



City of Vernon Charter
Article IX. Municipal Government


Sec. 9.1. Composition of governing body. 

The municipal government of the city shall consist of the city commission which shall be composed of five commissioners, one of whom shall be mayor of the city.


Cross reference— First officers, § 10.8.

Sec. 9.2. Terms of office of mayor and commissioners. 

The mayor and each commissioner, shall serve for a term of two years and until his successor is elected and qualified unless sooner removed from office as herein provided.

Sec. 9.3. Vacancies in commission. 

Vacancies in the commission shall be filled by a special election for the remainder of the unexpired term as provided by this charter or by ordinance.

Sec. 9.4. Qualifications of officers and employees; conflict of interests; police principles. 


The mayor and each commissioner shall be a resident citizen of the city, and have the qualifications of electors therein. The mayor, commissioners and other officers and employees shall not be indebted to the city; shall not hold any other public office of emolument and shall not be interested in the profits or emoluments of any contract, job, work, or service for the municipality, or interested in the sale to the city of any supplies, equipment, material or articles purchased; nor shall either of them be the owner of stock in any public utility or public service corporation within the city, nor in the employ of any owner of stock in public utility or public service corporation. Any officer or employee of the city who shall cease to possess any of the qualifications herein required shall forfeit his office or position, and any contract in which any officer or employee shall or may become interested, may be declared void by the commission. No officer or employee of the city shall accept any frank, free ticket, pass, or service, or anything of value, directly or indirectly, from any person, firm or corporation, upon terms more favorable than are granted to the public, and any violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, such office or employment shall be forfeited.

The commission may require, however, by ordinance, all streetcar companies operating within the city limits to provide free transportation to policemen and firemen in uniform or wearing a badge, and may require all proprietors of theaters, moving picture shows and other places of public amusement, to admit without charge, all policemen in the employ of the city.

City of Vernon Charter
Article IX. Municipal Government

Editor's note—

The last paragraph of this section is of course inapplicable in the matter of streetcars, and the enforceability of the other provision is problematical.

Sec. 9.5. Elections—Elective officers designated; election at large; position designation and sectional residence of commissioners. 

The elective officers of the city shall consist of a mayor and four commissioners. The commissioners other than the mayor shall be designated as Commissioner No. 1, Commissioner No. 2, Commissioner No. 3, and Commissioner No. 4, each of whom shall be elected to the office for which he is a candidate by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the city at large, voting at such election, provided that Commissioner No. 1 and Commissioner No. 3 shall be resident citizens of West Vernon and Commissioner No. 2 and Commissioner No. 4 shall be resident citizens of East Vernon; and provided further that at the first election held after the adoption of this charter, Commissioner No. 1, and Commissioner No. 2 shall be elected for a term of two years, and that Commissioner No. 3 and Commissioner No. 4 shall be elected for a term of one year.

Cross reference— First election under charter, § 10.6.

Sec. 9.6. Same—East and West Vernon defined. 


The following line in the city shall be the dividing line between East Vernon and West Vernon:

Beginning at the North Boundary Line of the City of Vernon at its intersection with a Northern extension of the center line of Bentley Street; Southerly down the extension of Bentley Street to Bentley Street continuing Southerly on Bentley Street to the intersection of the East bound Frontage Road to US Highway 287; Easterly along Frontage Road to Ross Street; Southerly on Ross Street to Texas Street; Easterly on Texas Street to Tolar Street; Southerly on Tolar Street to Highland Park Drive; Westerly on Highland Park Drive to Stephens Street; Southerly on Stephens Street and a line extending from the center line of Stephens Street to its intersection with the Southern Boundary Line of the City of Vernon.

All that portion of the city lying east of that line is hereby designated and shall be known as East Vernon and all that portion of the city lying West of that line is hereby designated and shall be known as West Vernon.

(Ord. No. 1344, § 1, 9-28-1999)

City of Vernon Charter
Article IX. Municipal Government

Sec. 9.7. Same—Run-off. 

Should no candidate receive a majority of votes at the election for the office for which he is a candidate, the governing authority shall immediately order a special election as set out in the state law governing elections, at which special election the names only of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes at said former election, for the office for which they were candidates, shall be printed on the ballot and submitted to the qualified voters for election, and the candidate receiving the majority of votes at such special election, for the place or office for which he was a candidate, shall be declared elected.