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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT

Introduced By: Representatives Morgan, and Chippendale

Date Introduced: May 02, 2013

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Central Coventry

Fire District for their approval the following non-binding referendum question: "Shall the General

Assembly enact a new charter for the fire district, the text of which proposed new charter is

4 attached as Exhibit A?". Said non-binding referendum shall be held on May 16, 2013.

5 EXHIBIT A

Section 1. BOUNDARIES OF CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT

All that part of the town of Coventry lying and being within the following lines and bounds: Beginning at a point on the Coventry-West Greenwich town line six hundred (600) feet easterly from the intersection of said town line with Weaver Hill road, so called; thence continuing in a general northerly direction in a line which is at all times six hundred (600) feet from and paralled with said Weaver Hill road to Harkney Hill road, so called; thence continuing in a general northerly direction in a line which at all times is six hundred (600) feet from and parallel with an old highway (formerly known as the Williams Crossing road) which leads from the intersection of said Weaver Hill road and said Harkney Hill road to Rhode Island state highway route 117 to a point six hundred (600) feet southerly from said route 117; thence turning and running in general northeasterly and easterly direction in a line which at all times is six hundred (600) feet southerly from and parallel with said route 117 to a point six hundred (600) feet easterly from the point where County road or Hammit road, whichever called, if extended

would intersect this boundary line; thence turning and running northerly in a line which at all

1	times is six hundred (600) feet easterly from and parallel with said County or Hammit road so
2	extended; and said County or Hammit road to a point on the Potterville or Maple Valley road, so
3	called which point is 900 feet more or less, easterly from the Potterville or Maple Valley school
4	so called thence continuing in a general northerly direction in a line which at all times is six
5	hundred (600) feet easterly from and parallel with the Nipmuc trail so called, to the Scituate-
6	Coventry town line; (the above line is the eastern boundary of the Western Coventry fire district
7	and was taken from their act of incorporation of 1942), thence turning and running easterly on
8	said Scituate-Coventry town line to the northwest corner of lot 116 on AP-30 of the town of
9	Coventry records; thence turning and running southerly on a line 300 feet east of and parallel to
10	the east line of Read School House road until it comes to the intersection of said Read School
11	House road with said Rhode Island state highway 117; thence crossing said route 117 and
12	continuing in a straight line to the north end of the dam on Flat River reservoir thence running
13	across said dam to the south end of said dam; thence running southerly in a straight line to a point
14	on Rhode Island state highway, route 3, three hundred feet west of the intersection of Airport road
15	with said route 3; thence continuing southerly in a straight line to the intersection of Mishnock
16	river with the West Greenwich-Coventry town line; thence turning and running westerly along
17	said town line to the point of beginning. In addition, all those parts of the Town of Coventry
18	within the following boundaries of the entities known as the Harris Fire & Lighting District and
19	the Tiogue Fire District, and the Washington Lighting District, all as further described as follows:
20	and, all that land beginning at a stone bound in the dividing line between the Towns of Coventry
21	and West Warwick, on the south side of the Woodside Avenue (said point being the northeast
22	corner of the Coventry fire district); thence running northerly on said town line to the Cranston
23	city line; thence turning and running westerly along the dividing line of the Town of Coventry
24	and the City of Cranston and continuing westerly along the dividing line of the Town of Coventry
25	and Scituate to the old New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad right-of-way; thence
26	turning and running in a southerly and easterly direction along said railroad to a point 250 feet
27	west of the west line of Hill Street; thence running southerly on a line 250 feet west of and
28	parallel to the west side of said Hill Street until it comes to a point on the south line of lot 367 on
29	Coventry assessors plat 2, 250 feet west of the west line of said Hill Street; thence southerly in a
30	straight line to the northeast corner of lot 369 assessors plat 2, thence southerly on the east line of
31	said lot 369, to the southeast corner of said lot 369; thence turning and running westerly along the
32	south line of said lot 369 to the corner of lot 372 plat 2; thence turning and running southerly
33	along the west line of said lot 372 and continuing southerly on the west line of lot 265 of
34	assessors plat 3; to the northwest corner of lot 268 plat 3; from now on to the place of beginning

