



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Jim Bouley
DATE: November 5, 2021
SUBJECT: Redistricting City Ward Lines

Recommendation

Approve the attached ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Title I, General Code; Chapter 1, Government Organization, Article 1-3, Miscellaneous Regulations, amending Section 1-3-9 Ward Lines.

Background

The City Charter states:

Ward lines shall divide the City of Concord into wards of equal population as is practicable. To achieve that goal, upon the issuance of the federal census, and every ten years thereafter, or as may be necessary to conduct fair elections under New Hampshire's Constitution, the City Council shall initiate review of the City's ward lines to determine if redistricting of ward lines is necessary.

At the October 12, 2021 City Council meeting, the City Council approved appointments to a Redistricting Committee charged with reviewing 2020 census information and bringing forth ward redistricting recommendations to the City Council.

Members of the Redistricting Committee met on October 20, 2021, October 26, 2021 and November 4, 2021. At the October 20, 2021 meeting, the Committee determined that it was necessary to undergo redistricting due to population changes in the wards throughout the City, as shown on the federal census. During the October 20, 2021 meeting and the two subsequent meetings, the Committee reconfigured the wards into as equal population as practicable. The Committee's recommended ward line changes would ensure that our wards are consistent with the applicable statutory and constitutional requirements.

Discussion

If approved the proposed ordinance will amend ward lines within the City of Concord, effective January 1, 2022.