

**CITY OF HOUGHTON
RESOLUTION 2025-1985**

**RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2024-1945 AND 2025-1973, AND
APPROVING CHARTER AMENDMENT NUMBER 1, AND THE BALLOT
LANGUAGE FOR CHARTER AMENDMENT NUMBER 1**

A Resolution of the City of Houghton Council to rescind Resolution 2024-1945, adopted on September 25, 2024, and 2025-1973, adopted on April 9, 2025, and to amend the City of Houghton Charter by changing all gender specific terminology to gender neutral terms, as appropriate and indicated in the context.

Section 11.13 of the Charter and Section 21(1) of the Home Rule City Act (HRCA), MCL 117.21(1), authorizes the City Council to adopt a resolution proposing to amend the city charter by a three-fifths vote of its members-elect, and the resolution proposing to amend the city charter must set forth the exact wording of the proposed amendment to be submitted to the city voters for approval at a regular or special election, and;

The resolution must set forth the ballot language for the proposed charter amendment with each proposal being limited to a single subject, and if the subject of a proposal includes more than one related proposition, each proposition shall be separately stated as a ballot proposal to afford an opportunity for a separate vote of the city voters for or against each proposition, and

Section 21(2) of the HRCA, MCL 117.21(2), requires that the ballot language for the submission to the city voters of each proposed amendment, including any separate statement of purpose, shall be limited to 100 words, exclusive of caption, shall be a fair and impartial statement of the purpose of the amendment, and shall not create prejudice for or against the proposed amendment,

The Houghton City Council resolves that:

1. The following amendment to the City Charter shall, upon approval of the Governor, be submitted to the Electors of the City in accordance with the Home Rule Cities Act of the State of Michigan.

Amendment to the City of Houghton Charter by changing all gender specific terminology to gender neutral terms. Exhibit A shows the Charter as currently written with redlined additions and deletions showing the proposed language if adopted. Exhibit B is a clean copy of the proposed Charter showing exactly how the proposed Charter would read if the proposal were adopted. The general neutral changes would include:

Chapter I, Section 1.2

Chapter II, Sections 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.16, 2.17

Chapter III, Section 3.4

Chapter IV, Section 4.9
Chapter V, Sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.10
Chapter VI, Sections 6.9, 6.11, 6.12
Chapter IX, Sections 9.8, 9.10, 9.14
Chapter XI, Section 11.10

2. The following language be placed upon the ballot at the November 2025 election in accordance with the Home Rule Cities Act:

CHARTER AMENDMENT PROPOSAL NO. 1

Amendment to the City of Houghton Charter

It is proposed that the City of Houghton Charter be amended to change all gender specific terminology to gender neutral terms, making it clear that the Charter applies equally to all persons regardless of gender.

Shall the amendment as proposed be adopted?

3. The City Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of Michigan for approval of the proposed amendment (MCL 117.22) and transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Attorney General of the State of Michigan for approval of the proposed ballot language for the proposed amendment (MCL 117.21).

4. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Houghton at an election to be held in the City in November 2025 and the City Clerk is directed to give notice of the election and notice of registration in a manner prescribed by law and to do all things and to provide all supplies necessary to submit the Charter amendment to a vote of the electors as required by law.

5. The proposed charter amendment shall be published in full, together with the existing charter provision amended as required by law.

Yes: *All*

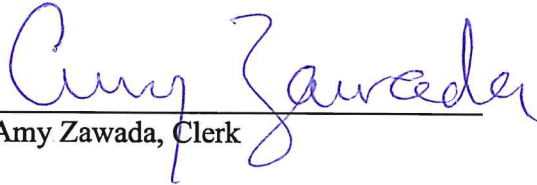
No: *None*

Abstain: *None*

Absent: *None*

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and compared copy of a resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Houghton, County of Houghton, Michigan at a regular meeting held on.



Amy Zawada, Clerk