1	is the boundary line of the Coventry fire district; thence turning and running easterly along the
2	north line of said lot 268 to the west side of Blackrock Road; thence turning and running
3	southerly along the west side of said Blackrock Road to the so-called black rock; thence turning
4	and running in a northeasterly direction to the southwest corner of Greenwood Cemetery; thence
5	turning and running easterly along the southerly line of said Greenwood Cemetery to Fairview
6	Avenue; thence turning and running northeasterly to a point on said Fairview Avenue opposite
7	the south side of said Woodside Avenue; thence turning and running easterly along the south side
8	of said Woodside Avenue to the place of beginning, all such land formerly known as the Harris
9	Fire and Lighting District, and, all that land beginning at a point in the boundary line between the
10	Towns of Coventry and West Warwick, 800 feet south of the southerly line of Tiogue Avenue
11	(Route 3 state highway); thence turning and running westerly, bounded northerly by the Coventry
12	fire district, to the southeast corner of land now or formerly of George E. and Olive T. Bockstael,
13	(shown on assessors plat 7, lot 420 of the Town of Coventry records); thence turning and running
14	in a northwesterly direction to the Gate House at the outlet of Tiogue Reservoir, and continuing
15	along the westerly and southerly banks of the Pawtuxet River, until it comes to the eastern
16	boundary line of the Washington lighting district; thence turning and running southerly, bounded
17	westerly by said Washington lighting district, until it comes to the intersection of the center line
18	of Route 3, state highway and the west line of Arnold Road (Arnold Road is referred to in the
19	Washington lighting district charter as Balm of Gilead Road); thence turning and running
20	westerly, bounded northerly by said Washington lighting district, along the center line of Route 3,
21	until it comes to a point 100 feet east of the northeast corner of land now or formerly of Douglas
22	Jackson; thence turning and running in a southerly direction in a direct line to the northwest
23	corner of Tiogue Twin Lakes no. 2 plat; thence running to the southeast corner of Lake George
24	Plat; thence following along the eastern boundaries of properties now or formerly of Jerry
25	Johnson, et ux, Linwood Lace Works and William J. Beattie; thence in a direct line to a stone
26	bound in the boundary line between the Towns of Coventry and West Greenwich, this being the
27	northwest corner of the Town of East Greenwich; thence turning and running easterly on said
28	town line, bounded southerly by the Town of East Greenwich, until it comes to a point 300 feet
29	east of the southeasterly line of the New London Turnpike; thence turning and running in a
30	northeasterly direction, in a line parallel with and 300 feet east of the southeasterly line of said
31	New London Turnpike, until it comes to the boundary line between the Towns of West Warwick
32	and Coventry; thence turning and running northerly on said town line until it comes to a point 800
33	feet south of the southerly side of Tiogue Avenue and the point of beginning, all such land being

