

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
AUGUST 25, 2015**

1. Declaration of quorum and call meeting to order
With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m.
2. Roll call
Present: Fred Raschke, Greg Garrison, Richard Batie, Elizabeth Beeton, Taylor Schwab, Rocky Sullivan, Don Davison, and Raymond Lewis.
3. Acknowledgement of City Council Resolution No. 15-043 advising the committee of the reporting deadline
The committee received a copy of Resolution No. 15-043. Discussion was held regarding the Council's decision to remove redistricting from the committee's scope of review.
4. Approval of minutes for the June 16, 2015 and June 23, 2015 meetings
Motion was made by Richard Batie, second by Raymond Lewis, to approve the June 16, 2015 and the June 23, 2015 minutes. Unanimously approved.
5. Public Comment
Steve McIntyre commented that removing sanitation from the scope of review was not included in the City Council Resolution.
6. Discuss and review recommendations to amend the City Charter
 - a. Preamble:
In order to establish a municipal government which will preserve and protect the God-given and lawful rights, and the equal status under the constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Texas, of every individual.

Motion was made by Richard Batie, second by Elizabeth Beeton, to remove the words "God-given" from the Preamble.

In favor: Richard Batie.
In opposition: Fred Raschke, Greg Garrison, Elizabeth Beeton, Taylor Schwab, Rocky Sullivan, Don Davison, and Raymond Lewis.
Motion fails.
 - b. Article II – The Council, Section 2 - Qualifications:
Each Councilmember elected at large shall have been domiciled and shall have had his or her principal physical residence in the City for a period of not less than one (1) year immediately preceding the Councilmember's election.

Motion was made by Richard Batie, second by Fred Raschke, to replace the words "Each Councilmember elected at large" with "The Mayor", and the word "Councilmember's" with "Mayor's". Unanimously approved.
 - c. Article II – The Council, Section 2 - Qualifications:
Each Councilmember elected at large shall have been domiciled and shall have had his or her principal physical residence in the City for a period of not less than one (1) year immediately preceding the Councilmember's election.

Motion was made by Richard Batie to add a definition of “principal physical residence” and to add the statement “under penalty of perjury”. The motion died for lack of a second. Don Glywasky will research language for principal physical residence and send to the committee.

- d. Article II – The Council, Section 7 – Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem:
Rocky Sullivan expressed an interest in having a strong Mayor form of government. Discussion was held regarding needing more information before taking a vote. Don Glywasky will research the language and send to the committee. No action was taken.
- e. Article II – The Council, Section 16 – Limitation on Number of Terms of Councilmembers:
Effective for the 2014 municipal election and for all elections thereafter, a person who has served as Mayor for a total period of six (6) years or as a member of the City for six (6) years shall again be eligible to become a candidate for, or to serve in, that office again until at least six (6) years out of office have elapsed since the last term in office has ended.

Motion was made by Elizabeth Beeton, second by Fred Raschke, to remove the words “become a candidate for, or to” and the word “again” (underlined above). Unanimously approved.

- f. Article V – Administrative Organization, Section 1 – Council Appointees:
The Council shall appoint a City Manager, a City Attorney, a City Secretary, and a City Auditor. Each may either be appointed for an indefinite term and be removed by majority of the entire membership of the Council, or at the Council’s discretion may be appointed or contracted for a definite term not to exceed two (2) years. Provided, however, that no appointee be initially appointed nor awarded an initial contract sixty (60) days before any City Council election. If the Council is renewing the appointment or contract of the appointee, the sixty days constraint in the prior sentence does not apply.

Motion was made by Elizabeth Beeton, second by Raymond Lewis, to removing the language “Provided, however, that no appointee be initially appointed nor awarded an initial contract sixty (60) days before any City Council election. If the Council is renewing the appointment or contract of the appointee, the sixty days constraint in the prior sentence does not apply.”

In favor: Elizabeth Beeton, Fred Raschke, and Don Davison.

In opposition: Greg Garrison, Richard Batie, Taylor Schwab, Rocky Sullivan, and Raymond Lewis.

Motion fails.

- g. Article V – Administrative Organization, Section 1 – Council Appointees:
The Council shall appoint a City Manager, a City Attorney, a City Secretary, and a City Auditor. Each may either be appointed for an indefinite term and be removed by majority of the entire membership of the Council, or at the Council’s discretion may be appointed or contracted for a definite term not to exceed two (2) years. Provided, however, that no appointee be initially appointed nor awarded an initial contract sixty (60) days before any City Council election. If the Council is renewing the appointment or contract of the appointee, the sixty days constraint in the prior sentence does not apply.

Motion was made by Greg Garrison, second by Elizabeth Beeton, to remove the words “initially” and “initial”, and the last sentence “If the Council is renewing the appointment or contract of the appointee, the sixty days constraint in the prior sentence does not apply.” Unanimously approved.

- h. Article V – Administrative Organization, Section 1 – Council Appointees:
The action of the Council in suspending or removing an appointee shall be final but the appointee may demand written reasons for removal and the right to be heard thereon at public meeting of the Council.

Motion was made by Greg Garrison, second by Elizabeth Beeton, to remove the language “but the appointee may demand written reasons for removal and the right to be heard thereon at public meeting of the Council.”

In favor: Fred Raschke, Greg Garrison, Elizabeth Beeton, Taylor Schwab, Rocky Sullivan, and Raymond Lewis.

In opposition: Richard Batie and Don Davison.

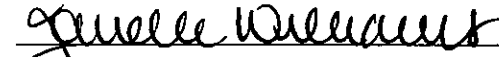
Motion passes.

7. Set date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on September 1, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., and a meeting will be held on September 16, 2015 at 4:00 p.m., if needed.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.



Janelle Williams, City Secretary