

NEW ROCHELLE, NY  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
LOCAL LAW, INTRO. NO. 1  
RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CITY CHARTER - ABOLISHMENT OF  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that the City Council of the City of New Rochelle, New York, will hold a virtual Public Hearing in accordance with the provisions of Section 16 of Article III of the Charter of the City of New Rochelle and in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 515 North Avenue, New Rochelle, New York, on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at **7:00 P. M.**, on a proposed Local Law, Intro. No. 1, as follows:

A LOCAL LAW, INTRO NO. 1, AMENDING SECTION 80A, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, COMMISSIONER, OF; DUTIES, OF ARTICLE VII, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS; AND DELETING ARTICLE XVII, CIVIL SERVICE, OF THE NEW ROCHELLE CITY CHARTER

BE IT ENACTED by the City of New Rochelle, as follows:

Section 1. Section 80A, Department Human Resources, Director of; duties, of the New Rochelle City Charter is hereby amended to read as follows:

Article VII. Administrative Departments

Section 80A. Department of Human Resources, Commissioner of; duties.

The Commissioner of Human Resources shall be the head of the Department of Human Resources and Civil Service. He shall have power and shall be required to prepare and keep up-to-date a pay plan in the city service; develop and establish training and educational programs for persons in the municipal service; investigate and advise on matters pertaining to working conditions, sick leave and welfare of employees; [maintain liaison with the Municipal Civil Service Commission as to the application] administration of the Civil Service Law [and its administration by the Municipal Civil Service Commission]; establish and maintain a program of attracting qualified persons to seek employment with the city and to recruit and interview prospects; review job descriptions of each position in the city; ascertain and note any changes in the duties of such position; receive complaints and grievances from employees regarding working conditions, remuneration and opportunity for advancement; he shall perform such other duties in regard to personnel matters as the City Manager may direct.

Section 2. Article XVII, Civil Service, of the New Rochelle City Charter is hereby deleted as follows:

[Article XVII. Civil Service]

[Section 173. Municipal Civil Service Commission.]

[The Municipal Civil Service Commission shall be constituted as prescribed by law and shall elect one of its members President. The members of the Commission who are in office when this Charter takes effect shall be the members of the Commission (subject to the power of removal as prescribed by law) until the expiration of their terms of office and until their successors are appointed and qualify. Their compensation shall be fixed by the Council.]

[Section 174. Secretary]

[The City Manager may appoint and at pleasure remove a secretary, who shall perform such duties as may be imposed by City Manager, the Commission or by law.]

[Section 175. Appointment of Commissioners.]

[The members of the Municipal Civil Service Commission as prescribed by law shall be appointed by the Mayor.]

Matter underlined added.

Matter [bracketed] deleted.

#### PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION:

In order to provide flexibility in hiring a workforce that reflects the diversity of the City, it is the determination of staff that the elimination of the Civil Service Commission will allow the City to achieve better efficiency and provide a more streamlined hiring process in pursuit of this goal. The Administration recommends that the Civil Service Commission be abolished and that the transfer of the responsibility of implementing Civil Service regulations be given to the Commissioner of Human Resources.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis and related Executive Orders issued by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the City Council will not be able to accommodate any in-person public attendance or participation for Public Hearings and Citizens to be Heard. Nonetheless, and in furtherance of the provisions of Section 859-a of the Act requiring interested parties be provided a reasonable opportunity, both orally and in writing, to present their views, Public Hearings and Citizens to be Heard will be broadcast live on the City's website and cable public access channel on television (Optimum Channel 75 / Verizon Channel 28). In addition, the City Council will allow the public to provide oral comments in real time via telephone or virtually through Microsoft Teams.

**Sign up to speak at the Public Hearing or Citizens to be Heard**

**All registrations must be received by noon on March 9.**

By order of the City Council dated February 16, 2021, pursuant to Resolution No. 20.

Michelle Oliveros, City Clerk