

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

The Oceanside City Council has placed this Measure on the ballot asking voters to decide whether the City Clerk and City Treasurer should be appointed to office by the City Manager. Under current law, the City Clerk and City Treasurer are elected by City voters to four-year terms. The terms of the current City Clerk and City Treasurer end in December 2020. Pursuant to state law, there are three qualifications for the positions of elected City Clerk and elected City Treasurer: 1) the individual must be a resident of the City, 2) the individual must be registered to vote in the City, and 3) the individual must be at least 18 years old. Candidates running for the positions of City Clerk and City Treasurer are not required under state law to meet any other minimum educational requirements or professional qualifications.

The City Council has adopted an amendment to the Oceanside City Code to grant the City Manager the authority to appoint the City Clerk and City Treasurer if this Measure is approved by City voters. Therefore, if a majority of voters approve this Measure, the City Manager will appoint the City Clerk and City Treasurer at the expiration of the terms of the current incumbents and at any time there is a vacancy in either office. As appointive officers, the City Clerk and City Treasurer will report to, and serve at the pleasure of, the City Manager. If this Measure is approved by the voters, the appointed City Clerk and City Treasurer would not be required to be City residents but may be required to satisfy minimum educational or professional qualifications.

If a majority of voters do not approve this Measure, the offices of City Clerk and City Treasurer will continue to be elected.

A Yes vote is in favor of the City Manager having the authority to appoint the City Clerk and City Treasurer once the terms of the current City Clerk and City Treasurer expire in December 2020.

A No vote is in favor of the current system of having City voters elect the City Clerk and City Treasurer to four-year terms.

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