

Elected vs, Appointed

1. An elected auditor will have the authority to audit all city operations, contracts, projects and public expenditures, and the ability and responsibility to verify the numbers.
An appointed auditor will have the authority to do only what the City Council tells them to do, when the Council tells them to do it.
2. An elected auditor will have unhampered access to all data, finances, witnesses, and documents to complete an audit.
An appointed auditor will have the only the data, financial information, access and, documents that the City Manager provides. Because the City Council has no authority or access to that kind of information.
3. An elected auditor is hired and fired by the voters, not controlled by City Council or City Manager and stays free from political influence.
An appointed auditor is the very definition of a political appointee, you don't want to make the boss mad, you do want to make the boss happy. You sure don't want to have to give the boss bad news.
4. An elected auditor is not dependent on staying in the City Council's good graces to maintain funding for the office.
An appointed auditor has a minimum budget that will only support one auditor for the entire city.
5. An elected auditor can only be hired and fired by the voters.
An appointed auditor is hired and fired by the City Council, and if voters are unhappy with an auditor there is no way for voters to replace them.
6. An elected auditor is free to create a citizen review board that has stringent conflict of interest provisions for the members.
The appointed auditor has a citizen review board that allows members who have conflicts of interest, like consulting contracts, development contracts etc.
7. The elected auditor may convene a citizen review committee where all the members are voting members, and the citizens would not be dominated by non-voting managers, city lawyers, and elected officials.
The city council appoints the members of the citizen review committee and there are 5 geographically dispersed voting members, and unlimited nonvoting members which can be the manager or department heads.
8. The elected auditor's authorities are chartered mandated and specific — meaning they are law.
The appointed auditor's authorities are subject to council direction and conditioned on council cooperation.
9. The elected auditor is authorized to hire, supervise, and determine compensation for the deputy auditors in the office.
The appointed auditors ability to hire, supervise and compensate their office staff are "subject to policies and budget appropriations adopted by City Council." Meaning, it's never going to happen.
10. The elected auditor has authority to retain lawyers, or professional consultants as needed.
The appointed auditor's ability to retain consultants and outside legal help is dependent on council approval, permission.

11. An elected auditor is elected by the whole city.
An appointed auditor is selected by 5 councilors or 4 councilors and the Mayor.
12. The elected auditor measure was put on the ballot by a tremendous cooperative effort of volunteers obtaining over 10,000 signatures from registered Eugene voters following stringent rules from the Oregon Constitution and Eugene elections code.
The appointed auditor measure was hurriedly put on the ballot by 5 city councilors.
13. An elected auditor provides a permanent and consistent audit function at the City which provides needed certainty to pursue long term and complex audits.
An appointed auditor means there can be long stretches of time without an auditor and that compromises the ability to pursue longer and more complex audits. Case in point; Lane County's appointed auditor.
14. Elected auditor evaluations are based on the publicly available work of the auditor's office and the publicly available professional evaluations of the auditor's office.
The appointed auditor's evaluations will be done in secret executive sessions by the Council, just like they do for evaluations of the Police Auditor and the City Manager's evaluations.
15. The elected auditor has subpoena power in cases where documents, data or information needed to complete an audit is withheld or delayed by administration.
The appointed auditor has no redress if information or data needed to complete an audit is delayed or withheld — like was done with the first two Police Auditors.
16. The elected auditor is required to establish an anonymous whistleblower hotline which is proven to be the single most effective method for identifying fraud and waste leading to cost recovery and savings.
The appointed auditor is NOT authorized to establish a whistleblower hot line and in any case, even if they did, it would never be trusted to be truly anonymous because people would be reporting to the City about the City.
17. The elected auditor is authorized to contract for their own legal services to avoid conflicts of interests in the City Attorney's office.
The appointed auditor has to ask permission from the City Council to contract for outside legal counsel and only under limited circumstances and is otherwise represented by the Manager's attorneys.
18. The elected auditor is authorized to establish the protocols and guidelines of their own office based on GAGAS.
The appointed auditor will be subject to protocols and guidelines determined by the City Manager and approved by Council.
19. The elected auditor's office is funded to support the chief auditor and 2-3 deputy auditors.
The appointed auditor's office is funded for one auditor.
20. With an elected auditor the charter and the voters guarantee the authority of the auditor over time, and it cannot be undone by a new council — it can only be undone by a vote of the people.
With an appointed auditor any decision by Council can be undone by successive councils.