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ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P.O. Box 94005
BATON ROUGE, LA
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March 25, 2025
OPINION 25-0009

Mr. Brett A. Robinson
Deputy Executive Counsel
Governor Jeff Landry
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

71-1 MUNICIPALITIES - Special Charters

La. R.S. 33:1181

The proposed amendments to the Charter for the Town of Greensburg are consistent with the constitution and laws of the United States and this state pursuant to La. R.S. 33:1181.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

We received your opinion request concerning a proposed amendment to the Charter for the Town of Greensburg. Pursuant to La. R.S. 33:1181, you submitted the proposed amendment to our office for an opinion as to whether the amendment complies with the laws and constitutions of the State of Louisiana and the United States.

Question: Do the proposed amendments to the Charter for the Town of Greensburg comply with the laws and constitutions of the State of Louisiana and the United States pursuant to La. R.S. 33:1181?

Conclusion: It is the opinion of this office that the proposed amendments do comply with the laws and constitutions of the State of Louisiana and the United States.

The Town of Greensburg has presented the following documents to the Governor's office:

- (1) A certified copy of the Amendment of Charter Ordinance 1 of 2024 of the Town of Greensburg;
- (2) An Affidavit of Publication and Advertisement for three consecutive weeks in the Daily Star; and
- (3) An affidavit from Kaycee Bridges, the Town Clerk for the Town of Greensburg, dated February 5, 2025, certifying that no opposition has been filed in regard to the amendment contained in said Ordinance.

According to the information provided to us, Greensburg is a municipality existing prior to July 29, 1898, having a population of two hundred thousand or less, which does not come

under the provisions of Part I of Chapter 2 of Title 33.¹ Thus, to amend the Charter as proposed by Ordinance 24-01, the provisions of La. R.S. 33:1181 must be followed.² That statute provides, in pertinent part:

The municipal governing body may prepare, in writing, the desired amendments, have the same published for three weeks in a newspaper published in the municipality, if there be one, and, if none, then by posting for said time in at least three public places therein; the proposed amendments shall then be submitted to the governor, who shall submit them to the Attorney General for his opinion. If the Attorney General is of the opinion that the proposed amendments are consistent with the constitution and laws of the United States and of this state, including Part I of Chapter 2 of this Title, the Governor shall approve the proposed amendments. If, within thirty days after publication, one-tenth of the electors of the municipality protest against any proposed amendment, the Governor shall not approve the amendment protested against until it is submitted to and ratified by a majority of the electors of the municipality at an election held within sixty days after the protest has been made.

The above documentation provided establishes compliance with the local approval and publication requirements of La. R.S. 33:1181. After the period of publication, the amendments to the charter were adopted by ordinance of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Greensburg on October 8, 2024. This office has reviewed the amended and restated Legislative Charter of the Town of Greensburg in accordance with La. R.S. 33:1181 and finds that the amendments are consistent with the constitution and laws with the United States and Louisiana.

We hope that this opinion has adequately addressed the legal issues you have raised. If our office can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best regards,
LIZ MURRILL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

BY: Chimène St. Amant
Chimène St. Amant
Assistant Attorney General

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¹ Part I of Chapter 2 of Title 33 is commonly known as the Lawrason Act. The Town of Greensburg is governed by a special legislative charter. Consistent with La. R.S. 33:321, Greensburg does not operate under the Lawrason Act.

² Louisiana Constitution article VI, § 2 also authorizes the amendment, modification, or repeal of a special legislative charter by local or special law of the legislature. See also La. Atty. Gen. Op. 97-42.