



HOUSE BILL 154: Gastonia Charter Revisions.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government I. If favorable, re-refer to Finance	Date:	March 13, 2017
Introduced by:	Rep. Bumgardner	Prepared by:	Giles Perry Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 154 revises and consolidates the Charter of the City of Gastonia.*

CURRENT LAW: The Charter of the City of Gastonia was last revised and consolidated in 1991.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 154 revises and consolidates the Charter of the City of Gastonia, to conform the Charter to State law changes made since 1991, to include various changes to the Charter made by Session Law and by action of the City Council since 1991, and by making technical changes.

Specifically, the bill makes the following changes to the Charter:

- Section 2.6 – an obsolete reference to protest petitions is removed.
- Section 4.3 – language is added providing for general review authority of City contracts by the City Attorney, and delete repetitive language concerning City Manager review.
- Section 5.2 – language is added specifying that the City Clerk reports to the City Manager.
- Section 5.3 – a technical update, to add language setting out the current interlocal agreement appointing the tax collector of Gaston County as the City's tax collector
- Several Sections, Article 6 – several sections that previously set out a unique procedure for assessing, waiving, and providing exemptions for special assessments are repealed. As a result, the general State law procedure applicable for assessments will apply to Gastonia.
- Section 7.2 – sets out in the Charter an existing law applicable to Gastonia concerning designation of a rental property owner's agent for service of process.
- Article 8 – two obsolete sections concerning two previously abolished City employee retirement funds are repealed.
- Section 9.1 – public enterprise fee and charge lien authority is repealed.
- Section 9.4 – obsolete protest petition language is repealed.
- Section 9.5 – obsolete motor vehicle tax language is repealed. Superseded by G.S. 20-97.
- Section 9.7 – obsolete language about city offering rewards for criminal convictions is repealed.
- Section 9.8 – obsolete language concerning building setback lines is repealed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

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Director



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