

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF AVONDALE ESTATES TO AMEND SECTION 2.21 OF THE CITY CHARTER TO REDUCE THE REQUIREMENT THAT AN ORDINANCE MUST BE READ AT THREE MEETINGS BEFORE IT MAY BE ADOPTED TO REQUIRE READING AT ONE PRIOR MEETING BEFORE ADOPTION, WITH AN EXCEPTION WHEN THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO PROCEED WITHOUT A PRIOR READING; TO REQUIRE INTRODUCED ORDINANCES TO BE POSTED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE; AND TO REPEAL CONFLICTING CHARTER PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the City Charter, Section 2.21(b), currently requires an ordinance to be read at three separate meetings (i.e., two prior meetings) before it may be adopted; and

WHEREAS, this “three readings requirement” has proven to be an undue impediment to the efficient administration of City business; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Commissioners desires to eliminate the “three readings requirement” while still providing ample opportunity for public input and participation; and

WHEREAS, the City Charter provides for reasonable means of providing notice of introduced ordinances under consideration to the public but has not been updated to address the role of the internet in modern life; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized to amend its Charter by adopting an ordinance to such effect at two consecutive regular meetings pursuant to its home rule powers as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 36-35-3.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Avondale Estates as follows:

SECTION 1. Subsection (b) of City Charter Section 2.21, City of Avondale Estates, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(b) An ordinance may be introduced by any member of the board of mayor and commissioners and be read at a regular or special meeting of the board of mayor and

commissioners. Upon introduction of any ordinance, the city clerk shall as soon as possible: (i) distribute a copy to the mayor and to each commissioner, (ii) make available to the public a reasonable number of copies of the ordinance at city hall and (iii) post an electronic copy of the introduced ordinance in a prominent place on the city's official website. Ordinances shall be considered and adopted or rejected by the board of mayor and commissioners in accordance with the rules which it shall establish; provided, however, an ordinance shall not be adopted until such time that the title and purpose of the ordinance has been read at a prior regular or special meeting of the board of mayor and commissioners. However, this requirement that the ordinance have been read at a prior meeting shall not apply when the board of mayor and commissioners votes unanimously to waive the requirement, or in the case of an emergency ordinance as provided for in Section 2.23 of this charter.”

SECTION 2. All charter provisions, ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This Charter amendment shall become effective upon its final adoption by the Board of Mayor and Commissioners at the second of two consecutive regular meetings.

First Reading: _____
Second Reading: _____
Third Reading: _____

FIRST APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20__.

FINAL ADOPTION THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20__.

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF AVONDALE ESTATES, GEORGIA**

Jonathan Elmore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gina Hill, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Stephen G. Quinn
Stephen G. Quinn, City Attorney