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SENATE BILL NO. 213—SENATOR HARDY

FEBRUARY 18, 2019

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JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMAN LEAVITT

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Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Provides for the incorporation of the City of Laughlin. (BDR S-75)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.  
Effect on the State: No.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§§ 4, 7, 8)  
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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AN ACT providing a charter for the City of Laughlin; providing for the incorporation by charter of the City of Laughlin; providing for the election of the initial Mayor and City Council; setting forth certain powers and duties of the City Council and Board of County Commissioners of Clark County upon incorporation; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 The Nevada Constitution authorizes the Legislature to provide for the  
2 incorporation of a city by a special act. (Nev. Const. Art. 8, § 8) **Section 1** of this  
3 bill provides a charter for the City of Laughlin in Clark County, Nevada. Article I  
4 of the Charter sets forth the boundaries of the City and provides that the City  
5 Council appoints the City Manager. Article II of the Charter: (1) provides that the  
6 City Council consists of four members and a Mayor; and (2) sets forth the powers  
7 of the City Council. Article III of the Charter sets forth the qualifications, powers  
8 and duties of the City Manager. Article IV of the Charter sets forth the  
9 administrative organization of the City and the powers and duties of the City Clerk,  
10 City Attorney, Director of Finance and the heads of departments, offices and  
11 agencies. Article V of the Charter provides that the City’s municipal court must be  
12 presided over by a Justice of the Peace appointed by the City Council. Article VI of  
13 the Charter requires the City’s budget to be prepared in accordance with the general  
14 laws of the State pertaining to city budgets. Article VII of the Charter authorizes  
15 public improvements and repairs to be paid from the City’s General or Street



16 Funds, as applicable. Article VIII of the Charter provides that the: (1) Clark County  
 17 Assessor is the ex officio City Assessor; and (2) Clark County Treasurer is the ex  
 18 officio City Tax Receiver. Article IX of the Charter: (1) authorizes the City Council  
 19 to create by ordinance appointive boards or commissioners; and (2) establishes and  
 20 sets forth the powers and duties of the Personnel Board and Charter Committee.  
 21 Article X of the Charter: (1) requires that city elections be nonpartisan and held at  
 22 the same time as statewide elections; (2) provides that the terms of office for the  
 23 Council members and Mayor are 4 years; and (3) requires that the Council  
 24 members and Mayor be elected at large. Article XI of the Charter authorizes the  
 25 registered voters of the City to: (1) propose ordinances by initiative petition; (2)  
 26 require reconsideration of adopted ordinances by referendum; and (3) recall a  
 27 Council member. Article XII of the Charter authorizes the City to grant a franchise  
 28 for furnishing a public utility service. Article XIII of the Charter: (1) authorizes the  
 29 City Manager to suspend or dismiss a municipal employee; (2) gives the City  
 30 Manager and other municipal officers the right to take part in the discussion of all  
 31 matters coming before the Council; and (3) prohibits an elective or appointive  
 32 officer from taking official action on any contract or other matter in which he or she  
 33 has any financial interest.

34 **Sections 2-9** of this bill provide for the implementation of the charter and  
 35 **section 2** provides definitions of terms used in those provisions. **Sections 3 and 4**  
 36 of this bill provide for the election of the Mayor and City Council and **section 5** of  
 37 this bill sets forth the terms of office for the first-elected Mayor and Council  
 38 members.

39 **Sections 6 and 8** of this bill require the City Council to perform preparatory  
 40 tasks before July 1, 2021, when the incorporation of the City becomes effective,  
 41 such as: (1) preparing and adopting a budget; (2) preparing and adopting  
 42 ordinances; (3) negotiating and preparing employment contracts; and (4)  
 43 negotiating and preparing certain agreements with the Board of County  
 44 Commissioners of Clark County.

45 **Section 7** of this bill requires Clark County to provide services within the  
 46 boundaries of the City through June 30, 2021.

47 **Section 9** of this bill requires property located within the City to continue to be  
 48 assessed and taxed by the County to pay for indebtedness incurred by the County  
 49 before the City was incorporated.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** The Charter of the City of Laughlin is as follows.  
 2 Each section of the Charter shall be deemed to be a section of this  
 3 act for the purpose of any subsequent amendment.

4 **ARTICLE I**

5 **INCORPORATION OF CITY; GENERAL POWERS;**  
 6 **BOUNDARIES; ANNEXATIONS; CITY OFFICES**

7 **Section 1.010 Preamble: Legislative intent; powers.**

8 **1. In order to provide for the orderly government of the City**  
 9 **of Laughlin and the general welfare of its residents, the**



1 *Legislature hereby establishes this Charter for the government of*  
2 *the City of Laughlin. It is expressly declared as the intent of the*  
3 *Legislature that all provisions of this Charter be liberally*  
4 *construed to carry out the express purposes of the Charter and*  
5 *that the specific mention of particular powers shall not be*  
6 *construed as limiting in any way the general powers necessary to*  
7 *carry out the purposes of the Charter.*

8 *2. Any powers expressly granted by this Charter are in*  
9 *addition to any powers granted to a city by the general law of this*  
10 *State. All provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes which are*  
11 *applicable generally to cities, unless otherwise expressly*  
12 *mentioned in this Charter or chapter 265, 266 or 267 of NRS, and*  
13 *which are not in conflict with the provisions of this Charter apply*  
14 *to the City of Laughlin.*

15 *Sec. 1.020 Incorporation of City.*

16 *1. All persons who are inhabitants of that portion of the State*  
17 *of Nevada embraced within the limits set forth in section 1.030*  
18 *shall constitute a political and corporate body by the name of*  
19 *“City of Laughlin,” and by that name they and their successors*  
20 *shall be known in law, have perpetual succession and may sue and*  
21 *be sued in all courts.*

22 *2. Whenever used throughout this Charter, “City” means the*  
23 *City of Laughlin.*

24 *Sec. 1.030 Description of territory. The territory embraced*  
25 *in the City is hereby defined and established as follows:*

26 *1. All those portions of Township 32 South, Range 64 East;*  
27 *Township 32 South, Range 65 East; Township 32 South, Range*  
28 *66 East; Township 33 South, Range 65 East; Township 33 South,*  
29 *Range 66 East; Township 34 South, Range 66 East, M.D.B. & M.,*  
30 *which are located in the County of Clark, State of Nevada.*

31 *2. Excepting therefrom the following described land:*

32 *(a) That land referred to as the Fort Mojave Indian*  
33 *Reservation, approximately 3,842 acres of land, being a portion of*  
34 *Sections 17, 19, 20 through 22, inclusive, 27 through 28, inclusive,*  
35 *30 through 33, inclusive, and all of Section 29 of Township 33*  
36 *South, Range 66 East, Clark County, Nevada, and a portion of*  
37 *Section 5 of Township 34 South, Range 66 East, Clark County,*  
38 *Nevada.*

39 *(b) Further excepting therefrom Township 34 South, Range 66*  
40 *East, M.D.B. & M., Clark County, Nevada.*

41 *(c) Further excepting therefrom the following described*  
42 *Parcels of land referred to as the “Hotel Corridor”:*

43 *(1) Parcel 1. The South Half (S 1/2) of the South Half of*  
44 *Section 12 of Township 32 South, Range 66 East, M.D.M., Clark*  
45 *County, Nevada, excepting therefrom State Route 163 recorded in*



1 *Book 920722 as Instrument 00564, Official Records of Clark*  
2 *County, Nevada, together with Parcel 1 of File 70 of Parcel Maps*  
3 *at Page 20, Official Records of Clark County, Nevada, also*  
4 *together with Civic Way recorded in Book 910906 as Instrument*  
5 *Number 00680, Official Records of Clark County, Nevada, lying*  
6 *within the South Half (S 1/2) of the South Half (S 1/2) of said*  
7 *Section 12.*

8 (2) *Parcel 2. Section 13, Township 32 South, Range 66*  
9 *East, M.D.M., Clark County, Nevada, excepting therefrom that*  
10 *remaining portion of Parcel 1 of File 53 of Parcel Maps at Page*  
11 *53, Official Records of Clark County, Nevada, lying within the*  
12 *Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of said Section 13, more particularly*  
13 *described as beginning at the Northeast corner of said Parcel 1,*  
14 *said point being on the Southerly right-of-way line of Bruce*  
15 *Woodbury Drive (90 feet wide); thence departing said Southerly*  
16 *right-of-way line and along the Easterly line of said Parcel 1,*  
17 *South 01°08'21" West, 100 feet to the Northerly line of Parcel 4 as*  
18 *shown by map thereof recorded in File 98 of Parcel Maps at Page*  
19 *17, Official Records of Clark County, Nevada; thence along said*  
20 *Northerly line of Parcel 4 the following 2 courses: North*  
21 *89°59'51" West, 75 feet; North 01°08'21" East, 100 feet to said*  
22 *Southerly right-of-way and said Northerly line of Parcel 1; thence*  
23 *along said Southerly right-of-way line and along said Northerly*  
24 *line of Parcel 1, South 89°59'51" East, 75 feet to the Point of*  
25 *Beginning.*

