

# Burleigh County Home Rule Charter Commission Tom Baker Room, City/County Office Building, 221 N 5<sup>th</sup> St, Bismarck 3:00 pm



## October 4, 2023

## 3:00 PM

#### **HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION**

- 1. Meeting called to order.
- 2. Roll call of members.
- 3. Approval of September 6<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.
- 4. Review of requested information from September 6<sup>th</sup> meeting:
  - a. Ballot language.
- 5. Work on a Policy for the sales tax
- 6. Added discussion items future meetings.
- 7. Other Business:
- 8. Adjourn.

Mark Splonskowski
Burleigh County Auditor/Treasurer/Tax

## HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2023

#### 3:00PM

Chair Munson called the meeting of the Home Rule Charter Commission to order.

Roll call of members: Chair Munson, Comm. Schwab, Emergency Manager Mary Senger, Representative Pat Heinert, and Dustin Gawrylow. Auditor Mark Splonskowski and Deputy Finance Director Justin Schulz were also present. Absent were Kay LaCoe and State's Attorney Julie Lawyer.

Chair Munson asked for a moment of silence to remember Commissioner Becky Matthews and her family.

Motion by Mary Senger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rep. Heinert to approve the Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 meeting minutes. All members present voted "AYE". Motion carried.

Chair Munson then began a review of the requested information from the Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 meeting. The first item to discuss was possible options for the Home Rule Charter ballot language. Five options were presented which was what was put before the residents on sales tax for the Detention Center back in 2014. We could use similar language such as:

#### OPTION #1

Shall the Home Rule Charter as published in the Bismarck Tribune on May 17 and May 24, 2014, be approved?

#### **OPTION #2**

Shall the Home Rule Charter as published in the Bismarck Tribune on May 17 and May 24, 2014, authorizing a one-half cent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding the construction of a Detention Center and the demolition and remodeling of the current Detention Center be approved?

#### **OPTION #3**

Shall the Home Rule Charter as published in the Bismarck Tribune on May 17 and May 24, 2014, authorizing a temporary one-half cent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding the construction of a Detention Center be approved?

#### **OPTION #4**

Shall the Burleigh County HOME RULE CHARTER as published in The Bismarck Tribune authorizing a temporary one-half cent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding the construction of a new Detention Center and renovation of the existing facility with said Home Rule Charter and sales tax terminating upon payment of financing all costs bonds for the project be approved?

### OPTION #5

Shall Burleigh County enact a HOME RULE CHARTER authorizing a temporary one-half cent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding the construction of a new Detention Center and renovation of the existing facility with said Home Rule Charter and sales tax terminating upon payment of bonds for the project?

A "YES" vote means you approve the enactment of a Burleigh County Home Rule Charter.

A "NO" vote means you do not approve the enactment of a Burleigh County Home Rule Charter.

Ms. Senger stated that she likes the language of Option 5 since not everyone receives the Bismarck Tribune, plus the language is more descriptive. Mr. Gawrylow added that the language that goes on the ballot is the condensed version of what goes into the amendment. There were no further comments or questions. Chair Munson then referred everyone to the graph representing the proposed budget covered by Property Tax. The information on the graph is based on a one cent tax using the 2022 collection rate for a total of \$21.6 million in sales tax and 2024 Preliminary Budget amounts. The "buckets" are Burleigh-Morton County Detention Center (\$6,792,326), the Sheriff's Department (\$8,156,422), State's Attorney (\$4,940,294), and Commission Discretionary Funds (\$1,710,958) with the Total Tax Levy (\$31,498,018) in relationship to the Total Tax Levy replaced by Sales Tax (\$21,600,000). This is about a two-thirds reduction in property sales tax. Comm. Schwab thinks the language should be using mills as that is what the public understands. Comm. Munson disagreed stating that many people don't know what a mill is. Ms. Senger stated that we should be discussing this in dollar amounts and not mills, and Rep. Heinert added that he introduced legislation at the request of North Dakota citizens requesting that language on bills be stated in dollars and cents and not in mills, so the public is able to better understand it. Chair Munson asked for a vote as to who was in favor of the bucket method to buy down property tax for the residents of the county. Rep. Heinert, Chair Munson, Mr. Gawrylow, Ms Senger all voted "AYE". Comm. Schwab voted "NAY". Motion passed.

