

**OFFICIAL**

**WEST DEER TOWNSHIP  
County of Allegheny  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

**ORDINANCE NO. 452**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEER, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING PROPOSED LANGUAGE AMENDING SECTION C-1149 OF THE WEST DEER TOWNSHIP HOME RULE CHARTER BY PROVIDING FOR TOWNSHIP AUDITS BY A CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT OR ACCOUNTING FIRM DULY LICENSED IN PENNSYLVANIA, AND RECOMMENDING SPECIFIC LANGUAGE REGARDING THE SAME TO BE PLACED ON THE NOVEMBER 2023 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT AS A REFERENDUM QUESTION TO BE VOTED UPON BY THE ELECTORATE OF WEST DEER TOWNSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of West Deer Township seeks to update its Home Rule Charter to ensure compliance with current and future fiscal and auditing standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the Charter currently requires that annual audits be performed by elected auditors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that due to the complexity of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's auditing requirements – as well as general fiscal and accounting compliance standards – the taxpayers of the Township would be best served by have the Township appoint a certified public accountant licensed in Pennsylvania to perform annual audits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors has appointed a third-party independent certified public accountant firm for over two successive decades for this reason.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by the Board of Supervisors of West Deer Township, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the aforesaid as follows:

## **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT**

The West Deer Township Board of Supervisors hereby initiates a referendum to amend Section C-1149 of the West Deer Township Home Rule Charter to read in its entirety as follows:

Section C-1149           **Audit.**

**The Board of Supervisors shall provide for an independent annual audit of Township accounts by a certified public accountant or accounting firm duly licensed in Pennsylvania.**

**It shall be the duty of the appointed auditor to audit, settle, and adjust all accounts of the Township, including any Township boards, committees, or commissions that received Township funds during the immediately preceding calendar year. The Board may also provide for additional audits as it deems necessary.**

**The results of the annual audit and a financial statement of the fiscal affairs of the Township shall be presented to the Township Manager and made available to the public by the deadline determined by the Commonwealth following the fiscal year audited.**

## **SECTION 2. BALLOT QUESTION**

The West Deer Township Board of Supervisors proposes that the question to be submitted to the voters at the election shall substantially state in the following form:

**“Section C-1149           Audit.**

**The Board of Supervisors shall provide for an independent annual audit of Township accounts by a certified public accountant or accounting firm duly licensed in Pennsylvania.**

**It shall be the duty of the appointed auditor to audit, settle, and adjust all accounts of the Township, including any Township boards, committees, or commissions that received Township funds during the immediately preceding calendar year. The Board may also provide for additional audits as it deems necessary.**

**The results of the annual audit and a financial statement of the fiscal affairs of the Township shall be presented to the Township Manager and made available to the public by the deadline determined by the Commonwealth following the fiscal year audited.”**

**Yes or No**

**SECTION 3. CALLING FOR ELECTION**

The West Deer Township Board of Supervisors has determined that in order for this change to the Charter to become effective, approval of the electors of West Deer Township must be obtained in the general election on 7 November 2023, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Under the provisions of the Home Rule Charter and Option Plan Law, 53 Pa.C.S. §§ 2901 et seq., a certified copy of this Ordinance and the election questions shall be forwarded to the Allegheny County Board of Elections on or prior to the thirteenth (13<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday before the 2023 general election so that the question may be placed on the ballot for the general election.

**SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY**

It is the express intent of the West Deer Township Board of Supervisors that the provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase in this Ordinance shall be held to be illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall not be affected or impaired.

**SECTION 5. REPEAL**

Any ordinance or any part of any ordinance conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed.

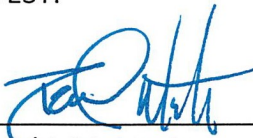
**SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of the West Deer Township Home Rule Charter.

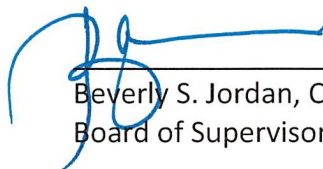
ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023.

ATTEST:

WEST DEER TOWNSHIP



\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel J. Mator, Jr.  
Township Manager



\_\_\_\_\_  
Beverly S. Jordan, Chairperson  
Board of Supervisors

Approved as to Form:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Township Solicitor

**CERTIFICATE**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing and attached is a true copy of an Ordinance which was duly enacted at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of West Deer Township on 19 July 2023, and that at such meeting a quorum was present and acting throughout, after due notice to the members of the Board of Supervisors of West Deer Township and to the public and such meeting was at all times open to the public; that the Ordinance was duly recorded in the West Deer Township Minutes Book and that a summary thereof was published as required by law in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township. I further certify that the Township met the advance requirements of Act No. 1998-93 by advertising the date of the meeting and posting a notice of the meeting at the public meeting place of the Board of Supervisors; that the total number of members of the Board of Supervisors is five; and the vote upon the Ordinance was called and duly recorded upon the minutes and that the members voted in the following manner:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Beverly S. Jordan, Chairperson	X			
Shirley A. Hollibaugh, Vice Chair	X			
Vernon Frey	X			
David Harrison	X			
James Smullin	X			

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Township on this this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023.

[SEAL]

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Mator  
Township Manager