26 (3) *Parcel 3. Section 24 of Township 32 South, Range 66*  
27 *East, M.D.M., Clark County, Nevada, excepting therefrom*  
28 *Government Lots 7 and 8 of said Section 24, together with Lots 1*  
29 *and 2 of File 54 of Parcel Maps at Page 79, Official Records of*  
30 *Clark County, Nevada, lying within the Southwest Quarter (SW*  
31 *1/4) of said Section 24.*

32 *Sec. 1.040 Limitation on future annexation.*  
33 *Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no area may*  
34 *be annexed into the boundaries of the City unless a majority of the*  
35 *owners of the real property that make up the area petition the City*  
36 *Council for annexation into the City.*

37 *Sec. 1.050 Form of government.*

38 *1. The municipal government provided by this Charter shall*  
39 *be known as the "council-manager government." Pursuant to its*  
40 *provisions and subject only to the limitations imposed by the*  
41 *Constitution of this State and by this Charter, all powers of the*  
42 *City shall be vested in an elective council, hereinafter referred to*  
43 *as "the Council," which shall:*

44 *(a) Enact local legislation;*

45 *(b) Adopt budgets;*



1 (c) *Determine policies; and*  
2 (d) *Appoint the City Manager, who shall execute the laws and*  
3 *administer the government of the City.*

4 2. *All powers of the City shall be exercised in the manner*  
5 *prescribed by this Charter, or if the manner is not prescribed, then*  
6 *in such manner as may be prescribed by ordinance.*

7 *Sec. 1.060 Construction of Charter. This Charter, except*  
8 *where the context by clear implication otherwise requires, must be*  
9 *construed as follows:*

10 1. *The titles or leadlines which are applied to the articles and*  
11 *sections of this Charter are inserted only as a matter of*  
12 *convenience and ease in reference and in no way define, limit or*  
13 *describe the scope or intent of any provision of this Charter.*

14 2. *The singular number includes the plural number, and the*  
15 *plural includes the singular.*

16 3. *The present tense includes the future tense.*

17  
18 **ARTICLE II**

19  
20 **CITY COUNCIL**

21  
22 *Sec. 2.010 Number; selection and term; recall. The*  
23 *Council shall have four Council members and a Mayor elected*  
24 *from the City at large in the manner provided in Article X, for*  
25 *terms of 4 years and until their successors have been elected and*  
26 *have taken office as provided in section 2.100, subject to recall as*  
27 *provided in Article XI. No Council member shall represent any*  
28 *particular constituency or district of the City, and each Council*  
29 *member shall represent the entire City.*

30 *Sec. 2.020 Qualifications.*

31 1. *No person shall be eligible for the office of Council*  
32 *member or Mayor unless he or she is a qualified elector of the*  
33 *City and has been a resident of the City for at least 1 year*  
34 *immediately before the election in which he or she is a candidate.*  
35 *He or she shall hold no other elective public office, but may hold a*  
36 *commission as a notary public or be a member of the Armed*  
37 *Forces reserve. No employee of the City or officer thereof,*  
38 *excluding Council members, receiving compensation under the*  
39 *provisions of this Charter or any City ordinance, shall be a*  
40 *candidate for or eligible for the office of Council member or*  
41 *Mayor without first resigning from city employment or city office.*

42 2. *If a Council member or the Mayor ceases to possess any of*  
43 *the qualifications enumerated in subsection 1 or is convicted of a*  
44 *felony, or ceases to be resident of the City, his or her office shall*  
45 *immediately become vacant.*



1        *Sec. 2.030 Salaries.*

2        1. *For the first 2 years after election of the first members of*  
3 *the Council after adoption of this Charter, each member of the*  
4 *Council shall receive as compensation for his or her services as*  
5 *such a monthly salary of \$125, and the member elected to fill the*  
6 *Office of Mayor shall receive the additional amount of \$25 for*  
7 *each month said member shall fill the Office of Mayor.*

8        2. *After the period specified in subsection 1 and upon*  
9 *recommendation from the Charter Committee established*  
10 *pursuant to section 9.100 of Article IX, the Council may determine*  
11 *the annual salaries of the Mayor and Council members by*  
12 *ordinance. The Council shall not adopt an ordinance which*  
13 *increases or decreases the salary of the Mayor or the Council*  
14 *members during the term for which they have been elected or*  
15 *appointed.*

16        3. *Absence of a member of the Council from all regular and*  
17 *special meetings of the Council during any calendar month shall*  
18 *render him or her ineligible to receive the monthly salary for such*  
19 *a calendar month unless by permission of the Council expressed*  
20 *in its official minutes.*

21        4. *The Mayor and Council members shall be reimbursed for*  
22 *their personal expenses when conducting or traveling on city*  
23 *business as authorized by the Council. Reimbursement for use of*  
24 *their personal automobiles will be at the rate per mile established*  
25 *by the rules of the Internal Revenue Service of the United States.*

26        5. *The Mayor and Council members shall receive no*  
27 *additional compensation or benefit other than that mandated by*  
28 *state or federal law.*

29        *Sec. 2.040 Mayor; Mayor Pro Tem; duties.*

30        1. *The Mayor shall:*

31        (a) *Serve as a member of the Council (a) and preside over its*  
32 *meetings;*

33        (b) *Have no administrative duties; and*

34        (c) *Be recognized as the head of the city government for all*  
35 *ceremonial purposes and for the purposes of dealing with*  
36 *emergencies if martial law has been imposed on the City by the*  
37 *State or Federal Government.*

38        2. *The Council shall elect one of its members to be Mayor*  
39 *Pro Tem, who shall:*

40        (a) *Hold such office and title, without additional*  
41 *compensation, for the period of 1 year;*

42        (b) *Perform the duties of the Mayor during the absence or*  
43 *disability of the Mayor; and*

44        (c) *Assume the position of Mayor, if that office becomes*  
45 *vacant, until the next regular election.*



1        *Sec. 2.050 Powers. Except as otherwise provided in this*  
2 *Charter, all powers of the City and the determination of all*  
3 *matters of policy shall be vested in the Council. The Council shall*  
4 *have, without limitation, the power to:*

5        1. *Establish other administrative departments and distribute*  
6 *the work of divisions.*

7        2. *Adopt the budget of the City.*

8        3. *Adopt civil service rules and regulations.*

9        4. *Inquire into the conduct of any office, department or*  
10 *agency of the City and make investigations as to municipal affairs.*

11       5. *Appoint the members of all boards, commissions and*  
12 *committees for specific or indefinite terms as provided elsewhere*  
13 *in this Charter or in various resolutions or ordinances, with all*  
14 *such persons serving at the pleasure of the Council, provided,*  
15 *however, that all persons so appointed must be and remain bona*  
16 *fide residents of the City during the tenure of each appointment.*

17       6. *Levy such taxes as are authorized by applicable laws.*

18       *Sec. 2.060 Powers: Zoning and Planning. The Council*  
19 *may:*

20       1. *Divide the City into districts and regulate and restrict the*  
21 *erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or use of*  
22 *buildings, structures or land within the districts.*

23       2. *Establish and adopt ordinances and regulations relating to*  
24 *the subdivision of land.*

25       *Sec. 2.070 Council not to interfere in removals.*

26       1. *Neither the Council nor any of its members shall direct or*  
27 *request the removal of any person from office by the City*  
28 *Manager or by any of his or her subordinates, or in any manner*  
29 *take part in the removal of officers and employees in the*  
30 *administrative service of the City. Except for the purpose of*  
31 *inquiry and as otherwise provided in this Charter, the Council and*  
32 *its members shall deal with the administrative service solely*  
33 *through the City Manager and neither the Council nor any*  
34 *member thereof shall give orders to any subordinates of the City*  
35 *Manager, either publicly or privately.*

36       2. *Any Council member violating the provisions of this*  
37 *section, or voting for a resolution or ordinance in violation of this*  
38 *section, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof*  
39 *shall cease to be a Council member.*

40       *Sec. 2.080 Vacancies in Council. Except as otherwise*  
41 *provided in NRS 268.325, a vacancy on the Council must be filled*  
42 *by appointment by a majority of the remaining members of the*  
43 *Council within 30 days or after three regular or special meetings,*  
44 *whichever is the shorter period of time. In the event of a tie vote*  
45 *among the remaining members of the Council, selection must be*



1 *made by lot. No such appointment extends beyond the next*  
2 *municipal election.*

3 *Sec. 2.090 Creation of new departments or offices; change of*  
4 *duties. The Council by ordinance may:*

5 *1. Create, change and abolish offices, departments or*  
6 *agencies, other than offices, departments and agencies established*  
7 *by this Charter.*

8 *2. Assign additional functions or duties to offices,*  
9 *departments or agencies established by this Charter, but may not*  
10 *discontinue or assign to any other office, department or agency*  
11 *any function or duty assigned by this Charter to a particular*  
12 *office, department or agency.*

13 *Sec. 2.100 Induction of Council into office; meetings of*  
14 *Council.*

15 *1. The Council shall meet within 10 days after each primary*  
16 *municipal election and each general municipal election specified*  
17 *in Article X to canvass the returns and to declare the results. All*  
18 *newly elected or reelected Mayor or Council members shall be*  
19 *inducted into office at the next regular Council meeting following*  
20 *certification of the applicable general municipal election results.*  
21 *Immediately following such induction, the Mayor Pro Tem shall*  
22 *be designated as provided in section 2.040. Thereafter, the Council*  
23 *shall meet regularly at such times as it shall set by resolution from*  
24 *time to time, but not less frequently than once each month.*