1	previously known as Tiogue Fire District and all that land beginning at the northeast abutment of
2	the railroad bridge, called the Knotty Oak Bridge, and running northerly to the southeast corner of
3	the Rathbun Cemetery and continuing in the same straight line until it comes to the seven and ten
4	line, so called, thence turning and running westerly following the seven and ten line until it comes
5	to a point 500 feet east of the east line of Station Street; thence turning and running northerly on a
6	line 500 feet east of and parallel to the east line of Station Street; thence turning and running
7	northerly on a line 500 feet east of and parallel to the east line of Station Street, until it comes to a
8	point at the southwest corner of lot 4 as depicted on the Town of Coventry 1972 Assessor's Plat
9	21, said point being on the southerly line of Record Lot 8 (AP 69, Lot 49) as shown on that plat
10	entitled "SUBDIVISION PLAN OF HIGHWOOD SECTION NO. 4 SITUATED IN
11	COVENTRY, R.I. SCALE: 1" = 50' MAY 31, 1978." which is recorded in the Town of Coventry
12	Land Evidence Plat Book 7 at Page 22; thence westerly, bounded northerly by a portion of
13	Record Lot 8 (AP 69, Lot 49) and Record Lot 6 (AP 69, Lot 48) as shown on said plat, to a point
14	at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 4 (AP 69, Lot 47) as shown on said plat; thence
15	northwesterly, bounded northeasterly by Record Lot 4 (AP 69, Lot 47) as shown on said plat, to a
16	point at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 4 (AP 69, Lot 47) as shown on said plat; thence
17	northwesterly, bounded northeasterly by Record Lot 4 (AP 69, Lot 47) as shown on said plat, to a
18	point on the southerly line of Highwood Drive at the northwesterly corner of Record Lot 4 (AP
19	69, Lot 47) as shown on said plat; thence northwesterly and crossing Highwood Drive to a point
20	at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 3 (AP 69, Lot 25) as shown on said plat; thence
21	northwesterly, bounded northeasterly by Record Lot 3 as shown on said plat, to a point at the
22	northwesterly corner of Record Lot 3 (AP 69, Lot 25) as shown on said plat; thence northeasterly,
23	bounded southeasterly in part by Record Lot 3 (AP 69, Lot 25) and in part by Record Lot 5 (AP
24	69, Lot 24) as shown on said plat, to a point at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 50 (AP 69,
25	Lot 90) as shown on that plat entitled "RECORD PLAN PHASE 3 Highwood Subdivision A
26	RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN COVENTRY, R.I. PREPARED BY DiPrete
27	Engineering Associates, Inc. ENGINEERING, SURVEYING AND PLANNING
28	CONSULTANTS 75 SOCKANOSSET CROSSROAD, SUITE 300 CRANSTON, R.I. 02920
29	(401) 943-1000 FAX: (401) 464-6006 JULY, 1995 Scale: 1" = 60'." which plan is recorded in
30	the Town of Coventry Land Evidence Plat Book 14 at Page 66; thence northeasterly, bounded
31	southeasterly by Record Lot 50 (AP 59, Lot 90) as shown on said plat, to a point on the southerly
32	line of Ginger Trail at the northwesterly corner of Record Lot 50 (AP 69, Lot 90) as shown on
33	said plat; thence northwesterly, crossing Ginger Trail, to a point at the southwesterly corner of

