

City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers
100 N. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33755*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

4:30 PM

Main Library - 2nd Floor Board Room

Charter Review Committee

Roll Call

Present 13 - Chair Michael Mannino, Vice Chair Darryl James Henderson, Committee Member Richard Adelson, Committee Member Kathleen Agnew, Committee Member Michael D. Anderson, Committee Member Marilyn Kagan, Committee Member Kelly S. Kelly, Committee Member David Lillesand, Committee Member Marita M. Lynch, Committee Member Bruce Rector, Committee Member Mike Riordon, Committee Member Sean Schrader, and Committee Member Becca Tieder

Also Present – Pamela K. Akin – City Attorney and Rosemarie Call – City Clerk

To provide continuity for research, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

Unapproved

1. Call to Order – Chair Mannino

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. at the Main Library.

2. Approval of Minutes

- 2.1 Approve the February 11, 2019 Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

Committee Member Riordon moved to Approve the February 11, 2019 Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be heard regarding items not on the agenda – None.

4. New Business

- 4.1 Adopt Rules of Procedure.

The City Clerk reviewed draft language regarding the public comment process. The language would be incorporated into the Rules of Procedure as Rule 8 - Citizen Input.

4.2 Sunshine Law Review.

The City Attorney asked committee members if they had any questions regarding the Sunshine Law.

In response to questions, the City Attorney said members cannot interchange emails with each other; issues of this committee must occur at the meeting. Members should forward emails and social media posts to the City Clerk who will capture the communication for public record and agenda any requests for the Committee's consideration at an upcoming meeting. The law does not require members to answer questions; the law requires to provide records. Members may forward screenshots of social media posts to the City Clerk.

4.3 Begin reviewing the city charter.

Members will begin reviewing the city charter, identifying areas that need further discussion.

The City Attorney suggested the Committee review the charter section by section and identify where speakers and presentations would be requested so staff can schedule the appropriate presenters.

The Committee reviewed Sections 1.01 through 2.07.

In response to questions, the City Attorney said she is coordinating with Dr. Scott Paine, a former City of Tampa elected official with the Florida League of Cities, to present on districting. She said past Charter Review Committees briefly discussed districting but never pushed for a detailed presentation. Clearwater has always had an at-large election, which is common in the council-manager form of government. She said the city charter does not dictate how the annual evaluations of the city manager and city attorney are conducted; councilmembers may choose to use an evaluation form but rarely choose to do so. The evaluations are conducted at a council meeting in October. If districts are instituted, the length of residency required to run for office would be addressed in Section 2.02 - Qualifications. In Pinellas County, Clearwater has the highest median salary for councilmembers, except for St. Petersburg. When filling a council vacancy, the city charter does not state resumes must be accepted; how the vacancy is filled is done differently each time. It is not

uncommon to choose an individual who has served in the past.

There was consensus that further discussion was needed in the following areas:

- *2.01(a) - Composition - presentation by Dr. Scott Paine on districting*
- *2.01(c)(1) - Evaluations of the city manager and city attorney*
- *2.01(d)(8) - CMA provision (most does not apply and can be removed)*
- *2.02 - Qualifications - residency requirements within districts if districting is pursued*
- *2.06(e) - Holding other office (timeframe may need to be amended to reflect state law)*
- *2.07(c)(2) - Filling of vacancies; vacancy in council member's seat*

One individual suggested holding committee meetings at night and questioned the status of the city hall property.

4.4 Set agenda for next meeting.

There was consensus to continue reviewing the city charter, starting from Section 2.08.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Attest

City Clerk

Chair
Charter Review Committee