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CHARTER REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES
March 25, 2024

Chair Weller called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Member Julie Tapia-Ruano -Present
 Member Sue Weller - Present
 Member Jacob Newton - Present
 Member Lynn Jamison- Present (via Phone)
 Member Christy Swilley - Present

Staff Present: Angela Stone, City Clerk
 Clay Martin, City Attorney

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MARCH 4, 2024, MINUTES

Motion Member Tapia-Ruano to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2024, Charter Review Meeting Minutes.
Second Member Newton.
Motion carried 4-0.

2. ATTORNEY TO GIVE INFORMATION ON FLORIDA SUNSHINE LAW.

Attorney Martin gave an overview of the Florida Sunshine Law and how it pertains to the Charter Review Board.

He spoke of Public Records and the rules as it pertains to the Charter Review Board.

Member Jamison clarified that they are allowed to speak to commissioners individually.

Attorney Martin gave their office number for the Charter Review to have for any questions they may have.

3. DISCUSS POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Chair Weller stated that Ms. Jamison did submit changes for sections one and two. She asked how they would proceed, section by section.

Chair Weller section 1.01 no change.

Chair Weller section 1.02 how does the comprehensive plan change?

City Clerk Stone believes that they are in the process of changing it.

Attorney Martin suggests going to growth management for an updated map.

Chair Weller 1.03 no change.

Chair Weller 1.04 no change.

Section 2.01

Chair Weller wants the names of the commissioners to be removed.

Attorney Martin offers suggestions from the City Attorney's office. That there be a baseline date for when elections occur and how they would stagger. Mr. Martin explained that there could be a problem in the future with no specificity.

Chair Weller members should send the Attorneys some suggestions on how section 2.01 would read.

Member Newton suggested that there be a change in the qualified electors for the city, with the one-year residency, and the Attorney suggested and the serve under the constitution of the State of Florida. Attorney Martin will look at section 2.01 and section 4.03 and reconcile.

Section 2.02

Chair Weller proposes a change of swearing in the new commissioner to the day of the election instead of waiting for the next Commission meeting. Would like to see the wording in the section to say to flip the coin. If it doesn't conflict with State Law.

Attorney Martin discusses State Law requirements.

Chair Weller would like the candidate with the majority votes to be declared the elected official. For example three people are running and one person gets 30 votes, another gets 40 votes, and the last gets 50 votes. The person with 50 votes should be the winner.

Member Newton would like to add a section, 4.08 adding a run-off. (A) Election shall be by majority vote in the event a candidate receives majority for any one seat a run-off shall be held between the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes. (B) If required a run-off election shall be held on

Tuesday two weeks after the election. Rationality electors will have spoken clearly if the city commission seat is filled by a majority, if someone is elected by plurality but not a majority run-off will ensure the seat is filled by the elector's favorite candidate.

Discussion on Run-Off Election.

Chair Weller requested how many times since 2016 have there has been more than two people running at a time.

City Clerk Angela will get the information, but informs the Chair and Members that yes, the city can run their own election, but the city still must go through the Supervisor of Elections for multiple things.

Section 2.03

Chair Weller asks how the Compensation of the Commission is determined.

City Clerk Angela responds that it is voted on by the Commission.

Member Newton asks Attorney Martin how many city charters list the compensation of the city commissioners in their charter? Attorney Martin responds that what he is aware of, he does not think any of them actually list within the charter the actual amount of compensation. They usually provide the mechanism by which it sets compensation.

Attorney Martin suggests adding that in the event the commission should not act their salary from the following year shall be continued to the next year.

Members agree to return to section 2.03 with savings language.

Section 2.04

Member Jamison suggests adding that the Mayor/Vice Mayor should not serve two consecutive terms unless the commissioners refuse the appointment. Two consecutive terms gives too much power to one person on the commission.

Member Newton believes that if the commissioners vote for the mayor for two consecutive terms, then he doesn't see the issue behind it. Is not in favor of limiting the language.

Discussion on Mayor/Vice Mayor Seat and term.

Attorney Martin suggests unanimous voting for second term Mayor/Vice Mayor.

Section 2.05 no change.

Section 2.06

Chair Weller wants to add language (changes in parentheses). Neither the city commission nor any of its members shall in any manner dictate the appointment or removal of any city employee except the

charter officer nor shall the commission or any of its member give orders (either publicly or privately directly or indirectly) to any employee other than commission orders to a charter officer. The commission or its members shall deal on all matters through the appropriate charter officer. (Commissioners may discuss with the manager any matter of city business however no individual city commission shall give orders to the manager).

Members discuss communication issues between commission and manager.

Attorney Martin taking language and bringing it back for review.

Members in agreement.

Will pick up on Section 2.07 at the next meeting.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Linda Jones spoke about the importance of having a majority win of an election. Thinks that the city should hold a run-off election.

Attorney Martin discusses different run-off election scenarios.

Ross Ambrose spoke about partisan contributions and finding better language to limit the involvement of parties.

Attorney Martin spoke of first amendment issues.

Chair Weller adjourned at 8 pm.