



# Memo

To: City Council

From: Library Board of Trustees

Date: 1/16/2026

Re: Request to Place Proposed Charter Amendments on June 9, 2026 Ballot

The purpose of this memo is to formally request that the proposed amendments to the Ellsworth City Charter, as submitted by the Library Board of Trustees, be placed on the ballot for the upcoming municipal election on June 9, 2026.

The Library Board of Trustees has proposed an amendment to Article VIII of the Ellsworth City Charter to increase the number of trustees from five to seven. This amendment aims to enhance the governance and representation of the Library Board.

## **Summary of the Proposed Amendment:**

Pursuant to Maine State Statute Title 30-A, §2104, the municipal officers have determined that it is not practical to print the proposed amendment on the ballot and that a summary would not misrepresent the subject matter of the proposed amendment. Therefore, the following summary is provided in accordance with section 2105, subsection 3, paragraph C:

The proposed amendment to Article VIII of the Ellsworth City Charter increases the number of trustees on the Library Board from five to seven. The first position will be added at the November 2026 regular election and each third year thereafter, and the second position at the November 2027 regular election and each third year thereafter.

The Ellsworth City Clerk will include this summary on the ballot instead of the text of the proposed amendment.

## **Proposed Amendment Text:**

ELLSWORTH CITY COUNCIL

Be it ordered that the City Council shall hold a public hearing on February 17, 2026, to consider the following Charter amendment to Article VIII of the Ellsworth City Charter:

## **City of Ellsworth Charter Amendment**

Sec.8.01 – Board of Trustees, Composition, Eligibility Election and Term.

- (a) Composition. The Board is comprised of ~~five~~ seven member elected by the Registered Voters of the City in accordance with this Charter.
- (b) Eligibility. Only persons who are, and remain during their term, residents of the City and registered to vote in the City's municipal elections are eligible to hold the office of Trustee.
- (c) Election and Term. Trustees are elected for three year terms consistent with the following schedule: one position in 2021 and each third year thereafter, and two positions in all other years; service will commence on the date appointed for the swearing in of City Council members under Article II and terminates upon vacancy or the swearing in of a successor, whichever comes first. Notwithstanding the above, the two new positions created by the expansion of the Board from five to seven Trustees shall be elected for two-year terms at the November 2026 election and for three-year terms thereafter.

This amendment is effective upon enactment.

Note: New text is underlined; deleted text is struck out.

Ballot question for June 9, special election:

“Shall the municipality approve the charter amendment summarized below?”

The Ellsworth Public Library Board of Trustees are requesting to increase the Board from five to seven members elected by registered city voters. Two new Trustees shall be elected for two-year terms at the November 2026 election and for three-year terms thereafter.