Mr. Shulz suggested that what we are really giving the residents of Burleigh County three options: 1. Do they want a ½ cent sales tax to buy down property tax by funding through the bucket method? 2. Do they want a one cent sales tax to buy down property tax by funding through the bucket method? 3. Do they want no sales tax and fund county government by property tax? Those are the actual questions we are asking the citizens. Auditor Splonskowski will check to see if we can put this in a three-question format asking the residents to vote for one. Mr. Gawrylow questioned whether the Statute for Home Rule Charter would allow for a multiple-choice question on a ballot and thinks it needs to be a yes or no vote. Chair Munson thinks we should eliminate question 1 and just keep it either a one cent tax or no sales tax. Rep. Heinert suggested two distinct yes/no questions. Chair Munson took a vote on whether all members were in favor of a one cent sales tax to offset the buckets. All members present indicated that they were. Chair Munson wants to ask State's Attorney Lawyer if we can put this into two yes/no statements and what kind of language to have. Mr. Shulz suggested labeling the Commission Discretionary Fund as "General Fund/Property Tax Buy Down" to avoid issues with the public. Sheriff Leben who attended the meeting stated that the City of Bismarck is paying the county \$66 a day per inmate currently. It is \$75 a day per inmate for the City of Lincoln. Bismarck/Mandan and City of Lincoln's daily rate is set to increase to \$75 a day per inmate beginning in January 2024. Rep. Heinert stated that \$75 per inmate per day is significantly low compared to other areas of the country. He suggests setting a dollar amount like a minimum of \$250,000 to offset costs to the Sheriff's budget. Sheriff Leben stated that a certain percentage of the daily rate could be set to reduce the daily rate for the city to avoid future negotiation problems with the federal government. He stated that the Detention Center is losing money even at the rate of \$75 a day as they are really more at \$100 a day in cost per inmate. Comm. Munson along with Mr. Gawrylow stated that we should have clarified language on the ballot should the residents not vote for property taxes in case the state decides to reduce funding to the county. Auditor Splonskowski stated that the Secretary of State needs to have the ballot measures no later than 100 days before the election, which would be Mar. 3rd, 2024. He will confirm this with State's Attorney Lawyer. Comm. Munson stated that the Home Rule Charter Commission should have this ballot measure language in place by the end of January, and Mr.

Gawrylow suggested having one more meeting to get State's Attorney Lawyer's language on it, plus having one public meeting on it to get feedback. Comm. Munson confirmed that Oct. 4th will be the next Home Rule Charter meeting. Ms. Senger will follow up with State's Attorney Lawyer in the meantime to confirm proper ballot language. It was also confirmed that we are not including the word "temporary" on the ballot. Mr. Gawyrlow made a motion to submit his draft ballot language in the document he handed out as a suggested starting point. Comm. Schwab disagrees as the language is too confusing. He also disagrees with language stating that the Home Rule Charter Commission gives the County Commission authority and is concerned that we need to reschedule wages for county employees by winter before we lose everyone to other nearby counties as they pay significantly more than Burleigh County. Comm. Munson suggested that a better word would be that the Home Rule Charter Commission "recommends" to the County Commission. Ms. Senger asked if what we are wanting to see then is a generalized term that the one percent is going to reduce property tax by a certain dollar amount and that it all goes to general fund buy down or property tax relief? Comm. Schwab stated that it needs to be simple and it's just about reducing property taxes and that we shouldn't be picking and choosing departments to fund as it excludes others. Rep. Heinert stated that he prefers to identify a percentage of the total that can go into reserve funds and wants to see that number capped. Chair Munson stated that we currently have \$1.7 million leftover in discretionary funds, however we don't want to call it discretionary, but we could say 50% would go towards reserves and 50% to additional property tax relief. Mr. Schulz stated that we already budget for reserves so we would really only need language stating that the remaining balance would go to additional property tax relief. He added that we would budget the previous year's tax collections so that whatever the need is for next year's budget would be used by what we collected for taxes in the previous year. For example, if we came in \$1 million under budget for expenses, we would roll that into general fund reserves so we would have more available for the next year's budget cycle property tax buy down.