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      Record Lot 20 (AP 69, Lot 104) as shown on said plat; thence northwesterly, bounded
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      northeasterly in part by Record Lot 20 (AP 69, Lot 104) and crossing Record Lot 68 (AP 69, Lot
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      3.11), to a point at the southerly corner of Record Lot 11 (AP 69, Lot 116) as shown on that plat
 4
      entitled "RECORD PLAN PHASE 4 Highwood Subdivision A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION
     LOCATED IN COVENTRY, R.I. PREPARED BY DiPrete Engineering Associates, Inc.
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      ENGINEERING, SURVEYING AND PLANNING CONSULTANTS 75 SOCKANOSSET
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 7
      CROSSROAD, SUITE 300 CRANSTON, R.I. 02920 (401) 943-1000 FAX: (401) 464-6006
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      JULY, 1995 Scale: 1" = 60'." which plan is recorded in the Town of Coventry Land Evidence
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      Plat Book 15 at Page 72; thence northeasterly, bounded northwesterly by Record Lot 11 (AP 69,
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      Lot 116) as shown on said plat, to a point at the northeasterly corner of Record Lot 11 (AP 69,
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      Lot 116) as shown on said plat; thence southeasterly, bounded northeasterly by (AP 69 Lot 35), to
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      a point at the southeasterly corner of (AP 69 Lot 35), said point also being on the existing charter
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      line; thence northerly, bounded westerly by (AP 69 Lots 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.01 and 39.02), and
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      running on the existing charter line to the northeasterly corner of (AP 69 Lot 39.02); thence
      easterly, bounded northerly by AP 77 Lots 90 and 89, and running on the existing charter line to
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      the southwesterly corner of (AP 70 Lot 35); thence northerly, bounded westerly by (AP 77 Lot
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      89), and running on the existing charter line to the northwesterly corner of (AP 70 Lot 35); thence
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      northwesterly, crossing OPEN SPACE D (AP 77, Lot 89) as shown on that plat entitled "FINAL
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      SUBDIVISION PLAN PHASE 2 A HUNTERS CROSSING COVENTRY, R.I. Scale: 1" = 80'
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      Date: December 21, 1995 Revision A." which plat is recorded in the Town of Coventry Land
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      Evidence Plat Book 13 at Pages 29-31, to the southeasterly corner of Record Lot 42 (AP 77, Lot
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      81) as shown on said plat; thence northwesterly, bounded northeasterly by Record Lot 41 (AP 77,
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      Lot 82) as shown on said plat, to a point on the southerly line of Hunters Crossing at the
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      northwesterly corner of said Record Lot 41 (AP 77, Lot 82); thence northwesterly and crossing
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      Hunters Crossing to a point at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 77 (AP 77, Lot 46) as
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      shown on said plat; thence northwesterly, bounded northeasterly by said Record Lot 77 (AP 77,
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      Lot 46), to a point at the northwesterly corner of said Record Lot 77 (AP 77, Lot 46); thence
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      northwesterly, bounded northeasterly by a portion of Record Lot 121, Record Lots 119, 117 and
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      crossing a portion of OPEN SPACE lot (a portion of AP 77, Lot 117, AP 77, Lots 116, 115 and
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      crossing a portion of AP 77, Lot 174) as shown on that plat entitled "FINAL SUBDIVISION
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      PLAN PHASE 3 B HUNTERS CROSSING COVENTRY, R.I. Scale: 1" = 80' Date: December
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      29, 1995 Revision A." which plat is recorded in the Town of Coventry Land Evidence Plat Book
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      13 at Pages 104-105, to a point at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 116 (AP 77, Lot 114) as
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      shown on said plat; thence northerly, bounded easterly by Record Lot 116, 114, 112 and 110 (AP
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I	//, Lots 114, 113, 112 and 111) as snown on said plat, to a point at the northwesterly corner of
2	Record Lot 110 (AP 77, Lot 111) as shown on said plat; thence easterly, bounded southerly by
3	said Record Lot 110 (AP 77, Lot 111), to a point at the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 108
4	(AP 77, Lot 110) as shown on said plat; thence northerly, bounded easterly by said Record Lot
5	108 (AP 77, Lot 110), to a point on the southerly line of Remington Farm Drive at the
6	northwesterly corner of said Record Lot 108 (AP 77, Lot 110); thence northeasterly and crossing
7	Remington Farm Drive to the southwesterly corner of Record Lot 106 as shown on said plat (AF
8	77, Lot 109); thence northerly, bounded easterly by said Record Lot 106 (AP 77, Lot 109), to a
9	point at the northwesterly corner of said Record Lot 106 (AP 77, Lot 109); thence easterly,
10	bounded southerly by Record Lots 106, 105 and 103 (AP 77, Lots 109, 108 and 107), to a point at
11	the northeasterly corner of said Record Lot 103 (AP 77, Lot 107); thence easterly, bounded
12	southerly by Record Lots 101, 99 and 98 (AP 77, Lots 106, 105 and 104), to a point at the
13	northeasterly corner of said Record Lot 98 (AP 77, Lot 104) as shown on that plat entitled
14	"FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAN PHASE 3 A HUNTERS CROSSING COVENTRY, R.I. Scale:
15	1" = 80' Date: December 29, 1995 Revision A." which is recorded in the Town of Coventry Plat
16	Book 13 at Page 103; thence northwesterly, crossing Record Lot OPEN SPACE L(a) (AP 78, Lot
17	6.7) as shown on said plat, to a point at the southeasterly corner of land now or formerly of
18	Everett and Susie Kingsborough shown as Lot 12.1 on the Town of Coventry Assessor's Plat 85;
19	thence northeasterly to the existing charter line between the Coventry fire District and the
20	Washington Lighting District at the northeasterly corner of Lot 28 as depicted on the 1972
21	Assessor's Plat 20; thence northerly along Lot 6 Plat 20 to the corner of Lots 6 and 3 Plat 20,
22	thence in a straight line to the northeast corner of Lot 36 Plat 20 and the southwest corner of Lot
23	13 Plat 19; northerly along the east line of Lot 1 Plat 19 to the northwest corner of Lot 25 Plat 19
24	at Scituate town line; turning westerly along said Scituate town line to a point 300 feet east of
25	Read School House Road; turning southerly along a line 300 feet east of and parallel to Read
26	School House Road, crossing Route 117 and continuing to the north end of the dam of the Flat
27	River Reservoir, thence running southerly across the dam to the south end of said dam; thence
28	running southerly in a straight line to a point on state highway, Route 3, 300 feet west of the
29	intersection of Reservoir Road and said Route 3; thence crossing said Route 3 and running
30	southerly in a straight line to a point 500 feet south of the south line of said Route 3; thence
31	turning and running easterly on a line 500 feet south of and parallel to the south line of said Route
32	3 until it comes to the westerly boundary of the former Tiogue Lighting District; thence northerly
33	along the western boundary line of said former Tiogue Lighting District until it comes to the
34	southern line of Route 3; thence turning and running in a northeasterly direction, crossing Route