25 *2. Special meetings may be held on a call of the Mayor or by*  
26 *a majority of the Council. Reasonable effort must be made to give*  
27 *notice of the special meeting to each Council member, the Mayor,*  
28 *City Clerk, City Attorney and City Manager. Only that business*  
29 *which was stated in the call of the special meeting may be*  
30 *discussed.*

31 *3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 241.0355, a majority*  
32 *of all Council members constitutes a quorum to do business, but a*  
33 *lesser number may meet and recess from time to time, and compel*  
34 *the attendance of the absent Council members.*

35 *4. No meeting of the Council may be held for the purpose of*  
36 *conducting or discussing City business except as provided in this*  
37 *section.*

38 *Sec. 2.110 Rules of procedure.*

39 *1. The Council shall establish rules by ordinance for the*  
40 *conduct of its proceedings and to preserve order at its meetings. It*  
41 *shall, through the City Clerk, maintain a journal record of its*  
42 *proceedings which shall be open to public inspection. Any member*  
43 *of the Council may place items on the Council agenda to be*  
44 *considered by the Council.*





1       2. *The Council may organize special committees of its*  
2 *members for the principal functions of the government of the City.*  
3 *It shall be the duty of each such committee to be informed of the*  
4 *business of the city government included within the assigned*  
5 *functions of the committee, and, as ordered by the Council, to*  
6 *report to the Council information or recommendations which*  
7 *shall enable the Council properly to legislate.*

8       *Sec. 2.120 Investigations by Council.*

9       1. *The Council shall have power to inquire into the conduct*  
10 *of any office, department, agency or officer of the City and to*  
11 *make investigations as to municipal affairs. The Council shall*  
12 *have the power and authority on any investigation or proceeding*  
13 *pending before it to impel the attendance of witnesses, to examine*  
14 *them under oath and to compel the production of evidence before*  
15 *it. Each member of the Council shall have the power to administer*  
16 *oaths and affirmations in any investigation or proceeding pending*  
17 *before the Council.*

18       2. *Subpoenas may be issued in the name of the City pursuant*  
19 *to subsection 1 and may be attested by the City Clerk.*  
20 *Disobedience of such subpoenas or the refusal to testify upon*  
21 *other than constitutional grounds shall constitute a misdemeanor,*  
22 *and shall be punishable in the same manner as violations of this*  
23 *Charter are punishable.*

24       *Sec. 2.130 Council's power to make and pass ordinances,*  
25 *resolutions.*

26       1. *The Council shall have the power to make and pass all*  
27 *ordinances, resolutions and orders, not repugnant to the*  
28 *Constitution of the United States or of the State of Nevada or to*  
29 *the provisions of this Charter, necessary for the municipal*  
30 *government and the management of the city affairs, for the*  
31 *execution of all powers vested in the City, and for making effective*  
32 *the provisions of this Charter.*

33       2. *The Council shall have the power to enforce obedience to*  
34 *its ordinances by such fines, imprisonments or other penalties as*  
35 *the Council may deem proper, but the punishment for any offense*  
36 *shall not be greater than the penalties specified for misdemeanors*  
37 *under applicable provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes in effect at*  
38 *the time such offense occurred.*

39       3. *The Council may enact and enforce such local police*  
40 *ordinances as are not in conflict with the general laws of the State*  
41 *of Nevada.*

42       4. *Any offense made a misdemeanor by the laws of the State*  
43 *of Nevada shall also be deemed to be a misdemeanor in the City of*  
44 *Laughlin whenever such offense is committed within the city*  
45 *limits.*



1        *Sec. 2.140 Voting on ordinances and resolutions.*

2        *1. No ordinance or resolution shall be passed without*  
3 *receiving the affirmative votes of at least three members of the*  
4 *Council.*

5        *2. The ayes and noes shall be taken upon the passage of all*  
6 *ordinances and resolutions and entered upon the journal of the*  
7 *proceedings of the Council. Upon the request of any member of*  
8 *the Council, the ayes and noes shall be taken and recorded upon*  
9 *any vote. All members of the Council present at any meeting shall*  
10 *vote, except:*

11        *(a) Upon matters in which they have a financial interest;*

12        *(b) When they are reviewing an appeal from a decision of a*  
13 *city commission, before which they have appeared as an advocate*  
14 *for or an adversary against the decision being appealed; or*

15        *(c) When they are required to abstain from voting pursuant to*  
16 *the provisions of NRS 281A.420.*

17        *Sec. 2.150 Enactment of ordinances; subject matter, titles.*

18        *1. No ordinance shall be passed except by bill, and when any*  
19 *ordinance is amended, the section or sections thereof must be*  
20 *reenacted as amended, and no ordinance shall be revised or*  
21 *amended by reference only to its title.*

22        *2. Every ordinance, except those revising the city ordinances,*  
23 *shall embrace but one subject and matters necessarily connected*  
24 *therewith and pertaining thereto, and the subject shall be clearly*  
25 *indicated in the title, and in all cases where the subject of the*  
26 *ordinance is not so expressed in the title, the ordinance shall be*  
27 *void as to the matter not expressed in the title.*

28        *Sec. 2.160 Introduction of ordinances; notice; final action;*  
29 *publication.*

30        *1. The style of ordinances must be as follows: "The Council*  
31 *of the City of Laughlin does ordain." All proposed ordinances,*  
32 *when first proposed, must be read by title to the Council, after*  
33 *which an adequate number of copies of the ordinance must be*  
34 *deposited with the City Clerk for public examination and*  
35 *distribution upon request. Notice of the deposit of the copies,*  
36 *together with an adequate summary of the ordinance, must be*  
37 *published once in a newspaper published in the City, if any,*  
38 *otherwise in some newspaper published in the County which has a*  
39 *general circulation in the City, at least 10 days before the adoption*  
40 *of the ordinance. At any meeting at which final action on the*  
41 *ordinance is considered, at least one copy of the ordinance must*  
42 *be available for public examination. The Council shall adopt or*  
43 *reject the ordinance, or the ordinance as amended, within 30 days*  
44 *after the date of publication, except that in cases of emergency, by*



1 *unanimous consent of the whole Council, final action may be*  
2 *taken immediately or at a special meeting called for that purpose.*

3 2. *After final adoption, the ordinance must be signed by the*  
4 *Mayor and, together with the votes cast on it, must be:*

5 (a) *Published by title, together with an adequate summary*  
6 *including any amendments, once in a newspaper published in the*  
7 *City, if any, otherwise in a newspaper published in the County and*  
8 *having a general circulation in the City; and*

9 (b) *Posted in full in the city hall.*

10 3. *Except as otherwise provided in subsections 4 and 5, all*  
11 *ordinances become effective 20 days after publication.*

12 4. *Emergency ordinances having for their purpose the*  
13 *immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety,*  
14 *containing a declaration of and the facts constituting its urgency*  
15 *and passed by a four-fifths vote of the Council, and ordinances*  
16 *calling or otherwise relating to a municipal election, become*  
17 *effective on the date specified therein.*

18 5. *All ordinances having for their purpose the lease or sale of*  
19 *real estate owned by the City, except city-owned subdivision or*  
20 *cemetery lots, may be effective not fewer than 5 days after the*  
21 *publication.*

22 *Sec. 2.170 Adoption of specialized, uniform codes. An*  
23 *ordinance adopting any specialized or uniform building, plumbing*  
24 *or electrical code or codes, printed in book or pamphlet form or*  
25 *any other specialized or uniform code or codes of any nature*  
26 *whatsoever so printed, may adopt such code, or any portion*  
27 *thereof, with such changes as may be necessary to make the same*  
28 *applicable to conditions in the City, and with such other changes*  
29 *as may be desirable, by reference thereto, without the necessity of*  
30 *reading the same at length. Such code, upon adoption, need not be*  
31 *published if an adequate number of copies of such code, either*  
32 *typewritten or printed, with such changes, if any, have been filed*  
33 *for use and examination by the public in the Office of the City*  
34 *Clerk at least 1 week before the passage of the ordinance adopting*  
35 *the code, or any amendment thereto. Notice of such filing shall be*  
36 *given in accordance with the provisions of subsection 2 of section*  
37 *2.160.*

38 *Sec. 2.180 Codification of ordinances; publication of Code.*

39 1. *The Council shall have the power to codify and publish a*  
40 *code of its municipal ordinances in the form of a Municipal Code,*  
41 *which Code may, at the election of the Council, have incorporated*  
42 *therein a copy of this Charter and such additional data as the*  
43 *Council may prescribe.*





1       1. Before removal of the City Manager may become effective,  
2 the Council must adopt, by the affirmative votes of at least four  
3 members, a resolution that must state the reasons for the proposed  
4 removal of the City Manager and may provide for the suspension  
5 of the City Manager from duty, but shall in any case cause to be  
6 paid him or her forthwith any unpaid balance of his or her salary  
7 and his or her salary for the next calendar month following the  
8 date of adoption of the resolution. A copy of the resolution must  
9 be delivered promptly to the City Manager.