Meeting adjourned.	
Mark Splonskowski, County Auditor/Treasurer	Wayne Munson, Chairman

## Section 6 – Political Party Presidential Caucuses 2024

An established political party can choose to hold a presidential caucus or rely on some other selection process recognized by the national party. The timeline and process is decided by the individual political party and is not covered under the North Dakota Century Code. Please contact the individual political party for more information.

North Dakota Republican Party 1029 5th St N Bismarck ND 58501 (701) 255-0030 info@ndgop.org www.ndgop.org North Dakota Democratic-NPL Party 1902 E. Divide Ave. Bismarck ND 58501 (701) 255-0460 people@demnpl.com www.demnpl.com

# Section 7 – Primary Election – 2024

Congressional, Statewide, Legislative District, Judicial District, and County Offices

## A. Election Date: June 11, 2024

The primary election is held on the second Tuesday in June. NDCC § 16.1-11-01

### B. Placement of Candidate's Name on Ballot

To place his or her name on the ballot, a candidate may choose one of the following two options: <u>Certificate of Endorsement</u> (political party nominee) or <u>Petition</u>. The forms are available from either the Secretary of State or the County Auditor.

## **B.1 Certificate of Endorsement – Political Party Nominee**

Candidates for congressional, statewide, and legislative office who are nominees of a political party must file a <u>Certificate of Endorsement</u> with the Secretary of State. <u>Certificates of Endorsement</u> may not be filed with the Secretary of State prior to January 2, 2024\* and <u>must be</u> in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64<sup>th</sup> day before the Primary Election. <u>NDCC §§ 16.1-11-06</u> and <u>16.1-11-11</u>

### **B.1.a** Filing Dates for Certificate of Endorsement

### **B.2** Petition

Congressional, Statewide, or Judicial Candidates: If the office sought is under a political party designation, signatures on petitions must be obtained from qualified electors equal to at least 3% of the total vote cast at the last General Election for that party's candidate for the same office. However, no more than 300 signatures are required. If the office sought did not have a candidate from that party on the ballot in the preceding General Election, or if the office sought has a no-party designation, at least 300 signatures are required on petitions. Candidates must file a petition with the Secretary of State to have their name placed on the ballot. Petitions may not be circulated or signed prior to January 1, 2024. Petitions may not be filed earlier than January 2, 2024 and must be in the physical possession of the Secretary of State no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 64th day before the election. NDCC §§ 16.1-11-06 and 16.1-11-15.

<sup>\*</sup>The first day to file endorsements falls on a state holiday making the next business day the first permissible filing day.