- 3, to the northeast corner of said Route 3 and Hopkins Hill Road; thence easterly in a straight line
- 2 to the intersection of said Route 3 and Arnold Road; thence turning and running northerly in a
- 3 straight line, across the Pawtuxet River, to the northeast abutment of the railroad bridge and the
- 4 point of beginning, all such land being previously known as the Washington Lighting District is
- 5 hereby incorporated into a <u>consolidated</u> district to be called the Coventry Main Fire District. Said
- 6 district may have a common seal, sue and be sued, and enjoy the other powers generally incident
- 7 to a corporation.

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Sec 2. QUALIFIED VOTERS

The inhabitants of said district who are qualified voters in the town of Coventry shall be eligible to vote and act in meetings of the corporation.

Sec. 3. FIRST CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT MEETING AND ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE DISTRICT.

- (a) 2006 First consolidated meeting: Commencing in the year 2013 a special meeting of the consolidated district shall be held within thirty (30) days of the enactment of this Charter by and among the Boards of Directors of the Coventry Main Fire District, for the purposes of constituting the first Board of Directors of the consolidated district, in accordance with Section 5 herein and for adopting the initial by-laws for the Consolidated District.
- (b) Annual Meetings & Quorum: Annual meetings of said fire district for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business of the fire district shall be held. In addition, the electors at the annual meeting shall adopt a budget for the next fiscal year commencing July 1 through June 30. One hundred (100) qualified voters shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the corporation. Commencing in 2014 and continuing annually thereafter, the district shall hold an annual meeting in a public place other than a fire station on the third Thursday in May, at 7:00 P.M. at such place within the District as the Board shall determine, for the purposes of: (1) electing a Board of Directors; (2) authorizing the assessment of all the taxable personal and real property of the District; (3) authorizing the collection of taxes, as further set forth in Section 6 hereunder; (4) authorizing an annual budget to provide for the purchase and maintenance of equipment, apparatus, real and personal property, the payment of wages and salaries, and for such other expenditures deemed necessary by the qualified voters of the District; and (5) For such other lawful purposes deemed necessary and proper by either the Board of Directors or qualified voters of the district. Any member of the Board of Directors may be recalled and removed from office by the electors at any annual or special meeting. In order to recall any member of the Board of Directors three-quarters (3/4) of the majority of those electors present and voting for recall shall be required. In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Board a

- special meeting shall be called by the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days or occurrence of such vacancy which meeting shall be held sixty (60) days from the date the Board of Directors shall call for such a special meeting in order to fill said vacancy.
- (c) Call of the Meeting: The Clerk of the District shall give notice of the annual meetings by causing a copy thereof to be posted at least twice in two newspapers distributed in Kent County, on one electronic newspaper if available in the Town of Coventry, and on the Web sites for the fire district, the Town of Coventry, and the Secretary of State and displayed on a sign board in each fire station of the District, and a notice included with the mailing of tax invoices not less than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting date. The annual meeting and all other meetings of the District shall be held in a public place, which shall be accessible to the handicapped, pursuant to the requirements of the Rhode Island Constitution, Article 1 & 2 and applicable federal and state non-discrimination laws.

Sec. 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS

- (a) Special meetings may be called upon written request of not less than one hundred (100) qualified voters, or may be called by a majority vote of the board of Directors. Written application for a special meeting as well as the notice thereof, shall mention the reason for such special meeting. Notice of the special meeting shall be given in the same manner as the annual meeting not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice and call for meeting and no other business shall be transacted.
- (b) Any special meeting called for the purpose of filling a vacancy among district officers shall be advertised in the same manner as the annual meeting, as set forth in Section 3 (c) of this Charter.