10       2. The City Manager may reply in writing, and any member  
11 of the Council may request a public hearing, which, if requested,  
12 shall be held not earlier than 20 days or later than 30 days after  
13 the filing of such request. After such public hearing, if one be  
14 requested, and after full consideration, the Council may remove  
15 the City Manager by motion adopted by the affirmative votes of at  
16 least four members of the Council.

17       Sec. 3.030 Powers and duties. The City Manager shall be  
18 the Chief Administrative Officer and the Head of the  
19 Administrative Branch of the city government. The City Manager  
20 shall be responsible to and under the direction of the Council for  
21 the proper administration of all affairs of the City. Without  
22 limiting the foregoing general grant of powers, responsibilities,  
23 and duties, the City Manager shall have the power and be required  
24 to:

25       1. Subject to the civil service rules and regulations adopted by  
26 the Council, and with the approval of the Council, appoint all  
27 department heads and officers of the City except those officers the  
28 power of appointment of whom is vested in the Council and as  
29 otherwise provided in this Charter;

30       2. Subject to the civil service rules and regulations adopted by  
31 the Council and ordinances adopted pursuant thereto, pass upon  
32 and approve all proposed appointments and removals of  
33 subordinate employees, by all officers and heads of offices,  
34 agencies and departments;

35       3. Prepare the budget annually and submit it to the Council  
36 and be responsible for its administration after adoption;

37       4. Prepare and submit to the Council at the end of the fiscal  
38 year a complete report of the finances and administrative activities  
39 of the City for the preceding fiscal year;

40       5. Keep the Council advised of the financial condition and  
41 future needs of the City and make such recommendations as may  
42 seem to him or her desirable;

43       6. Keep himself or herself informed of the activities of the  
44 several agencies, offices and departments of the City and see to the



1 *proper administration of their affairs and the efficient conduct of*  
2 *their business;*

3 7. *Be vigilant and active in causing all provisions of the law*  
4 *to be executed and enforced;*

5 8. *Perform all such duties as may be prescribed by this*  
6 *Charter or required of him or her by the Council, not inconsistent*  
7 *with this Charter;*

8 9. *Submit a monthly report to the Council covering*  
9 *significant activities of the city agencies, offices and departments*  
10 *under his or her supervision and any significant changes in*  
11 *administrative rules and procedures promulgated by him or her;*  
12 *and*

13 10. *Submit special reports in writing to the Council in answer*  
14 *to any requests for information filed with the City Manager by a*  
15 *member of the Council.*

16 *Sec. 3.040 Seat at Council table. The City Manager shall*  
17 *be accorded a seat at the Council table and shall be entitled to*  
18 *participate in the deliberations of the Council, but shall not have a*  
19 *vote. The City Manager shall attend all regular and special*  
20 *meetings of the Council unless physically unable to do so or*  
21 *unless his or her absence has received prior approval by a*  
22 *majority of the Council.*

23 *Sec. 3.050 Absence, disability. To perform his or her duties*  
24 *during his or her temporary absence or disability, the City*  
25 *Manager may designate by letter filed with the City Clerk one of*  
26 *the other officers or department heads of the City to serve as*  
27 *acting City Manager during such temporary absence or disability.*  
28 *Such designation shall be subject to change thereof by the*  
29 *Council. In the event of the failure of the City Manager to make*  
30 *such a designation, the Council may by resolution appoint an*  
31 *officer or department head of the City to perform the duties of the*  
32 *City Manager until he or she shall be prepared to resume the*  
33 *duties of office.*

34  
35 **ARTICLE IV**

36  
37 **OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

38  
39 *Sec. 4.010 City administrative organization.*

40 1. *The Council may provide by ordinance not inconsistent*  
41 *with this Charter for the organization, conduct and operation of*  
42 *the several offices, departments and other agencies of the City as*  
43 *established by this Charter, for the creation of additional*  
44 *departments, divisions, offices and agencies and for their*  
45 *alteration or abolition, for their assignment and reassignment to*



1 *departments and for the number, titles, qualifications, powers,*  
2 *duties and compensation of all officers and employees.*

3 *2. The Council by ordinance may assign additional functions*  
4 *or duties to offices, departments or other agencies established by*  
5 *this Charter, but, except as otherwise provided in subsection 3,*  
6 *shall not discontinue or assign to any other office, department or*  
7 *other agency any function or duty assigned by this Charter to a*  
8 *particular office, department or agency. No office provided in this*  
9 *Charter, to be filled by appointment by the City Manager, shall be*  
10 *combined with an office provided in this Charter to be filled by*  
11 *appointment by the Council.*

12 *3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Council may transfer*  
13 *or consolidate functions of the city government to or with*  
14 *appropriate functions of the state or county government and, in*  
15 *case of any such transfer or consolidation, the provisions of this*  
16 *Charter providing for the functions of the city government so*  
17 *transferred or consolidated, shall be deemed suspended during the*  
18 *continuance of such transfer or consolidation, to the extent that*  
19 *such suspension is made necessary or convenient and is set forth*  
20 *in the ordinance establishing such transfer or consolidation. Any*  
21 *such transfer or consolidation may be repealed by ordinance.*

22 *4. Subject to the civil service rules and regulations adopted by*  
23 *the Council and section 3.020 of Article III, all officers and*  
24 *department heads of the City, except the City Attorney, Municipal*  
25 *Judge and the City Clerk, shall be appointed by the City Manager*  
26 *and shall thereafter serve at the pleasure of the City Manager.*

27 *5. Officers of the City appointed by the Council shall be*  
28 *required to reside within the city limits within 3 months of*  
29 *appointment. Employees of the City shall be required to live within*  
30 *a 50-mile radius of the City within 6 months of employment.*

31 *Sec. 4.020 Officers appointed by the Council.*

32 *1. In addition to the City Manager, the Council shall appoint*  
33 *the City Attorney and the Municipal Judge, if required pursuant*  
34 *to section 5.020 of Article V, who shall serve at the pleasure of the*  
35 *Council and may be removed by motion of the Council adopted by*  
36 *the affirmative votes of at least four members of the Council.*

37 *2. Subject to the provisions of this Charter and rules and*  
38 *regulations adopted by the Council, the Council shall appoint the*  
39 *City Clerk who shall serve at the pleasure of the Council and may*  
40 *be removed by motion of the Council adopted by the affirmative*  
41 *votes of three members of the Council.*

42 *3. The appointments of city officers pursuant to subsections 1*  
43 *and 2 shall be for indefinite terms, and each such officer shall*  
44 *receive such compensation and other benefits as may be*  
45 *determined by resolution of the Council from time to time.*



1 4. Any city officer may be temporarily suspended with full  
2 pay at any time by a majority vote of the Council, but no city  
3 officer may be removed from office unless he or she has first been  
4 given an opportunity for a hearing before the Council, at his or  
5 her request, with not less than 7 days' prior notice of the time and  
6 place of the hearing. Such a hearing may be either public or  
7 private, as requested by the officer, and at the hearing, the officer  
8 may be assisted by his or her own legal counsel. Any action of the  
9 Council following such a hearing shall be considered final and  
10 conclusive. If a city officer is so removed, the Council will appoint  
11 a person as a temporary replacement to perform the duties of the  
12 removed officer, and will appoint a qualified person as a  
13 permanent replacement officer as soon as practicable.

14 5. No person shall be appointed as a city officer who is a  
15 grandparent, parent, uncle, aunt, brother, sister, nephew, niece,  
16 child or grandchild, by birth, marriage or adoption, of a city  
17 officer, employee or Council member at the time of appointment.

18 Sec. 4.030 City Clerk powers and duties. The City Clerk  
19 shall have the power and be required to:

20 1. Receive all documents addressed to the Council and  
21 present such documents to the Council.

22 2. Attend all meetings of the Council and its committees and  
23 be responsible for:

24 (a) Recording and maintaining an accurate journal of Council  
25 proceedings;

26 (b) Recording the ayes and noes in the final action upon the  
27 questions of granting franchises, making of contracts, approving  
28 of bills, disposing of or leasing city property, the passage or  
29 reconsideration of any ordinance or upon any other act that  
30 involves the payment of money or the incurring of debt by the  
31 City; and

32 (c) Other duties as required upon the call of any member of  
33 the Council.

34 3. Maintain the journal of Council proceedings in books  
35 which shall bear appropriate titles and which shall be available  
36 for public inspection.

37 4. Maintain separate books in which shall be recorded  
38 respectively all ordinances and resolutions, with the certificate of  
39 the City Clerk annexed to each thereof stating the same to be the  
40 original or a correct copy, and as to an ordinance requiring  
41 publication, stating that the same has been published or posted in  
42 accordance with this Charter, and maintain all such books  
43 properly indexed and available for public inspection when not in  
44 actual use.