# **GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 2018**

ō	STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA	Е	BURLEIGH COUNTY	F	Sunrise School
					The second secon
Vot	County Sheriff e for no more than ONE name		iated Statutory Measure No. 3	Ob -11 A.4:-	CITY MEASURE I
0	Nolan Canright	Dakota Ce marijuana	ed measure would amend the North entury Code by removing hashish, and tetrahydrocannabinols from the	City of Bis	tle 3 of the Home Rule Charter for the imarck be amended: d Article 3, section 17 to add an
0	Kelly Leben	section 19 66-01, whi	edule I controlled substances in -03.1-05. It would create chapter ch would define the terms marijuana	tax with	1/2 cent sales, use and gross receipts the proceeds to be dedicated to arterial street construction and
	7-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1	prosecutio	ana paraphernalia and prohibit in of any person over the age of 21 for		ction within the following :  Ave/Ash Coulee Dr from Tyler
Superv Vot	risor, Soil Conservation District e for no more than ONE name	(including selling, or	olent marijuana related activity growing, manufacturing, distributing, testing marijuana) or drug alia relating to any non-violent	Parl b. Cent	way to 66th St tennial Road from I-94 to 43rd Ave Ave from 26th St to 66th St
0	David Carpenter	marijuana marijuana	to a person under the sale of to a person under the age of 21. Any in the North Dakota Century Code that	180	e Street from Calgary Ave to ND 4/71st Ave hington St from Burleigh Ave to South
	County Official Newspaper	conflicts w prohibition	ith chapter 66-01, including the s on prosecution, is nullified and The measure also would add	f. Centu	narčk Drainage Ditch ury Ave from Centennial Rd to 66th St r Parkway from Valley Dr to 57th Ave
Vot	county Official Newspaper e for no more than ONE name	penalties f twenty-one	or individuals under the age of e in possession of, or attempting to marijuana; and provide penalties for	h. 57th said tax t	Ave from Washington St to State St to be discontinued after 10 years of or upon the completion of the project
	The Bismarck Tribune	individuals under the	s who distribute marijuana to anyone age of twenty-one. It would amend		hichever occurs first.
Vote by	darkening the oval ( ) next to "YEŞ" or "NO" following the	19-03.4-01 controlled 25-03.1-45 expungem	on of drug paraphernalia in section to apply only to non-marijuana substances. It would amend section to require the automatic ent of the record of an individual who		YES - A "yes" vote means that you approve this proposed amendment to the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck as published in the Bismarck Tribune.
not requi appearin	ion of each measure. A voter is red to vote upon each measure g on this ballot.	that has be process fo did not exp the state's	conviction for a controlled substance een legalized; create an appeals r an individual who believes the state bunge a record properly, and eliminate sovereign immunity for damages	7	NO - A "no" vote means that you reject his proposed amendment to Home Rule Charter for the City
1000000 00 00 00	ed Constitutional Measure No. 1 ed measure would add a new article	resulting fr	rom expungement lawsuits.	-	of Bismare ribune.
to the Nor North Dak	th Dakota Constitution establishing a ota ethics commission. The on, using funds provided by the	0	YES - means you approve the measure summarized above.		Sillar Alliudic.
legislature	, would be responsible for adopting ed to corruption, elections, and	0	NO - means you reject summarized above.		CITY MEASURE II
lobbying a	and for reporting and investigating plations of those rules and related	Init	iated Statutory Mea. e No.	City of Bis	marck be amended:
state laws prohibition and delive	. The measure would provide for is for lobbyists related to gift giving iy of campaign contributions and	to chapter Code requ	ed measure way add a section 39-04 of the Normal Akota tury iring the Department	existing 25	end Article 3, section 17(a) to limit the 5 mill property tax reduction to 25 mills 9 value of the mill.
use of can interest in would dire laws that r disclosure medium a	is for public officials against lobbying, npaign contributions, and conflicts of certain proceedings. The measure ct the legislative assembly to enact equire electronically accessible public of the source of funds spent (in any often amount greater than two ollars) to influence statewide and	plates to v plates wou volunteers to all	ation to issue red p soon red venicle olun regency espon ins. The lidd be room on set to the and woon serve a entrance pass a Dakota stall parks. Qualifications a procedur for the plates would ated to Department of the plates would ated to Department of the plates would be procedured to the plates would be proc		YES - A "yes" vote means that you approve this proposed amendment to the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck as published in the Bismarck Tribune.
legislative measures state gove this article	elections and statewide ballot or to lobby or otherwise influence rement action. In a conflict between and any other provision in the last onstitution, the provisions of this article	rganizal	YES - means you approve the measure summarized above.  NO - means you reject the measure summarized above.	0	NO - A "no" vote means that you reject this proposed amendment to the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck as published in the Bismarck Tribune.
	YES - means you approve the measure summarized above.			Shall Artic	CITY MEASURE III
0	NO - means you reject the measure summarized above.			City of Bis	marck be amended:
This initiat the North a citizen" of elector, ins states "ever qualified e	ed Constitutional Measure No. 2 ed measure would amend Article II of Dakota Constitution to state that "only of the United States is a qualified stead of the current provision that any citizen" of the United States is a lector. The measure also would state qualified elector may vote in any			existing se approved language changes it sales tax	7, a-f, to remove expired language in ection 17, a-f relating to previously and completed projects, to add required by and consistent with recent n state law regarding the streamlined and to re-number sections as te, and to include remote sales in tax
general, st	pecial, or primary election for a atewide, state legislative, district, wnship, city, or school district office or			0	YES - A "yes" vote means that you approve this proposed amendment to the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck as published in the Bismarck Tribune.
0	YES - means you approve the measure summarized above.				NO - A "no" vote means that you reject this proposed amendment to
0	NO - means you reject the measure summarized above.				the Home Rule Charter for the City of Bismarck as published in the Bismarck Tribune.
				V	OTE BOTH SIDES
<u> و</u>	Sunrise School	Е		F	Typ:01 Seq:0003 Spl:01

