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SENATE BILL NO. 164

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 10, 2022

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 1 and 4 of the charter of the Town of Appomattox in Appomattox County, which was granted by order of the Circuit Court of the County of Appomattox on June 2, 1925, and as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of Assembly of 1980, and as further amended by Chapters 134 and 135 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I, relating to election and appointment of officers; time of election.

 Patron—Peake

 Referred to Committee on Local Government

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 1 and 4 of the charter of the Town of Appomattox in Appomattox County, which was granted by order of the Circuit Court of the County of Appomattox on June 2, 1925, and as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of Assembly of 1980, and as further amended by Chapters 134 and 135 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I, are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 1. Election and appointment of officers, etc.

There shall be elected by the qualified voters of said town, ~~every two years on the first Tuesday in May of every even-numbered year,~~ one elector thereof who shall be denominated the mayor, and six electors, who shall be denominated the councilmen of said town. The mayor and six councilmen shall constitute the council of said town. The town council shall have the authority to appoint or employ a town clerk, a treasurer, a commissioner of revenue, a town manager, a health or sanitary officer, and such other officers as it may deem appropriate for the proper conduct of government of the town. The same person may serve in one or more of such capacities. The town council shall have the power to fix the salaries and compensation of said employees and appointees as necessary, but such compensation shall be fixed by said council before the individual chosen shall assume the duties of office. The town council may also appoint committees and boards and prescribe and fix their duties.

§ 4. Terms of office - vacancy and how filled.

The mayor and members of council in office on July 1, 2021, shall continue in office until the expiration of the terms for which they were elected or until their successors are elected and qualified. At the next election of members to the town council held on the ~~first Tuesday following the first Monday in May~~ *November* 2022, the three council candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected for ~~three-and-one-half year~~ *four-year* terms, and the three council candidates receiving the next greatest number of votes and the mayor shall be elected for ~~one-and-one-half year~~ *two-year* terms. Thereafter, the council members shall be elected for terms of four years, and the mayor shall be elected for a term of two years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. An election shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November ~~2023~~ *2024* for the three council seats first expiring and for the mayor, and on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November ~~2025~~ *2026* for the three council seats next expiring *and for the mayor*. Elections thereafter shall be held every two years on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. The term of each person elected under this section at a November election shall begin on January 1 next following the election. In case of a vacancy in the office of mayor, or councilmen, elected by the electors of said town, caused by death, resignation or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the town council from the electors of the town for the unexpired term.

INTRODUCED

SB164