

Questions & Answers

(2024 Marco Island City Charter Amendments)

1. What are the proposed two changes to the City Charter?

Establishment of the Office of the City Mayor who will be elected directly by Marco Island voters and having City Clerk report directly to the elected City Council.

2. What will be the role of the Mayor?

Mayor will be the elected official head of the City Government.

3. What will be the salary of the Mayor?

Mayor will have the same salary as the current salary of Council Chair - \$9,000 annually.

4. What will be the office terms of the Mayor?

Same as other City Council members – maximum of two (2) four (4) year terms in a lifetime.

5. On what dates elections will be held relating to the proposed changes?

Two charter amendment questions will be presented during the presidential preference primary election that will be held on March 19, 2024. Should the proposed change regarding the Mayor pass, first mayoral election will be held along with the regular City Council election on November 5, 2024.

6. Will there be any fiscal impact relating to these changes?

No. City Clerk is an existing position with all the necessary funding. Mayor's salary will be same as to be eliminated Council Chairman's (\$9,000 annually).

7. What will be the changes to the City Council structure?

Currently all legislative authority is vested in a seven-member City Council. The Council elects a Chairman and Vice-Chairman amongst themselves to serve for a term of one year. The Chairman presides at meetings of the Council. Council members serve staggered terms with the election of four (4) City Council members during presidential election years and three (3) during non-presidential election years.

It is proposed that the Council consist of a Mayor and six (6) Council Members. Starting 2024 election, the election for the Mayor and three (3) City Council seats will be conducted during presidential election years and other three (3) City Council seats during non-presidential election years. Positions of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be eliminated. Mayor will be elected directly by the Marco Island voters.

8. Are the proposed charter amendments unique to Marco Island?

No. They mirror City of Naples form of government. Having directly elected Mayor who is also a member of the City Council is a widely used practice in local governments. Additionally, in Florida, majority of City Clerks report to the City Council and not the head of the administration (City Manager in case of Marco Island).