

Johnson City Referendums on the August Ballot

To view a sample ballot and read about each referendum click [here](#)
Here are a few of our thoughts.

Referendum 4876-24

Shall the Charter of the City of Johnson City be amended to allow adoption of city ordinances after two (2) separate readings, at least one (1) week apart and in open session, rather than three (3) readings, at least one (1) week apart and in open session.

***Our response:** We oppose Johnson City's proposed ballot measure to reduce the number of public hearings from three to two is strengthened by recent events that illustrate the importance of robust public engagement in zoning decisions. Just last week, residents living on Nave Street successfully defeated a rezoning request during its third reading. This request aimed to permit high-density housing near their neighborhood. This outcome highlights why maintaining three public hearings is crucial. It provides ample opportunity for community members to voice concerns, present evidence, and rally against proposals that could significantly impact their quality of life and property values. Reducing the number of hearings to two would limit citizen participation and reduce the transparency of the zoning process, potentially disenfranchising residents and restricting their ability to influence decisions directly affecting their neighborhoods.*

Referendum 4877-24

Shall the Charter of the City of Johnson City, Tennessee, be amended to allow the city manager the right and power, in addition to all other rights and powers, to make temporary appointments of employees for a period to be determined by the appropriate department director and approved by the city manager, or his/her designee

Our response:** Republicans are supposed to be against non-elected, unaccountable government. Keep this type of decision to the legislative branch, the commission, which answers to the people. **We vote no to giving a non-elected position this authority.

Referendum 4878-24

Shall the Charter of the City of Johnson City be amended to: (1) Move the election of the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education to first Thursday in August, beginning August 2028, to be sworn into office on the first Monday of September; (2) Extend the November 2026 term expiration for Board of Commissioners and Board of Education members elected in November 2022 to the first Monday in September 2028; and (3) Extend the November 2028 term expiration for Board of Commissioners and Board of Education members elected in November 2024 to the first Monday in September 2030

***Our response:** Jenny Brock is included in this extended term. She is one of the more left leaning commissioners who bends her ears to the LGBTQ agenda. I don't think we should be extending the terms of commissioners unless they are on the ballot, not via a rule change.*

Referendum 4875-24

To allow publication of the proposed budget ordinance once at least 10 days instead of one week which will save \$3,500.

***Our response:** I'd love input on this. How will this save \$3,500?•*