

# **2025 ELECTION** **REFERENDUM INFORMATION**

## **How Questions will appear on Your Ballot**

In response to Bellevue Borough Ordinance No. 25-05, please be advised that the Allegheny County Law Department has approved the following questions for placement upon the November 4, 2025 Municipal Election ballot:

### **BELLEVUE BOROUGH PROPOSED HOME RULE CHARTER AMENMENT SPECIAL ELECTION QUESTION #1**

Shall the Home Rule Charter of the Borough of Bellevue be amended to change the composition of Council from nine (9) members consisting of three (3) members from each of three (3) wards to seven (7) members consisting of two (2) members from each of three (3) wards and one (1) at-large member?

#### **Explanation of Ballot Question #1**

If this question is approved by a majority of those voting "Yes" the size of Bellevue Borough Council will be reduced from 9 members to 7 members. Under the proposed change, each of the three wards would elect 2 council members (instead of the current 3), and voters' borough-wide would elect 1 at-large council member who can reside in any of the three wards

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### **BELLEVUE BOROUGH PROPOSED HOME RULE CHARTER AMENMENT SPECIAL ELECTION QUESTION #2**

Shall the Home Rule Charter of the Borough of Bellevue be amended to remove all gender specific references to Council members and change the residency requirement for council members from three (3) years to two (2) years prior to election and update the language to use gender-neutral terms?

#### **Explanation of Ballot Question #2**

If this question is approved by a majority of those voting "Yes" the residency requirement for council candidates will be reduced from 3 years to 2 years of in their ward prior to election. The amendment also updates the charter language from "Councilmen" to "Council members" to use gender-neutral terminology.

## Current Home Rule Charter Amendment question #1

### SECTION 301 COMPOSITION

The Town Council of the Borough of Bellevue hereinafter referred to as "the Council", shall consist of nine (9) members Three (3) from each of three (3) compact and contiguous Wards, elected by the qualified voters of their respective wards. Said Wards shall be as bounded and described by ordinance and set forth in the official Ward Map of the Borough. Modifications in the boundaries of said wards shall be made by ordinance; provided, however, that no modifications of said wards shall be made except to equalize the populations of the Wards after each decennial census of population of the United States, or to effect any other change required by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the United States.

Will read if approved by majority vote

### SECTION 301 COMPOSITION

The Town Council of the Borough of Bellevue hereinafter referred to as "the Council", shall consist of seven (7) members two (2) from each of three (3) compact and contiguous Wards, and elected by the qualified voters of their respective wards and one (1) member at large from any of the three Wards. Said Wards shall be as bounded and described by ordinance and set forth in the official Ward Map of the Borough. Modifications in the boundaries of said wards shall be made by ordinance; provided, however, that no modifications of said wards shall be made except to equalize the populations of the Wards after each decennial census of population of the United States, or to effect any other change required by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the United States.

## Current Home Rule Charter Amendment question #2

### SECTION 305. QULIFICATIONS OF COUNCILMEN

A Councilman shall be a citizen of the United States and shall have been a resident of the ward from which he is elected for at least (3) three years next prior to the date of his election. He shall be a qualified voter within the borough on the date of his election.

Will read if approved by majority vote

### SECTION 305. QULIFICATIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

A Council member shall be a citizen of the United States and shall have been a resident of the ward from which they are elected for at least (2) two years next prior to the date of his election. He shall be a qualified voter within the borough on the date of his election.