1       5. *Have charge of the repository for contracts, surety bonds,*  
2 *agreements and other related documents of City business.*

3       6. *Maintain custody of the City seal.*

4       7. *Administer oaths or affirmations, take affidavits and*  
5 *depositions pertaining to the affairs and business of the City and*  
6 *issue certified copies of official City records.*

7       8. *Conduct all City elections.*

8       *Sec. 4.040 City Attorney; qualifications, power and duties.*

9       1. *The City Attorney shall be an attorney at law duly licensed*  
10 *under the laws of the State of Nevada. He or she shall devote such*  
11 *time to the duties of his or her office as may be specified in the*  
12 *ordinance or resolution fixing the compensation of such office. If*  
13 *practicable, the Council shall appoint an attorney who has had*  
14 *special training or experience in municipal corporation law.*

15       2. *The City Attorney shall have the power and be required to:*

16       (a) *Represent and advise the Council and all city officers in all*  
17 *matters of law pertaining to their offices;*

18       (b) *Attend all meetings of the Council and give his or her*  
19 *advice or opinion in writing whenever requested to do so by the*  
20 *Council or by any of the officers and boards of the City;*

21       (c) *Prepare or approve all proposed ordinances and*  
22 *resolutions for the City, and amendments thereto;*

23       (d) *Prosecute on behalf of the people such criminal cases for*  
24 *violation of this Charter or city ordinances, and of misdemeanor*  
25 *offenses and infractions arising upon violations of the laws of the*  
26 *State as, in his or her opinion, that of the Council or of the City*  
27 *Manager, warrant his or her attention;*

28       (e) *Represent and appear for the City, any city officer or*  
29 *employee or former city officer or employee, in any or all actions*  
30 *and proceedings in which the City or any such officer or*  
31 *employee, in or by reason of his or her official capacity, is*  
32 *concerned or is a party;*

33       (f) *Approve the form of all bonds given to, and all contracts*  
34 *made by, the City, endorsing his or her approval thereon in*  
35 *writing; and*

36       (g) *On vacating the office, surrender to his or her successor all*  
37 *books, papers, files and documents pertaining to the affairs of the*  
38 *City.*

39       3. *The Council shall have control of all legal business and*  
40 *proceedings and may employ other attorneys to take charge of any*  
41 *litigation or matter or to assist the City Attorney therein.*

42       *Sec. 4.050 Director of Finance; qualifications, powers and*  
43 *duties.*



1 *1. The person appointed by the City Manager for the position*  
2 *of Director of Finance shall be qualified to administer and direct*  
3 *an integrated Department of Finance.*

4 *2. The Director of Finance shall have the power and be*  
5 *required to:*

6 *(a) Have charge of the administration of the financial affairs*  
7 *of the City under the direction of the City Manager.*

8 *(b) Supervise and be responsible for the disbursement of all*  
9 *money and have control over all expenditures to ensure that*  
10 *budget appropriations are not exceeded.*

11 *(c) Supervise a system of financial internal control including*  
12 *the auditing of all purchase orders before issuance, the auditing*  
13 *and approving before payment of all invoices, bills, payrolls,*  
14 *claims, demands or other charges against the City and, with the*  
15 *advice of the City Attorney, when necessary, determining the*  
16 *regularity, legality and correctness of such charges.*

17 *(d) With the advice of the City Attorney, settle claims, demands*  
18 *or other charges, including without limitation, the issuing of*  
19 *warrants therefor.*

20 *(e) Maintain general and cost accounting systems for the city*  
21 *government and each of its offices, departments and other*  
22 *agencies.*

23 *(f) Keep separate accounts for the items of appropriation*  
24 *contained in the city budget. Each account shall show the amount*  
25 *of appropriations, the amounts paid therefrom, the unpaid*  
26 *obligations against it and the unencumbered balance.*

27 *(g) Require reports of the receipts and disbursements from*  
28 *each receiving and expending agency of the city government to be*  
29 *made daily or at such intervals as he or she may deem expedient.*

30 *(h) Submit to the Council, through the City Manager, a*  
31 *monthly statement of all receipts and disbursements and other*  
32 *financial data in sufficient detail to show the exact financial*  
33 *condition of the City and, as of the end of each fiscal year, submit*  
34 *a complete financial statement and report.*

35 *(i) Administer the license and business tax program of the*  
36 *City.*

37 *(j) Direct treasury administration for the City, including,*  
38 *without limitation:*

39 *(1) Receiving and collecting revenues and receipts from*  
40 *whatever source;*

41 *(2) Maintaining custody of all public funds belonging to or*  
42 *under the control of the City or any office, department or other*  
43 *agency of the city government; and*

44 *(3) Depositing all funds coming into his or her hands in*  
45 *such depository as may be designated by resolution of the Council*



1 *or, if no such resolution is adopted, by the City Manager in*  
2 *compliance with all of the provisions of the Constitution and laws*  
3 *of this State governing the handling, depositing and securing of*  
4 *public funds.*

5 *(k) Direct centralized purchasing and a property control*  
6 *system for the city government under rules and regulations to be*  
7 *prescribed by ordinance.*

8 *Sec. 4.060 Performance review. On or before the annual*  
9 *anniversary date of the appointment of persons serving in the*  
10 *positions of City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk, the*  
11 *Council shall review and evaluate the performance of such*  
12 *appointees.*

13 *Sec. 4.070 Appointment powers of department heads.*  
14 *Subject to the approval of the City Manager and subject to civil*  
15 *service rules and regulations adopted by the Council, each head of*  
16 *a department, office or other agency shall have the power to*  
17 *appoint and remove such deputies, assistants, subordinates and*  
18 *employees as are provided for by the Council for his or her*  
19 *department, office or other agency.*

20  
21 **ARTICLE V**

22  
23 **JUDICIAL**

24  
25 *Sec. 5.010 Municipal court. The municipal court must be*  
26 *presided over by the Justice of the Peace of Laughlin Township as*  
27 *ex officio municipal judge.*

28 *Sec. 5.020 Municipal judge appointed. If the Office of*  
29 *Justice of the Peace of Laughlin Township ceases to exist, the*  
30 *municipal court shall be presided over by a municipal judge*  
31 *appointed by the Council.*

32  
33 **ARTICLE VI**

34  
35 **CITY BUDGETS**

36  
37 *Sec. 6.010 Budgets. Budgets for the City shall be prepared*  
38 *in accordance with and shall be governed by the provisions of the*  
39 *general laws of the State pertaining to budgets of cities.*

40  
41 **ARTICLE VII**

42  
43 **PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS**

44



1     *Sec. 7.010 Expenses of improvements; payment by funds or*  
2 *by special assessments. The expenses of public improvements*  
3 *and repairs, such as the improvement of streets and alleys by*  
4 *grading, paving, graveling and curbing, and the construction,*  
5 *repair, maintenance and preservation of sidewalks, drains, curbs,*  
6 *gutters, storm sewers, drainage systems, sewerage systems and*  
7 *sewerage disposal plants, may be paid from the General Fund or*  
8 *Street Fund or the cost or portion thereof as the Council shall*  
9 *determine, and may be defrayed by special assessments upon lots*  
10 *and premises abutting upon that part of the street or alley so*  
11 *improved or proposed so to be, or the land abutting upon such*  
12 *improvement and such other lands as in the opinion of the*  
13 *Council may benefit by the improvement, all in the manner*  
14 *contained in the provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes.*

15  
16                                   **ARTICLE VIII**

17  
18           **CITY ASSESSOR; TAX RECEIVER; FINANCES AND PURCHASING**

19  
20     *Sec. 8.010 Clark County Assessor to be ex officio City*  
21 *Assessor. The County Assessor of Clark County shall, in*  
22 *addition to the duties now imposed upon him or her by law, act as*  
23 *the Assessor of the City and shall be ex officio City Assessor,*  
24 *without further compensation. He or she shall perform such*  
25 *duties as the Council may by ordinance prescribe with the County*  
26 *Assessor's consent.*

27     *Sec. 8.020 Clark County Treasurer to be ex officio City Tax*  
28 *Receiver. The County Treasurer of Clark County shall, in*  
29 *addition to the duties now imposed upon him or her by law, act as*  
30 *ex officio City Tax Receiver. He or she shall receive and safely*  
31 *keep all moneys that come to the City by taxation, and shall pay*  
32 *the same to the Director of Finance. The City Tax Receiver may,*  
33 *with the consent of the Council, collect special assessments which*  
34 *may be levied by authority of this Charter or city ordinance when*  
35 *they become due and payable, and whenever and wherever the*  
36 *general laws of the State of Nevada regarding the authorized acts*  
37 *of tax receivers may be, the same hereby are, made applicable to*  
38 *the City Tax Receiver of the City of Laughlin, in the collection of*  
39 *city special assessments.*

40     *Sec. 8.030 Procedures for city purchasing. All purchases of*  
41 *goods or services of every kind or description for the City by any*  
42 *office, commission, board, department or any division thereof*  
43 *shall be made in conformance with the Nevada Revised Statutes,*  
44 *as amended from time to time.*



1 *Sec. 8.040 Transfer of appropriations. The City Manager*  
2 *may at any time transfer any unencumbered appropriation*  
3 *balance or portion thereof between general classifications of*  
4 *expenditures within an office, department or agency.*

