the People of the City of Suisun City, at the November 3, 2020, general municipal election do hereby Ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are all true and correct and are incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. New Section 2.04.060. A new Section 2.04.060, entitled “TERM LIMITS” is hereby added to Chapter 2.04 of Title 2 of the Suisun City Municipal Code to read as follows:

“Section 2.04.060. Term Limits.

- A. Except as provided below, no person shall be elected or appointed to more than four (4) terms as an elected Mayor or member of the City Council in the City of Suisun City. For the purposes of calculating the number of terms in the limitation on terms of office, the terms served by a person elected or appointed to an elected office of the City Council in the City of Suisun City shall be aggregated with terms served by that person in any other elected office of the City Council in the City of Suisun City. Except that a City Council member with four (4) terms can serve up to two (2) terms as Mayor.

- B. The limitation on terms of office described in this section shall not apply to any unexpired term to which a person is elected or appointed if the remainder of the term is less than one-half of the full term of office.
- C. The term limits described in this section shall apply prospectively to terms of office beginning after the November 2020 election.”

SECTION 3. COUNCIL AUTHORITY TO AMEND AND INTERPRET. This is a City Council-sponsored initiative Ordinance which otherwise would only be subject to amendment by the voters of the City. However, pursuant to Elections Code Section 9217, the City Council shall have and retain the right and authority to amend the Ordinance to further its purposes and intent (including but not limited to amendment for more efficient administration as determined by the City Council). The City Council shall have the further authority to interpret this Ordinance by resolution to address unique situations where a councilmember serves as mayor and a mayor serves as a councilmember to further its purposes and intent.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The People of the City of Suisun City hereby declared that they would have passed each subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase be declared unconstitutional.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. If a majority of the voters of the City of Suisun City voting at the General Municipal Election of November 3, 2020, vote in favor of this Ordinance, then this Ordinance shall become a valid and binding ordinance of the City of Suisun City, and shall be considered as adopted upon the date that the vote is declared by the City Council of the City of Suisun City, and this Ordinance shall go into effect ten (10) days after that date, pursuant to Election Code section 9217.

SECTION 6. PASSAGE AND EXECUTION. The Mayor shall sign this Ordinance and the City Clerk shall attest and certify to the approval thereof and cause same to be published or posted pursuant to law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the voters of the City of Suisun City at an election held on November 3, 2020.

Lori D. Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linda Hobson, CMC
City Clerk

Ordinance No. ____ was submitted to the People of the City of Suisun City at the November 3, 2020, general municipal election. It was approved by the following vote of the electors:

YES: _____

NO: _____