

**CITY OF CENTRAL**

**BY COUNCIL MEMBER MESSINA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2015 -51**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A SEVEN-MEMBER COUNCIL WITH FIVE MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED FROM SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS AND TWO MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED AT-LARGE; TO AMEND THE 2015-2016 FISCAL YEAR GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE RETENTION OF A DEMOGRAPHER; AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS**

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Central is currently composed of five at-large Council members; and

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:382 requires city councils to be composed of "not less than five nor more than nine" members and authorizes the election of some council members from districts and the remainder at-large; and

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:382 requires that, where a municipality is divided into districts, each district "shall contain as equal population as possible and the territory in each district shall be contiguous"; and

WHEREAS, the creation of election districts thus requires the services of a demographer; and

WHEREAS, during the 2010 and 2014 election campaigns, Central residents expressed interest to the candidates about the creation of election districts that would provide representation for each area of the city by an individual residing in and elected by the registered voters of the election district; and

WHEREAS, dividing the City into districts will require the City to retain a demographer to review the 2010 decennial census data and to prepare proposed election districts for consideration by the Council.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Central, State of Louisiana as follows:

**Section 1:** Title 1, Chapter 1, Section 109 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**Section 1:109. City Council Composition; Election Districts.**

Beginning with the 2018 municipal elections for the City of Central, the City Council shall be composed of five members elected from single-member districts and two members elected at-

large. Each district shall be composed of contiguous territory and with as equal population as possible based upon the most recent federal decennial census conducted by the Census Bureau.

**Section 2:** Demographer (General Fund Account No. 000.419.30.330) is hereby increased by \$8,000.00 to provide for expenditures related to the retention of a demographer who will review the 2010 decennial census data and prepare proposed election districts for consideration by the Council.

**Section 3: Conflicts.**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section 4: Severability.**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or parts thereof, other than the part declared invalid. The remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected by the declaration of invalidity and shall remain in force and effect.

**Section 5. Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication in the Official Journal.

Introduced before the Council on November 24, 2015.

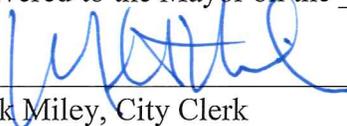
This Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

For: Evans, Messina, Vance  
Against: Ellis, Fralick  
Absent: None

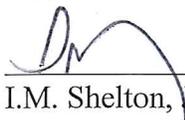
Adopted the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

Signed the 11 day of December, 2015.

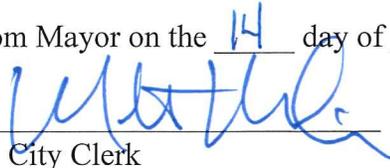
Delivered to the Mayor on the 14 day of December, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Miley, City Clerk

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
I.M. Shelton, Jr. Mayor

Received from Mayor on the 14 day of December, 2015:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Miley, City Clerk

Adopted Ordinance published in The Advocate on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.