5 *Sec. 8.050 When contracts and expenditures prohibited.*

6 *1. No officer, department or agency shall, during any budget*  
7 *year, expend or contract to expend any money or incur any*  
8 *liability, or enter into any contract which by its terms involves the*  
9 *expenditure of money, for any purpose, in excess of the amounts*  
10 *appropriated for that general classification of expenditure*  
11 *pursuant to this Charter. Any contract, verbal or written, made in*  
12 *violation of this Charter shall be null and void. Any officer or*  
13 *employee of the City who violates this section shall be guilty of a*  
14 *misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall cease to hold his*  
15 *or her office or employment.*

16 *2. Nothing in this section shall prevent the making of*  
17 *contracts or the spending of money for capital improvements to be*  
18 *financed in whole or in part by the issuance of bonds, nor the*  
19 *making of contracts of lease or for services for a period exceeding*  
20 *the budget year in which such a contract is made, when such a*  
21 *contract is permitted by law.*

22  
23 **ARTICLE IX**

24  
25 **APPOINTIVE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

26  
27 *Sec. 9.010 Established; enumerated.*

28 *1. The Council may create by ordinance such other*  
29 *appointive boards or commissions as in its judgment are required*  
30 *and may grant to them powers and duties as are consistent with*  
31 *the provisions of this Charter. The Council, by motion adopted by*  
32 *the affirmative votes of at least a majority of its members, may*  
33 *appoint from time to time temporary committees as deemed*  
34 *advisable to render counsel and advice to the appointing*  
35 *authorities on any designated matters or subjects within the*  
36 *jurisdiction of such authorities.*

37 *2. The Personnel Board is hereby established and has the*  
38 *powers and duties contained in this Article.*

39 *Sec. 9.020 Appointments, removals, vacancies, terms.*

40 *1. Except as otherwise specified in this Charter, the members*  
41 *of each of the appointive boards and commissions shall be*  
42 *appointed, and may be removed, by the Council, subject in both*  
43 *appointment and removal by the affirmative votes of a majority of*  
44 *the Council. For the purposes of this rule, residency is only*  
45 *required at the time of nomination.*



1        2. *If a member of a board or commission:*

2        (a) *Is absent from two regular meetings of such board or*  
3 *commission, consecutively, unless by permission of such board or*  
4 *commission expressed in its official minutes;*

5        (b) *Fails to attend at least one-half of the regular meetings of*  
6 *such board or commission within a calendar year;*

7        (c) *Is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude; or*

8        (d) *Ceases to be a qualified elector of the City,*

9        *↳ the office of that member shall become vacant and shall be so*  
10 *declared by the Council.*

11       3. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 or section*  
12 *9.030, the members of such boards and commissions shall serve*  
13 *for a term of 2 years and until their respective successors are*  
14 *appointed and qualified.*

15       *Sec. 9.030 Prohibition against serving as treasurer for*  
16 *campaign committee. If any member of an appointive board or*  
17 *commission shall become the treasurer of a campaign committee*  
18 *which receives contributions for any candidate for Mayor or*  
19 *Council member, his or her office shall become vacant and shall*  
20 *be so declared by the Council. Any provisions of this Article*  
21 *notwithstanding, no person who serves as the treasurer of a*  
22 *campaign committee which receives contributions for any*  
23 *candidate for Mayor or Council member shall be eligible for*  
24 *appointment to any appointive board or commission.*

25       *Sec. 9.040 Appropriations therefor. The Council shall*  
26 *include in its annual budget such appropriations of funds as, in its*  
27 *opinion, shall be sufficient for the efficient and proper*  
28 *functioning of such appointive boards and commissions.*

29       *Sec. 9.050 Meetings; chair.*

30       1. *The election of each chair and vice chair shall be held at*  
31 *the meetings of the respective boards and commissions during the*  
32 *month of July of each year. The board or commission, in the event*  
33 *of a vacancy in the office of the chair or vice chair, shall elect one*  
34 *of its members for the unexpired term. The chair shall have the*  
35 *responsibility for informing the Council or board, commission or*  
36 *committee of actions or inactions and the reasons therefor.*

37       2. *Each board or commission, other than the Personnel*  
38 *Board, shall hold a regular meeting at least once a month with*  
39 *reasonable provision for attendance by the public. The City*  
40 *Manager shall designate a secretary for the recording of minutes*  
41 *for each such board and commission, who shall keep a record of*  
42 *its proceedings and transactions. Each board and commission*  
43 *shall prescribe rules and regulations governing its operations*  
44 *which shall be consistent with this Charter and shall be filed with*  
45 *the City Clerk for public inspection. The Personnel Board shall*



1 *meet monthly, provided there is business on the agenda to come*  
2 *before it. In the event no business is placed on the agenda of the*  
3 *Personnel Board 5 days preceding the tentative meeting date, no*  
4 *meeting need be held, provided that in no event shall more than 3*  
5 *months intervene between meetings of the Personnel Board.*

6 *Sec. 9.060 Compensation. The members of appointive*  
7 *boards and commissions are entitled to receive such*  
8 *compensation, if any, as may be prescribed by ordinance and may*  
9 *receive reimbursement for necessary traveling and other expenses*  
10 *when on official duty of the City when such expenditure has been*  
11 *so authorized by the board or commission and subject to rules and*  
12 *regulations prescribed by ordinance or order of the Council.*

13 *Sec. 9.070 Attendance of witnesses; oaths and affirmations.*  
14 *Each appointive board or commission has the same power as the*  
15 *Council to compel the attendance of witnesses, to examine them*  
16 *under oath and to compel the production of evidence before it.*  
17 *Each member of any such board or commission shall have the*  
18 *power to administer oaths and affirmations in any investigation or*  
19 *proceeding pending before such board or commission.*

20 *Sec. 9.080 Personnel Board: Membership. The Personnel*  
21 *Board shall consist of five members to be appointed by the*  
22 *Council from the qualified electors of the City. None of the*  
23 *members may be removed from office without reasonable and*  
24 *sufficient cause, in accordance with procedures as provided by*  
25 *ordinance. None of the members may hold public office or*  
26 *employment in the city government or be a candidate for any other*  
27 *public office or position, be an officer of any local, state or*  
28 *national partisan political club or organization, or while a*  
29 *member of the Personnel Board or for a period of 1 year after he*  
30 *or she has ceased for any reason to be a member, be eligible for*  
31 *appointment to any salaried office or employment in the service of*  
32 *the City.*

33 *Sec. 9.090 Personnel Board: Powers and duties. The*  
34 *Personnel Board shall have the power and be required to:*

35 *1. Hear appeals pertaining to the disciplinary suspension,*  
36 *demotion or dismissal of any officer or employee having*  
37 *permanent status in any office, position or employment in the civil*  
38 *service, and as otherwise provided for in the civil service rules and*  
39 *regulations;*

40 *2. Consider matters that may be referred to it by the Council*  
41 *or the City Manager and render such counsel and advice in*  
42 *regard thereto as may be requested by the referring authorities;*

43 *3. By its own motion, make such studies and investigations as*  
44 *it may deem necessary for the review of civil service rules and*  
45 *regulations, or to determine the wisdom and efficacy of the rules,*



1 *regulations, policies, plans and procedures dealing with civil*  
2 *service matters and report its findings and recommendations to*  
3 *the City Manager or the Council, or to both such authorities, as it*  
4 *may see fit; and*

5 *4. Conduct public hearings on proposed revisions of civil*  
6 *service rules and regulations in the manner as prescribed by*  
7 *ordinance and advise the Council of its findings in such matters*  
8 *within 60 days.*

9 *Sec. 9.100 Charter Committee: Appointment; terms;*  
10 *qualifications; compensation.*

11 *1. The Charter Committee must be appointed as follows:*

12 *(a) One member by each member of the Council.*

13 *(b) One member by the Mayor.*

14 *(c) One member by each member of the Senate and Assembly*  
15 *delegation representing the residents of the City.*

16 *2. Each member shall:*

17 *(a) Serve during the term of the person by whom he or she was*  
18 *appointed;*

19 *(b) Be a registered voter of the City; and*

20 *(c) Reside in the City during his or her term of office.*

21 *3. Members of the Committee are entitled to receive*  
22 *compensation, in an amount set by ordinance of the Council, for*  
23 *each full meeting of the Committee they attend.*

24 *Sec. 9.110 Charter Committee: Meetings; duties.*

25 *The Charter Committee shall:*

26 *1. Meet at least once every 2 years immediately before the*  
27 *beginning of each regular session of the Legislature and when*  
28 *requested by the Council or the Chair of the Committee.*

29 *2. Prepare recommendations to be presented to the*  
30 *Legislature on behalf of the City concerning all necessary*  
31 *amendments to this Charter.*

32 *3. Recommend to the Council the salary to be paid all elective*  
33 *officers for the ensuing term.*

34 *4. Perform all functions and do all things necessary to*  
35 *accomplish the purposes for which it is established, including*  
36 *without limitation, holding meetings and public hearings, and*  
37 *obtaining assistance from city officers.*

38 *Sec. 9.120 Charter Committee members: Removal; grounds.*

39 *1. Any member of the Charter Committee may be removed by*  
40 *a majority of the remaining members of the Committee for cause,*  
41 *including without limitation, the failure or refusal to perform the*  
42 *duties of office, the absence from three successive regular*  
43 *meetings or ceasing to meet any qualification for appointment to*  
44 *the Committee.*