Sec. 5. DIRECTORS & OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION –MODERATOR -

24 QUALIFICATIONS

- (a) The consolidated district board shall be comprised of five (5) directors, which shall be elected as follows: an election shall be conducted at the first meeting of the Coventry Main Fire District which shall be held in accordance with section 3a at which the Board of Directors shall be elected as follows: The three (3) individuals who shall received the highest number of votes shall serve for a period of two years with the two (2) individuals receiving the next two (2) next highest number of votes who will serve for a period of one (1) year.
- (b) Thereafter, two (2) Directors will be elected to a two (2) year term at the 2014 annual meeting and every second year thereafter. Three (3) directors shall be elected at the 2015 annual meeting and every second year thereafter.

(c) Any inhabitant qualified to vote at any District meeting may be a candidate for District office, provided such candidate submits to the District clerk the title of the elective office sought, together with a petition signed by fifty (50) inhabitants qualified to vote at any District meeting, at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the meeting. This list of signatures is to be certified by the clerk no later than thirty (30) days prior to an annual or special meeting of the District. No employee of the district or member of the employee's family shall be qualified to serve as a director. Family shall be defined as the employee's spouse, any of the employee's children, whether by blood, adoption, or marriage or the employee's father, mother, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepfather, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, or half-sister.

- (d) No Director shall serve more than three (3) consecutive two (2) -year terms.
- (e) The clerk of the District shall post in all places where posting is required for an annual meeting a list of all persons certified to stand for election and the office to which each person seeks election in at least eight (8) public places within the district, including all actively used District stations, at least twenty (20) days prior to the annual meeting or any other special meeting called for the election of officers.
- (f) The Board of Directors shall have the power to declare an office vacant if the person filling that office fails to attend three (3) consecutive monthly meetings of the Board.
- (g) Upon the occurrence of any vacancy in any elective office of the District, the president shall call a special meeting of the District for the purpose of electing a qualified elector to fill the office vacated for the remainder of the original term of office. Said special meeting shall be held within sixty-five (65) days from the date such original vacancy occurs.

Sec. 6. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- (a) The Board of Directors shall hold monthly public meetings to conduct the business of the District. The Board of Directors shall be empowered and responsible to: (1) Fix the amount of the bond of the Treasurer and the Tax Collector; (2) Order payment of the district's bills and indebtedness; (3) Be in charge of and supervise the care of the district's properties; (4) Cause district property to be insured; (5) Purchase equipment, property and apparatus as required by the District's needs and budget; (6) Appoint an Administrative Fire Chief, Tax Collector and Treasurer and other employees in accordance with the by-laws. No less than one half (1/2) of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board.
- (b) The foregoing list of duties shall not be deemed to be limiting and the directors shall have all necessary authority to operate and conduct the business of the District as necessary, all

- within the bounds of the laws of the State of Rhode Island. The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint and/or employ a tax such employees or individuals, and other committees and/or positions deemed necessary for the efficient operation of the District.
- (c) The members of the Board of Directors and any official appointed by said Board of
 Directors shall be subject to the Rhode Island Code of Ethics in Government, Chapter 14 of Title
 36 of the Rhode Island General Laws.
 - (d) The president of said District shall preside at all annual and special meetings as moderator; in his/her absence the vice president shall serve as moderator; in the absence of both, a temporary moderator may be elected by a majority of voters present and voting.
 - (e) The administrative_duties of these Directors shall be specified in the by-laws of the fire district.

Sec.7. TAXING AUTHORITY - TAX ASSESSOR

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- (a) Said qualified voters at any of their legal meetings shall have the power to order such taxes and provide for the assessing and collecting of the same on the taxable inhabitants and property in said district as they shall deem necessary for purchasing fire engines, and all other implements and apparatus for the extinguishing of fire; for the purchase of land and buildings for keeping same; for the purchasing, installation, operation and maintenance of a suitable alarm system; for making cisterns and reservoirs; for paying the salaries of district officers and employees, as well as the members of the rescue unit known as the Coventry Main Fire District and such taxes, so ordered, shall be assessed by the assessors of said district on the taxable inhabitants and property therein according to the last valuation made by the assessors of the town of Coventry next previous to said assessment, adding, however, any taxable property which may have been omitted by said town assessors or afterwards acquired; and in assessing and collecting said taxes such proceedings shall be had by the officers of said district, as near as may be, as are required to be had by the corresponding officers of towns in assessing and collecting taxes; provided however that the total tax levy assessed for any one year shall not exceed four (4) percent of the prior year's total tax levy. The Corporation shall not have the authority to create any tax classifications with respect to the property being taxed for the collection of the above referenced levy, nor shall the Corporation have the authority to enact or adopt any supplemental tax.
- (b) The qualified voters of the Coventry Main Fire District are also authorized to raise money through taxes to purchase the necessary vehicles and equipment to operate and maintain a rescue unit to be known as the Coventry Main Fire District. The Fire District shall be authorized to contract or employ with a private entity to provide such service.

