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## CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 16

A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 15-201, RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS, THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE, TRANSITIONS TO NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, THE FILLING OF GOVERNING BODY VACANCIES, AND NOMINATION PETITIONS; AND, PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE AND ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT; AND REPEALING CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 2.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, KANSAS:

Section 1. The City of Washington, Kansas, by the power vested in it by Article 12, Section 5 of the Kansas Constitution hereby elects to and does exempt itself and make inapplicable to it the provisions of K.S.A. 15-201, which applies to this city, but is part of an enactment which does not apply uniformly to all cities.

Section 2. The governing body shall consist of a mayor and five council members to be elected to terms as set forth herein. The mayor and council members shall be residents and qualified electors of the City of Washington, Kansas.

Section 3. Those governing body positions with terms expiring in April 2017, shall expire on the second Monday in January of 2018, when the city officials elected in the November 2017 general election take office. Those governing body positions with terms expiring in April 2019, shall expire on the second Monday in January of 2020, when the city officials elected in the November 2019 general election take office.

Section 4. General elections shall take place on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November 2017. Succeeding elections will be held every two years for all such governing body positions whose terms have expired. A mayor and two council members shall be elected at one election, and the remaining three council members shall be elected at the succeeding election. The mayor and all council members shall have four year terms.

Section 5. In case of a vacancy in the council occurring by reason of resignation, death, or removal from office or from the city, the mayor, by and with the advice and consent of the remaining council members, shall appoint an elector to fill the vacancy until the next election for that office. In case any person elected as a council member neglects or refuses to qualify within

30 days after election, the council member shall be deemed to have refused to accept the office and a vacancy shall exist. The mayor may, with the consent of the remaining council members, appoint a suitable elector to fill the vacancy.

Section 6. In case of a vacancy in the office of mayor, the president of the council shall become mayor until the next regular election for that office and a vacancy shall occur in the office of the council member becoming mayor.

Section 7. In accordance with K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto, any person may become a candidate for city office elected at large by having had filed on their behalf, a nomination petition or a declaration of candidacy, accompanied by any fee required by law, with the county election officer before the filing deadline. The nomination petition must be signed by ten (10) of the qualified electors of the City of Washington, Kansas.

Section 8. Charter Ordinance Number 2, previously passed by the City of Washington, Kansas, is hereby repealed.

Section 9. This Charter Ordinance shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper.

Section 10. This Charter Ordinance shall take effect 61 days after the final publication unless a sufficient petition for a referendum is filed, requiring a referendum to be held on the ordinance as provided by Article 12, Section 5, Subsection (c)(3) of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, in which case this Charter Ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the majority of the electors voting thereon.

Passed by the Governing Body, not less than two-thirds of the members elect voting in favor thereof, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2015.

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Ryan W. Kern, Mayor

Attest:

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Denise M. Powell, City Clerk

[SEAL]