1 *2. In case of removal, a replacement must be appointed by the*  
2 *officer who appointed the removed member.*  
3

4 **ARTICLE X**

5 **CITY ELECTIONS**  
6

7  
8 *Sec. 10.010 Applicability of state election laws. All city*  
9 *elections must be nonpartisan in character and must be conducted*  
10 *in accordance with the provisions of the general election laws of*  
11 *the State of Nevada and any ordinance regulations as adopted by*  
12 *the Council which are consistent with law and this Charter.*

13 *Sec. 10.020 Terms. All full terms of office in the Council*  
14 *are 4 years, and Council members and the Mayor must be elected*  
15 *at large without regard to precinct residency. Two full-term*  
16 *Council members and the Mayor are to be elected in each year of*  
17 *a federal presidential election, and two full-term Council members*  
18 *are to be elected 2 years immediately following a federal*  
19 *presidential election. In each election, the candidates receiving the*  
20 *greatest number of votes must be declared elected to the vacant*  
21 *full-term positions.*

22 *Sec. 10.030 Specific Council positions. In the event a 2-*  
23 *year term position on the Council will be available at the time of a*  
24 *municipal election as provided in section 10.040, a candidate must*  
25 *file specifically for such a position. The candidate receiving the*  
26 *greatest respective number of votes must be declared elected to the*  
27 *available 2-year position.*

28 *Sec. 10.040 Municipal elections. Except as otherwise*  
29 *provided in this Charter, a primary municipal election and a*  
30 *general municipal election must be held on the dates fixed by the*  
31 *election laws of this State for statewide elections.*

32 *Sec. 10.050 Primary not required. A primary municipal*  
33 *election must not be held if not more than double the number of*  
34 *Council members to be elected file as candidates. A primary*  
35 *municipal election must not be held for the Office of Mayor if not*  
36 *more than two candidates file for that position. The primary*  
37 *municipal election must be held for the purpose of eliminating*  
38 *candidates in excess of a figure double the number of Council*  
39 *members to be elected.*

40 *Sec. 10.060 General municipal election not required. If, in*  
41 *the primary municipal election, a candidate receives votes equal to*  
42 *a majority of voters casting ballots in that election, he or she shall*  
43 *be considered elected to one of the vacancies and his or her name*  
44 *shall not be placed on the ballot for the general municipal*  
45 *election.*



1 *Sec. 10.070 Voters entitled to vote for each seat on ballot.*  
2 *In each primary municipal election and general municipal*  
3 *election, voters shall be entitled to cast ballots for candidates in a*  
4 *number equal to the number of seats to be filled in the city*  
5 *elections.*

6 *Sec. 10.080 Council to control elections. The conduct of all*  
7 *municipal elections shall be under the control of the Council,*  
8 *which shall adopt by ordinance all regulations which it considers*  
9 *desirable and consistent with law and this Charter. Nothing in this*  
10 *Charter shall be construed as to deny or abridge the power of the*  
11 *Council to provide for supplemental regulations for the prevention*  
12 *of fraud in such elections and for the recount of ballots in cases of*  
13 *doubt or fraud.*

14  
15 **ARTICLE XI**

16  
17 **INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL**

18  
19 *Sec. 11.010 Registered voters' power of initiative and*  
20 *referendum concerning city ordinances. The registered voters of*  
21 *a city may:*

22 *1. Propose ordinances to the Council and, if the Council fails*  
23 *to adopt an ordinance so proposed without change in substance,*  
24 *adopt or reject it at a primary or general municipal election or*  
25 *primary or general state election; and*

26 *2. Require reconsideration by the Council of any adopted*  
27 *ordinance, and if the Council fails to repeal an ordinance so*  
28 *considered, approve or reject it at a primary or general municipal*  
29 *election or primary or general state election.*

30 *Sec. 11.020 Initiative and referendum proceedings. All*  
31 *initiative and referendum proceedings shall be conducted in*  
32 *conformance with the provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes,*  
33 *as amended from time to time.*

34 *Sec. 11.030 Results of election.*

35 *1. If a majority of the registered voters voting on a proposed*  
36 *initiative ordinance vote in its favor, it shall be considered adopted*  
37 *upon certification of the results of the election and must be treated*  
38 *in all respects in the same manner as ordinances of the same kind*  
39 *adopted by the Council. If conflicting ordinances are approved at*  
40 *the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of*  
41 *affirmative votes prevails to the extent of the conflict.*

42 *2. If a majority of the registered voters voting on a referred*  
43 *ordinance vote against it, it shall be considered repealed upon*  
44 *certification of the results of the election.*





1       2. *No franchise shall be transferred hereafter by any utility to*  
2 *another without the approval of the Council and, as a condition to*  
3 *such approval, the successor in interest to the said franchise shall*  
4 *execute a written agreement containing a covenant that it will*  
5 *comply with all the terms and conditions of the franchise then in*  
6 *existence.*

7       *Sec. 12.030 Condemnation. The City, by initiative*  
8 *ordinance, shall have the right to condemn the property of any*  
9 *public utility subject to the provisions of chapter 37 of NRS. The*  
10 *public utility shall receive just compensation for the taking of its*  
11 *property. Such an initiative petition must be voted on by the people*  
12 *and cannot be passed by simple acceptance of the Council.*

13       *Sec. 12.040 Establishment of municipally owned and*  
14 *operated utilities.*

15       1. *The City shall have power to own and operate any public*  
16 *utility, to construct and install all facilities that are reasonably*  
17 *needed and to lease or purchase any existing utility properties*  
18 *used and useful in public service.*

19       2. *The Council may provide by ordinance for the*  
20 *establishment of such a utility, but an ordinance providing for a*  
21 *newly owned and operated utility shall be enacted only after such*  
22 *hearings and procedure as required herein for the granting of a*  
23 *franchise, and shall also be submitted to and approved at a*  
24 *popular referendum provided that an ordinance providing for any*  
25 *extension, enlargement or improvement of an existing utility may*  
26 *be enacted as a matter of general municipal administration.*

27       3. *The City shall have the power to execute long-term*  
28 *contracts for the purpose of augmenting the services of existing*  
29 *municipally owned utilities. Such contracts shall be passed only in*  
30 *the form of ordinances and may exceed in length the terms of*  
31 *office of the members of the Council.*

32       *Sec. 12.050 Municipal utility organizations.*

33       1. *The Council may provide for the establishment of a*  
34 *separate department to administer the utility function, including*  
35 *without limitation, the regulation of privately owned and operated*  
36 *utilities and the operation of municipally owned utilities. Such a*  
37 *department shall keep separate financial and accounting records*  
38 *for each municipally owned and operated utility and before*  
39 *February 1 of each fiscal year, shall prepare for the City*  
40 *Manager, in accordance with his or her specifications, a*  
41 *comprehensive report of each such utility. The responsible*  
42 *departments or officer shall endeavor to make each such utility*  
43 *financially self-sustaining, unless the Council shall by ordinance*  
44 *adopt a different policy. All net profits derived from municipally*



1 *owned and operated utilities may be expended in the discretion of*  
2 *the Council for general municipal purposes.*

3 2. *The rates for the products and services of any municipally*  
4 *owned and operated utility shall only be established, reduced,*  
5 *altered or increased by resolution of the Council following a*  
6 *public hearing.*

7 *Sec. 12.060 Financial provisions.*

8 1. *The City may finance the acquisition of privately owned*  
9 *utility properties, the purchase of land and the cost of all*  
10 *construction and property installation for utility purposes by*  
11 *borrowing in accordance with the provisions of general law.*

12 2. *Appropriate provisions shall be made for the amortization*  
13 *and retirement of all bonds within a maximum period of 40 years.*  
14 *Such amortization and retirement may be effected through the use*  
15 *of depreciation funds or other financial resources provided*  
16 *through the earnings of the utility.*

17 *Sec. 12.070 Sale of public utilities; proviso.*

18 1. *No public utility of any kind, after having been acquired by*  
19 *the City, may thereafter be sold or leased by the City, unless the*  
20 *proposition for the sale or lease has been submitted to the electors*  
21 *of the City at a special election or primary or general municipal*  
22 *election or primary or general state election. After a majority vote*  
23 *of those electors in favor of the sale, the sale may not be made*  
24 *except after 30 days' published notice thereof, except that the*  
25 *provisions of this section do not apply to a sale by the Council of*  
26 *parts, equipment, trucks, engines and tools which have become*  
27 *obsolete or worn out, any of which equipment may be sold by the*  
28 *Council in the regular course of business.*

29 2. *A special election may be held only if the Council*  
30 *determines, by a unanimous vote, that an emergency exists. The*  
31 *determination made by the Council is conclusive unless it is*  
32 *shown that the Council acted with fraud or a gross abuse of*  
33 *discretion. An action to challenge the determination made by the*  
34 *Council must be commenced within 15 days after the*  
35 *determination of the Council is final. As used in this subsection,*  
36 *"emergency" means any unexpected occurrence or combination*  
37 *of occurrences which requires immediate action by the Council to*  
38 *prevent or mitigate a substantial financial loss to the City or to*  
39 *enable the Council to provide an essential service to the residents*  
40 *of the City.*

