

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON  
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE  
MAY 4, 2015**

1. Declaration of quorum and call meeting to order  
**The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.**
2. Roll call  
**Present: Fred Raschke, Greg Garrison, Richard Batie, Steve Greenberg, Taylor Schwab, Rocky Sullivan, Don Davison, Raymond Lewis, and Elizabeth Beeton.**

**Declaration of a quorum.**

**Senior Assistant City Attorney Donald Glywasky also present.**

3. Approval of the April 14, 2015 Minutes
  - a. **Questions regarding the motion made for Article II—The Council, Section 2—Qualifications. Concerns about who seconded the motion. Steve Greenberg stated he did not second the motion for approval. Also, there was no vote on subsection (d) relating to running for any political office.**
  - b. **Donald Glywasky stated that there was a vote on the age issue in Article II—The Council, Section 2—Qualifications.**
  - c. **The approval of the Minutes for April 14, 2015 and May 4, 2015 will be taken up at the May 21, 2015 meeting.**
4. Discuss and review recommendations to amend the City Charter  
**Donald Glywasky passed out an updated version of Article II—The Council.**
  - a. **Article II—The Council, Section 2(d) as proposed shall be considered under Article IX—Personnel. The proposed language is “[a] person who is employed by the City or an agency thereof is permitted to run for any political office in this State, County, or City.”**
  - b. **Motion made by Elizabeth Beeton, second by Rocky Sullivan, to add clarification as proposed by Legal to Article II—The Council, Section 2—Qualifications, beginning of last paragraph – “The requirements for eligibility to be a candidate for public office, set forth in the Texas Election Code, shall apply to candidates for Mayor and City Council unless superseded by this Charter, and in the event of such a conflict the provisions of the Charter shall apply.”**

**Unanimously approved.**

- c. **Request made by Fred Raschke that all handouts include page numbers and date of distribution.**

- d. Donald Glywasky provided a discussion of proposed language in Article II—The Council, Section 4—Powers of the Council. The proposed language is “[c]ouncil may provide for the hiring of the City Manager, City Attorney and City Secretary as set forth as set forth in the sections of the Ordinance creating those positions.” Raymond Lewis requested copies of the Ordinances referred to in this section.

Further discussion was had that this section and Article V—Administrative Organization should be coordinated at a later date.

- e. Discussion of redistricting including the potential of moving to a 4-2-1 system. Requested demographic election data.
- f. Discussion of employment contracts for City Council appointees.
- g. Requested data on whether the entire seated City Council had all new members. The information was requested in order to evaluate staggered terms.
- h. Discussion of redistricting including the potential of moving to a 4-2-1 system.
- i. Motion made by Steve Greenberg, second by Taylor Schwab, to recommend a ballot proposition to move to a 4-2-1 system because the people have previously voted for such and the change would allow for an opportunity to cast four votes – 1 for Mayor, one for the voter’s district, and one vote for each of the two at-large district members.

In favor: Fred Raschke, Greg Garrison, Steve Greenberg, Taylor Schwab, Rocky Sullivan, and Don Davidson.

In opposition: Richard Batie, Raymond Lewis, and Elizabeth Beeton.

Motion passes.

Elizabeth Beeton sees the value in argument on both sides, but has reservations at this time.

- j. Motion made by Elizabeth Beeton, second by Rocky Sullivan to delete from Article II—The Council, Section 4—Powers of Council the proposed language “[c]ouncil shall not authorize or enter into any employment contract with a Council appointee for a term extending beyond the next regularly scheduled City Council election” and that the Committee reconsider the language during the discussion of Article V—Administrative Organization.”

Unanimously approved.

- k. Request Staff to research campaign contributions/limitations in other cities.

- l. Donald Glywasky to bring back suggested changes to Article II—The Council, Section 6—Interference in Administrative Matters.**
- m. Donald Glywasky to bring back suggested changes to Article II—The Council, Section 5—Investigative Powers of the Council, especially the authority to issue subpoenas and compel persons to appear and/or produce information.**
- n. Motion made by Taylor Schwab, second by Raymond Lewis to move the discussion of Article II—The Council, Section 9—City Secretary to the discussion of Article V—Administrative Organization, except the provision related to the Municipal Court Judge.**

**Unanimously approved.**

- o. The following sections of Article II—The Council were discussed without a vote:**


**Section 8—Salaries**

**Section 10—Meetings of the Council**

**Section 14—Code of Ordinances**

**Donald Glywasky to bring back suggested changes to Article II—The Council, Section 13—Publication of Ordinances to include language to require publication be made in accordance with state law. Suggested changes to Article II—The Council, Section 15—Emergency Powers will also be provided regarding the authority of the Mayor Pro Tem under state law.**

- 5. Set date and time of next meeting**  
**The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss Articles 3 through 5 and 9 of the City Charter.**
- 6. Adjournment**  
**The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.**

  
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Janelle Williams, City Secretary