Measure O

City Attorney's Impartial Analysis

The measure would amend Articles IV, V, XI and XIX of the City of Stockton Charter.

The measure would delete current section 409, and label that section "RESERVED" and amend section 410 to require convening of the Council Salary Setting Commission each even-numbered year. In the first year after passage of the measure the commission would set the Mayor's salary for the entirety of the term commencing January 1, 2017. Subsequently, the commission would set the Mayor's salary each mayoral election year for the entire succeeding term. The measure would require that the Mayor's salary exceed the salary of Council members.

The measure would allow notice of city real property transactions to identify the relevant property by street address.

Section 1102 would be amended to state that all members of the Council, including the Mayor, may be appointed to advisory boards and committees; and would require the annual budget include funding for no less than three positions in the Mayor's office.

Existing sections 1903 and 1904 would be deleted and replaced with a single section requiring the Council to adopt a budget reserve policy.

The measure would require the City Manager to at least annually provide the Council with a five-year economic forecast of expenditures and revenues for the general fund, enterprise funds and significant operating funds.

The City Manager would be required to submit a proposed budget to the Council by May 15 of the prior fiscal year. The proposed budget must include all projected revenues; expenditures and transfers for each fund; a capital improvement plan; fee schedule; and projected current year annualized financial activity for comparability. The total of proposed expenditures in the proposed budget shall not exceed the total of estimated revenues, unencumbered balances of carryover funds and available reserves.

The proposed budget would be available for public inspection at least ten days before the public hearing where the Council considers adopting the budget together with any revisions. Appropriations for capital and grant funded projects wouldn't expire each fiscal year, rather they would continue through project completion. At any subsequent meeting the Council could increase or decrease any operating budget by resolution approved by majority vote of its members.
The measure gives the City Manager responsibility and authority to carry out the budget and Capital Improvement Plan, while keeping the Council advised on the fiscal condition and needs of the city.

The city's annual financial statement, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and the annual audit, prepared by a firm of independent certified public accountants recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by the Council, would each be prepared as soon as practical following the close of each fiscal year.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure O. If you desire a copy of the proposed ordinance, please call the City Clerk's office at (209) 937-8459 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

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