



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 26-0223      **Version:** 1      **Name:**

**Type:** Other Items of Business      **Status:** Agenda Ready

**File created:** 3/27/2026      **In control:** City Council Work Session

**On agenda:** 4/6/2026      **Final action:** 4/7/2026

**Title:** City Council Agenda Item Request - Staff research on City Clerk service under CMO vs. Council - Council Member Hondros

**Sponsors:**

**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. City Council Agenda Item Request - Staff research on City Clerk service under CMO vs. Council - Council Member Hondros

| Date | Ver. | Action By | Action | Result |
|------|------|-----------|--------|--------|
|------|------|-----------|--------|--------|

**TO:** Mayor and Members of City Council

**THRU:**

**FROM:** Council Member Hondros

**DATE:** April 6, 2026

**RE:**

**City Council Agenda Item Request - Staff research on City Clerk service under CMO vs. Council - Council Member Hondros**

**COUNCIL DISTRICT(S):**

All

**Relationship To Strategic Plan:**

- 2) Responsive City Government
- 3) City Invested in Today and Tomorrow
- 4) Desirable Place to Live, Work & Recreate
- 5) Financially Sound City Providing Exemplary City Services
- 6) Collaborative Citizen and Business Engagement Base

**Executive Summary:**

Research comparison of pros and cons of Clerk serving under CMO vs. under Council, including but not limited to NCGS and UNC School of Government's best practices recommendations and guidelines, and peer city and county comparisons.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg County  
Raleigh, Wake County

Cary, Wake County  
Greensboro, Guilford County  
Wilmington, New Hanover County  
Durham, Durham County  
High Point, Guilford County  
Winston Salem, Forsyth County  
Concord, Cabarrus County  
Fayetteville, Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

**Background:**

Per NCGS the Council in cities with a council-manager form of government commonly appoint the Clerk.

City Clerk serving at the pleasure of Council ensures political independence, allowing the Clerk to act as a neutral keeper of records.

One practical reason for the Clerk to serve under Council instead of the CMO is that they can keep personnel folder with the City Attorney's and City Manager's employment agreement(s) and annual performance evaluations.

**Issues/Analysis:**

**Budget Impact:**

**Options:**

**Recommended Action:**

**Attachments:**

City Council Agenda Item Request