41  
42 **ARTICLE XIII**

43 **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**  
44  
45



1       *Sec. 13.010 Removal of officers and employees. Subject to*  
2 *the provisions of this Charter not inconsistent herewith, any*  
3 *employee of the City may be suspended or dismissed from*  
4 *employment at any time by the City Manager or by any applicable*  
5 *person appointed by the City Manager pursuant to this Charter.*  
6 *Unless otherwise provided in this Charter, any such action shall*  
7 *be considered final and conclusive and shall not be subject to*  
8 *appeal to any city governmental entity.*

9       *Sec. 13.020 Right of City Manager and other officers of*  
10 *Council. The City Manager shall have the right to take part in*  
11 *the discussion of all matters coming before the Council, and the*  
12 *directors and other officers of the City shall be entitled to take part*  
13 *in all discussions of the Council relating to their respective offices,*  
14 *departments or agencies.*

15       *Sec. 13.030 Personal interest.*

16       1. *No elective or appointive officer shall take any official*  
17 *action on any contract or other matter in which he or she has any*  
18 *financial interest.*

19       2. *A violation of the provisions of this section shall constitute*  
20 *a misdemeanor, subject to a penalty not to exceed the penalties*  
21 *specified for misdemeanors under applicable provisions of Nevada*  
22 *Revised Statutes in effect at the time of such violation.*

23       *Sec. 13.040 Official bonds. Officers or employees, as the*  
24 *Council may by general ordinance require so to do, including*  
25 *without limitation, a municipal court judge appointed pursuant to*  
26 *section 5.020 of Article V, if any, shall give bond in such amount*  
27 *and with such surety as may be approved by the Council. The*  
28 *premiums on such bonds shall be paid by the City.*

29       *Sec. 13.050 Oath of office. Every officer of the City shall,*  
30 *before entering upon the duties of his or her office, take and*  
31 *subscribe to the official oath of office of the State of Nevada:*

32  
33       *“I, ....., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will*  
34 *support, protect and defend the Constitution and*  
35 *Government of the United States and the Constitution and*  
36 *Government of the State of Nevada, against all enemies,*  
37 *whether domestic or foreign, and that I will bear true faith,*  
38 *allegiance and loyalty to the same, any Ordinance,*  
39 *Resolution or Law of any State notwithstanding, and I will*  
40 *well and faithfully perform all the duties of the Office of*  
41 *..... on which I am about to enter; (if any oath) so*  
42 *help me God; (if any affirmation) under the pains and*  
43 *penalties of perjury.”*



1 *Sec. 13.060 Short title; citation of City of Laughlin Act of*  
2 *2011. This Charter shall be known and may be cited as the City*  
3 *of Laughlin Charter.*

4 *Sec. 13.070 Construction of Charter; separability of*  
5 *provisions.*

6 *1. Whenever any reference is made to any portion of the*  
7 *Nevada Revised Statutes or of any other law of this State or of the*  
8 *United States, such reference shall apply to all amendments and*  
9 *additions thereto now or hereafter made.*

10 *2. If any section or part of a section of this Charter shall be*  
11 *held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such holding*  
12 *shall not affect the remainder of this Charter nor the context in*  
13 *which such section or part of section so held invalid may appear,*  
14 *except to the extent that an entire section or part of a section may*  
15 *be inseparably connected in meaning and effect with the section*  
16 *or part of the section to which such holding shall directly apply.*

17 **Sec. 2.** As used in sections 2 to 9, inclusive, of this act:

18 1. "Board of County Commissioners" means the Board of  
19 County Commissioners of Clark County.

20 2. "City" means the City of Laughlin.

21 3. "City Council" means the City Council elected pursuant to  
22 section 3 of this act.

23 4. "County" means Clark County, Nevada.

24 5. "County Clerk" means the County Clerk of Clark County.

25 6. "Qualified elector" means a person who is registered to vote  
26 in this State and is a resident of the area to be included in the City,  
27 as shown by the last official registration lists before the election.

28 **Sec. 3.** 1. The primary and general elections for the offices  
29 of Mayor and City Council must be:

30 (a) Held at the same time and in the same manner as the  
31 statewide primary and general elections held in the County in 2020;  
32 and

33 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, conducted to  
34 the extent practicable in accordance with the provisions of chapter  
35 293 of NRS.

36 2. A person who wishes to become a candidate for Mayor or  
37 City Council member must:

38 (a) Reside within the boundaries of the City; and

39 (b) File a declaration of candidacy pursuant to NRS 293.177  
40 with the County Clerk.

41 3. A candidate may withdraw his or her candidacy pursuant to  
42 the provisions of NRS 293.202.

43 4. If there are less than three candidates for any office to be  
44 filled at the primary election, their names must not be placed on the



1 ballot for the primary election but must be placed on the ballot for  
2 the general election.

3 5. The names of the two candidates for Mayor and for each seat  
4 on the City Council who receive the highest number of votes in the  
5 primary election must be placed on the ballot for the general  
6 election. A candidate for Mayor or a seat on the City Council may  
7 not withdraw from the general election.

8 6. Only qualified electors may cast a ballot at the primary and  
9 general elections for the offices of Mayor and City Council member.

10 **Sec. 4.** The County Clerk shall include the names of  
11 candidates for the offices of Mayor and City Council members in  
12 the sample ballots sent to qualified electors pursuant to NRS  
13 293.565 for the primary and general elections held pursuant to  
14 section 3 of this act.

15 **Sec. 5.** 1. The term of the Mayor elected at the general  
16 election held pursuant to section 3 of this act expires upon the  
17 election and qualifications of the person elected Mayor in the  
18 general municipal election held in 2024 pursuant to section 10.040  
19 of the City of Laughlin Charter.

20 2. The members of the City Council elected at the general  
21 election held pursuant to section 3 of this act shall, at the first  
22 meeting of the City Council after their election and qualification,  
23 draw lots to determine the length of their respective terms.

24 3. The terms of two members of the City Council elected at the  
25 general election held pursuant to section 3 of this act expire upon  
26 the election and qualification of the persons elected to the City  
27 Council in the general municipal election held in 2022 pursuant to  
28 section 10.040 of the City of Laughlin Charter. The terms of the two  
29 other members of the City Council elected at the general election  
30 held pursuant to section 3 of this act expire upon the election and  
31 qualification of the persons elected to the City Council in the  
32 general municipal election held in 2024 pursuant to section 10.040  
33 of the City of Laughlin Charter.

34 **Sec. 6.** Before July 1, 2021, the City Council may:

35 1. Prepare and adopt a budget;

36 2. Prepare and adopt ordinances;

37 3. Prepare to levy an ad valorem tax on property within the  
38 area of the City, at the time and in the amount prescribed by law for  
39 cities, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021;

40 4. Negotiate and prepare an equitable apportionment of the  
41 fixed assets of the County pursuant to section 8 of this act;

42 5. Negotiate and prepare contracts for the employment of  
43 personnel;





1 6. Negotiate and prepare contracts to provide services for the  
2 City, including, without limitation, those services provided for in  
3 chapter 277 of NRS;

4 7. Negotiate and prepare contracts for the purchase of  
5 equipment, materials and supplies;

6 8. Negotiate and prepare contracts or memorandums of  
7 understanding with the County for the City to provide services to  
8 unincorporated areas of the City that are contiguous to the City;

9 9. Negotiate and prepare a cooperative agreement pursuant to  
10 NRS 360.730; and

11 10. Communicate with and provide information to the  
12 Department of Taxation to effectuate the allocation of tax revenues  
13 on July 1, 2021.

14 **Sec. 7.** 1. The County shall continue to provide services to  
15 the City and is entitled to receive the taxes and other revenue from  
16 the City through June 30, 2021.

17 2. All special districts, except fire protection districts, located  
18 within the boundaries of the City continue to exist within the City  
19 on and after July 1, 2021.

20 **Sec. 8.** 1. The City Council and the Board of County  
21 Commissioners shall, not later than September 30, 2021, equitably  
22 apportion those fixed assets of the County which are located within  
23 the boundaries of the City. The City Council and the Board of  
24 County Commissioners shall consider the location, use and types of  
25 assets in determining an equitable apportionment between the  
26 County and the City.

27 2. Any real property and its appurtenances located within the  
28 City and not required for the efficient operation of the duties of  
29 the County must first be applied toward the share of the assets of the  
30 County belonging to the City. Any real property which is required  
31 by the County for the efficient operation of its duties must not be  
32 transferred to the City.

33 3. If an agreement to apportion the assets of the County is not  
34 reached before October 1, 2021, the matter may be submitted to  
35 arbitration upon the motion of either party.

36 4. Any appeal of the arbitration award must be filed with the  
37 district court not later than 30 days after the award is granted.

38 **Sec. 9.** Any property located within the City which was  
39 assessed and taxed by the County before incorporation must  
40 continue to be assessed and taxed to pay for the indebtedness  
41 incurred by the County before incorporation.

42 **Sec. 10.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any  
43 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the  
44 provisions of this act.



- 1     **Sec. 11.** 1. This section and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of  
2 this act become effective upon passage and approval.  
3     2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2021.





