

**FOCUS AREAS - POSSIBLE CHANGES TO HOME RULE CHARTER
NOTES LISTING PROS AND CONS OF MAKING CHANGES**

(+P) = Pro - Advantage to making change

(-C) = Con - Disadvantage to making change

1. Gender Neutral

(Note: Phil will take a page from Article V – Manager and modify to show how the language can become gender neutral.

2. Public Notice

- +P Cost of status quo is approximately \$18,000/year
- +P Very little value added with ad in newspaper
- +P Update for 21st century conditions
- +P Effectiveness
- +P Allow flexibility
- C Resistance to change
- +P Access to vendors/stakeholders
- +P Accessibility (Inclusion)

3. Official Records

- +P Alternative means to retain
- +P 21st century
- +P Public access to records collection
- +P Security and recovery
- +P Library has abandoned local records
- C Prefer hard copy
- C Need archival plan

4. Procedures to Issue Debt

a. Super majority (4 to 3)

- +P Majority rule
- +P Project can move forward
- +P Eliminates minority rule
- +P Same as all other commission actions
- +P Enable compliance initiatives
- C High standard on decision making
- C Promotes consensus building around community priorities
- C No one election can issue debt
- +P, -C Slows projects

- b. Public notice requirement on debt
 - +P Speed to market (especially with refinancing)
 - +P \$\$ savings
 - +P Closer to PA debt act requirements
 - C Deliberate imposed discipline for issuing debt
 - C More opportunity for issuing debt

5. Elected Municipal Treasurer

- +P Ministerial function – task in non-policy making
- +P \$\$ treasurer salary
- +P Removes potential politicking
- +P Legacy position
- +P Transfer of EIT duties to Jordan already occurred
- +P Trend – follows Upper St. Clair
- +P Already have adequate control
- C Public accountability and visibility
- C Checks and balances lost
- C Separates receipts from disbursements

6. Tax Reform – 1st Class Township Limits

- +P Limits flexibility on deed transfer and property tax
- +P Diminishes value of charter and ties limits to state legislative action
- +P Negative value of charter and fundamental principle of charter
- C Control/limit

7. Tax Reform – Linkage of EIT Increase to RET Reduction

- +P External influence of reassessment process
- +P Ineffective (commission work around)
- +P Revenue elasticity
- +P Can only raise EIT to be revenue neutral in current year
- +P Limits commission discretion and flexibility
- C Control or limit on EIT
- C Control for individual taxpayers on bill

8. Tax Reform – 2-Mill Limit

- +P Outdated (assumed 25% of value)
- +P Commission work around – limited application – ineffective
- +P Establish effective and reasonable limit
- +P Inability to respond to emergencies
- C Maintain commission flexibility