**City Council**

**How many City Councilman are there in Charlotte?**

Seven members are elected from each of the 7 districts in Charlotte and 4 are at-arge and elected by all voters in the city..

**What is the role of the city council?**

The mayor and city council are the "board of directors" for this municipal corporation. As such, they set policy, approve the financing of all City operations and enact ordinances, resolutions and orders. They set tax rates and authorize contracts on behalf of the city. Their responsibilities also include appointing the city manager, city attorney, city clerk and members of various boards and commissions.

The city manager, functioning as the chief operating officer, administers the policy and decisions made by city council and oversees the day-to-day operations of City government.

It is the city manager's responsibility to ensure that all City services are delivered in an efficient and cost-effective manner and to provide vision and leadership to the City organization.

**What is a city council district?**

The city of Charlotte is currently divided into seven districts, each one having a district representative on city council. Each representative is elected by the voters living in that district. The districts are divided according to population so that there is an approximate balance of the number of citizens per district.

The other four council members, called at-large representatives, are elected by voters from throughout the city.

**How often are council members elected?**

Council members are elected every two years in November. Elections take place in odd-numbered years.

**How often does the city council meet?**

City council participates in four types of meetings, all of which take place in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center:

1. First Monday of each month - council workshop and citizens forum
   * These take place in room 267. The workshop begins at 5:30 p.m. and the citizen's forum begins at 7:30 p.m.
2. Second Monday of each month - council business meeting
   * These meetings start in room 267 at 5 p.m. with a council/manager dinner briefing. The business meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the meeting chamber, accessible from the Government Center lobby.
3. Third Monday of each month - zoning meetings
   * These take place in the meeting chamber conference room (CH-14) in the basement of the Government Center. It starts at 5 p.m. with dinner and continues at 6 p.m. with zoning decisions and hearings.
4. Fourth Monday of each month - citizens forum and council business meetings
   * These meetings start in room 267 with a council/manager dinner briefing. The business meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting chamber, accessible from the Government Center lobby.

Please note that meeting dates and times could change due to out-of-town conferences or other events, and there are usually fewer meetings in summer months. View the event calendar for a complete, up-to-date listing of council meetings.

**Where can I find past information about City Council Meetings, Council Committees, Budgets and Meeting minutes**

Agendas, minutes, resolutions and ordinances approved by the City Council and a variety of other public documents are archived and available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office.

<http://charlottenc.gov/CityClerk/Pages/CityCouncilMeetingsandDocuments.aspx>

**What do I need to consider before I run?**

Many DWMC members have run for and held City Council positions. Some have been willing to share their insights, experience and advice regarding what it takes to win and serve on video. The links to those videos are below.

These video interviews require a password from the Issues and Resolutions lead. Link to DWMC officers.

If you are serious about running or working on a campaign and want iinside advice about what it takes from DWMC members, link to them below

Name of City Council Member in Video, date recorded