1	(c) TAX ASSESSOR. There shall be at least one District Tax Assessor, who may also
2	serve as District Clerk, who shall be appointed or employed by the District. The tax assessor shall
3	levy and assess taxes at such rate as the district shall vote, on all taxable real and personal
4	property in the district and shall prepare and deposit the tax list with the tax collector and
5	treasurer of the district; said board shall assess property on the basis of the last valuation made by
6	the assessors of the Town of Coventry next previous to said assessment.
7	Sec. 8. POWER TO CONTRACT
8	In addition to all other powers vested in the Corporation hereunder, the Corporation shall
9	have the right to employ or contract with any other entity or individual, public or private, for the
10	purpose of providing the services to be performed or rendered by the Corporation to the
11	inhabitants of the District hereunder.
12	Sec. 9. AUDITS
13	The Corporation shall be required to conduct an annual financial audit with respect to all
14	financial matters. In connection with performing said audit, the Corporation shall contract with a
15	private vendor qualified to perform audit in order to conduct the annual audit of the Corporation's
16	finances required hereunder.
17	Sec. 10. TEN-YEAR ACTUARIAL STUDY
18	With respect to all public and private labor contracts the Corporation shall be required to perform
19	a ten(10)-year actuarial study prior to entering into any new contract in order to ensure that the
20	cost of said contract will not result in unbalanced approved annual budget.
21	Sec. 11. BY-LAWS
22	The qualified voters of said district may enact all by-laws by them adjudged necessary
23	and expedient for carrying the provisions of this act into effect, provided the same be not in
24	violation of or repugnant to the laws of this state. The by-laws which are enacted for the District
25	may provide for employing or contracting with any entity in order to provide services for the
26	District, including providing for any employees of the district such as the tax collector, district
27	clerk, and district treasurer. The qualified voters may change any provision of the by-laws at any
28	annual or special meeting, provided the proposed change has been noticed in the call of the
29	meeting.
30	Sec. 12. AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW FUNDS
31	The Coventry Main Fire District is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow from
32	time to time such sums of money as may be necessary. In no event shall the total debt of the
33	Corporation exceed a sum equal to ten (10) percent of the annual operating budget, for the
34	purpose of procuring real and personal estate, the erection and maintenance of buildings, the

1 procuring of fire and water apparatus, for the payment of any legal indebtedness of said district,

or for the purpose of purchasing or procuring any other property, real or personal, that may be

legally acquired and held by said district.

Sec. 13 The Coventry Main Fire District is authorized to install lighting on the streets and

5 highways of the district.

Sec. 14. This charter may be amended by the electors of the District by following the procedures outlined hereunder. In the event the Board of Directors or the electors at an annual or special meeting shall propose to amend this charter, the electors at a special meeting shall elect a five (5)-member charter review commission in order to review the existing charter and any proposed amendments. If said charter review commission shall recommend the passage of any proposed amendments, the commission shall cause to be published notice of such proposed amendments in the same manner as prescribed for calling an annual meeting. Said notice shall include the text of any proposed amendments to the charter. Any such proposed amendments shall be voted on at the annual meeting of electors and shall require a two-third (2/3) vote of the electors present and voting in favor of any such proposed amendment in order to approve

Sec. 15. This act shall take effect no later than sixty days after its enactment and all acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith or repugnant thereto, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

amendments for submission and ratification by the General Assembly.

LC02473

EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT

This act would submit a proposed new charter for the Central Coventry Fire District to
the electors of that district at a non-binding referendum, to be held on May 16, 2013.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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LC02473