

**ORDINANCE NO.479  
CITY OF ADA  
COUNTY OF NORMAN  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CHARTER SECTIONS 2.03, 2.05, 4.03 AND 4.04**

The City Council of the City of Ada does ordain as follows:

**SECTION 1. Purpose and Intent:** The City Council has received a recommendation to eliminate wards for the composition of the City Council members.

**SECTION 2. Amendments to City Charter.** The following sections of the City Charter shall be amended to read as follows:

**City Code § 2.03 – Council Composition and Election.**

The Council shall be composed of a mayor and seven council members. ~~The major and three council members shall be elected at large, and four council members shall be elected by wards, two from each ward.~~ The mayor and all council members shall be elected at large. Each council member and the mayor shall serve for a term of four (4) years and until a successor is elected and qualifies. All elective officers shall be qualified electors of the City. ~~or ward in which they shall be elected.~~

**City Code § 2.05- Vacancies.**

An elective office becomes vacant when the person elected or appointed thereto dies before taking office or fails to qualify; or the incumbent dies; resigns in writing filed with the city clerk; is convicted of a felony; ceases to reside in the City ~~or, in the case of a ward council member, the ward from which elected;~~ or is adjudged incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction. In each such case the council shall by resolution declare the vacancy to exist and shall forthwith appoint an eligible person to fill the vacancy. If the unexpired term is more than twenty-eight (28) months, the appointee shall serve only until the day for commencement of new terms of office following the next municipal election and until a successor is chosen at that election for the unexpired term.

**City Code § 4.03- Filing for Office.**

Filing for elective office will be in accordance to the schedule established in State of Minnesota statutes for election laws. Any voter of the City qualified under the State of Minnesota Constitution for elective office may, by filing an affidavit and paying a filing fee to the city clerk, have their name placed on the municipal election ballot. ~~In addition to the candidates for offices to be filled by election at large, only the names of the candidates for council member in one ward shall appear on the ballots for that ward.~~ All affidavits and filing fees must be filed with the city clerk before the close of normal business hours on the last day of filing.

**City Code § 4.04 – Wards.**

The ~~present~~ division of the City shall not include wards, and each council member shall serve the City at large. Any amendment to establish wards shall be conducted in accordance with Minnesota law. ~~into two wards with their existing boundaries shall be continued until changed by ordinance. Wards shall be as equal in population as practicable and each ward shall be composed of compact, contiguous territory. Each ward council member shall be a resident of the ward from which elected, but a change in ward boundaries does not disqualify a council member from serving for the remainder of his term.~~

~~*Subd. 2. Redefining Ward Boundaries.* The council by ordinance may redefine ward boundaries after any regular municipal election. Within six months after the official certification of each federal decennial or special census, the council shall either confirm the existing ward boundaries as conforming to the standards of subdivision 1 or redefine ward boundaries to conform to those standards. Any ordinance establishing new ward boundaries shall apply to the first election held at least six months after adoption of the ordinance. No division or redivision of the city into wards shall be made until the council has held a public hearing on the proposed ordinance after two weeks' published notice.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage and publication according to state law. This ordinance shall be placed on file at the City of Ada City Hall for public review.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Ada, Minnesota this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

CITY OF ADA

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Hintz  
Interim Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Larson  
City Administrator