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STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA BUBI FIGH COUNTY Shiloh Christian School Commission President City of Bismarck Vote for no more than ONE name **MEASURES BALLOT NO-PARTY PRIMARY** BALLOT Vote by darkening the oval ( ) next to the word "YES" or "NO" following the explanation of each measure. A voter is not required to vote upon each measure appearing on this ballot. Mike Seminary To vote for the candidate of your choice, you must darken the oval ( ) next to the name of that candidate. Constitutional Measure No. 1 (House Concurrent Resolution No. 3034, 2013 Session Laws, Ch. 518) To vote for a person whose name is not 2013 Session Laws, Ch. 518)
This constitutional measure would amend and reenact sections 5, 6, and 7 of Article III of the North Dakota Constitution by changing the filing deadline for the submission of initiated measure petitions from ninety days to one hundred twenty days before a statewide election, and by providing that any challenges regarding measure petitions must be filled with the Supreme Court no later than seventy-five days before the election printed on the ballot, you must darken the oval ( ) next to the blank line provided and write that person's name on the blank line. Commissioner City of Bismarck Vote for no more than TWO names Justice of the Supreme Court Vote for no more than ONE name Myka Miller Gerald W VandeWalle Josh Askvig Steve Marquardt Judge of the District Court South Central Judicial District Judgeship No. 1 Vote for no more than ONE name Michael Motschenbacher YES - Means you approve the measure as summarized above. **Duane Pool** David E Reich Doug Philp NO - Means you reject the measure as summarized above. Kimberly A Badenhop 0 Judge of the District Court South Central Judicial District Judgeship No. 6 Vote for no more than ONE name Burleigh County Measure No. 1
BURLEIGH COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER Nancy Guy Shall the Home Rule Charter, as published in 0 Shall me Home Fulle Unaffer, as published in the Bismarck Tribune authorizing a temporary one half cent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding the construction of a Detention Center and renovation of the existing facility with said Home Rule Charter terminating upon payment of bonds for the project, be approved? **Gail Hagerty Park Board Member** City of Bismarck Vote for no more than THREE names Judge of the District Court South Central Judicial District Judgeship No. 7 Vote for no more than ONE name O YES Harley Engelman O NO School District Measure No. 1
BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
PUBLICATION OF MINUTES Thomas J Schneider Jason T Starck Shall a record of the proceedings of the Bis arck School by blished in the offi all newspape of the district? Julie Jeske County Commission for no more than THREE YES **Brad Feldman** NO Kathleen Jones Jerry Saude 0 School Board Member Jim Peluso Bismarck Public School District #1
Vote for no more than THREE names **Doug Schonert** LaRoy Baird Karl Lembke 0 Matthew Sagsveen Rissa Williams Karalee Harper County Auditor/Treasurer /ote for no more than ONE name Michael A Holly Kevin J Glatt Scott Halvorson County State's Attorney ote for no more than ONE name Richard J Riha County Recorder for no more than ONE name Debbie Kroshus County Sheriff Vote for no more than ONE n Patrick D Heinert County Official Newspaper Vote for no more than ONE name **VOTE BOTH SIDES** The Bismarck Tribune Shiloh Christian School Typ:01 Seq:0003 Spl:01