ARTICLE 2. THE COUNCIL

Councilmen: Number, Qualifications

Section 2-1. There shall be a council of five members, which shall consist of the mayor and one councilman from each of the four wards of the city as the wards are now constituted or as they may hereafter be constituted by ordinance. Unless otherwise clearly indicated by the context, the words "councilman" and "councilmen" shall include the mayor as well as other councilmen.

Only qualified electors of the city who are freeholders in the city, shall be qualified for the office of mayor. Only qualified electors residing in the city and at the time of their election, in their respective wards, who are freeholders in the city, shall be qualified for the offices of councilmen from the wards. Removal of a councilman from one ward to another within the city after his election or selection to fill a vacancy, or a change in ward boundaries, shall not disqualify him from completing his term. No councilman may hold any office in the city government by appointment by the city manager or by any subordinate of the city manager.

Mayor And Vice Mayor

Section 2-2. The mayor shall preside at meetings of the council. He shall be recognized as head of the city government for all ceremonial purposes and by the governor for purposes of military law. He shall have all powers, rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities of councilmen, including the right to vote on questions. He shall have no regular administrative duties except that he shall sign such written obligations of the city as the council may require.

At the first meeting after the time prescribed for the beginning of the terms of newly elected councilmen, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the council shall elect one of its members vice mayor, who shall serve as such until the next such first meeting. The vice mayor shall act as mayor during the absence or disability of the mayor, or, if a vacancy occur in the office of mayor, until another mayor is elected by the council and qualifies. If the office of vice mayor becomes vacant, the council shall elect from its members another vice mayor for completion of the unexpired term.

Councilmen: Compensation

Section 2-3. The mayor shall be paid a salary of $75.00 per month, and each other councilman shall be paid a salary of $50.00 per month; but they may not receive any other compensation as mayor or councilman nor for any other service rendered the city, other than expenses.

Council: Powers

Section 2-4. Except as otherwise provided in this charter, all powers of the city, including the determination of all matters of policy, shall be vested in the council. Without limitation of the foregoing, the council shall have power, subject to the provisions of this charter:

(1) To appoint and remove the city manager;

(2) By ordinance to enact municipal legislation;

(3) To raise revenue and make appropriations; and to regulate bond elections, the issuance of bonds, sinking funds, the refunding of indebtedness, salaries and wages, and all other fiscal affairs of the city;

(4) To inquire into the conduct of any office, department, or agency of the city government, and investigate municipal affairs;

(5) To appoint or elect and remove the members of the personnel board, the members of the planning commission, the members of the board of adjustment, and other quasi-legislative, quasi-judicial, or advisory officers and authorities, now or when and if established, or to prescribe the method of appointing or electing and removing them;

(6) To grant pardons for violations of the charter and ordinances, including the remission of fines and costs;

(7) To regulate elections, the initiative and referendum, and recall;

(8) To regulate the organization, powers, duties, and functions of the municipal court and of the minor violations bureau when and if established;

(9) To create, change, and abolish all offices, departments, and agencies of the city government other than the offices, departments, and agencies created by this charter; and to assign additional powers, duties, and functions to offices, departments, and agencies created by this charter.

Council Not To Interfere In Appointments And Removals

Section 2-5. Neither the council, the mayor, nor any of its other members may direct or request the appointment of any person to, or his removal from, office or employment by the city manager or by any other authority, or, except as provided in this charter, participate in any manner in the appointment or removal of officers and employees of the city. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the council and its members shall deal with the administrative service solely through the city manager; and neither the council nor any member thereof may give orders on administrative matters to any subordinate of the city manager either publicly or privately.

City Clerk To Be Clerical Officer Of Council

Section 2-6. The city clerk, hereinafter provided for, shall also serve as clerical officer of the council. He shall keep the journal of its proceedings, and shall enroll in a book or books kept for the purpose all ordinances and resolutions passed by it; shall be custodian of such documents, records, and archives as may be provided by applicable law or ordinance; shall be custodian of the seal of the city; and shall attest, and affix the seal to, documents when required in accordance with applicable law or ordinance.

Council: Meetings

Section 2-7. The council shall hold at least one regular meeting every month, at such time as it may prescribe by ordinance or otherwise. The mayor or any three councilmen may call special meetings. All meetings of the council shall be open to the public, and the journal of its proceedings shall be open to public inspection.

Councilmen: Absences To Terminate Membership

Section 2-8. If the mayor or any other councilman shall be absent from more than one-half of all the meetings of the council, regular and special, held within any period of six consecutive calendar months, he shall thereupon cease to hold office.

Councilmen: Removal

Section 2-9. The mayor or any other councilman may be removed from office for any cause specified by applicable state law for the removal of officers, and by the method or methods prescribed thereby, and by recall as provided in this charter.

Council: Vacancies

Section 2-10. The council, by majority vote of its remaining members, shall fill vacancies in its own membership, including the office of mayor, for the unexpired terms or until successors are elected as provided in this section. If a vacancy occurs before the beginning of a regular filing period for candidates for councilmen, and the unexpired term extends beyond the time when the terms of councilmen elected that year begin, then a councilman for that place shall be elected at the elections of that year to serve the rest of the unexpired term beginning at the time the terms of councilmen elected that year begin.

Council: Quorum, Rules, Yeas And Nays

Section 2-11. A majority of all of the members of the council shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day or from time to time. The council may determine its own rules. On the demand of any member, the vote on any question shall be by yeas and nays, and shall be entered in the journal.

Ordinances: Enacting Clause

Section 2-12. The enacting clause of all ordinances passed by the council shall be, "Be it ordained by the council of the city of Clinton, Oklahoma", and of all ordinances proposed by the voters under their power of initiative, "Be it ordained by the people of the city of Clinton, Oklahoma".

Ordinances: Passage, When In Effect

Section 2-13. Every proposed ordinance shall be read, and a vote of a majority of all the councilmen shall be required for its passage. The vote on final passage of every ordinance shall be by yeas and nays, and shall be entered in the journal. The mayor shall have no power of veto. Within ten days after its passage, every ordinance shall be published in full in a newspaper of general circulation within the city; provided that, in lieu of publication in full, ordinances which relate to traffic, building, housing, plumbing, electrical wiring or installations, fire or explosion prevention and safety, milk and milk products and other foods and beverages, the protection of the public health and safety, planning and