

June 6, 2017 Charter Review Summary Minutes

Present – Ron Balbier; Dick Kistemaker; Ron Campbell; Sue Grodek; Tom Hites; Jerry Hayes; Fran Barrett; Carl Ethridge; Denise Folger

Also Present – Kevin Butler, Law Director

Approved the May 25, 2017 minutes.

Discussion of Mandatory Referral to Voters section.

Building Commissioner Dave Kulcsar was present to explain the zoning measures change – the wording in the charter is not cut and dry.

Change in the zoning classification or sub-classification; uses permitted or prohibited in a district.

Definition of a district affected area – specific uses are permitted or prohibited. There are different uses for districts SF; RB; LI; GEI. Zoning fit around chunks of property.

What would the proposed change do? It would clarify what needs to go to the vote of the people – that is, only legislation that would change zoning classification for property uses. Other zoning code changes of a regulatory nature – for example, fence regulations – would not require a popular referendum.

Kevin Butler spoke of zoning measures. There is a problem of interpretation. Also spoke regarding the other “clean-up” suggestions in his memo distributed this date:

1. Honoring ballot issue filing deadlines established under state code;
2. Modernizing the language regarding newspaper publishing in light of the dwindling number of dailies.

Mr. Ethridge suggested and the commission agreed to replace the idea of “measure” with the word “legislation.”

The commission agreed that the wording needed a clear meaning. Several commissioners had concerns that the timing of this charter change is bad in

the wake of Issue 3, which recently failed; the two issues may be unrelated but voters may confuse them at the polls.

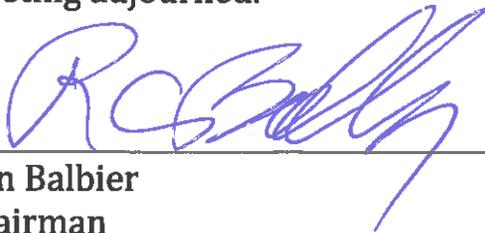
The discussion turned to charter commission membership and term limits. Suggestion at the last meeting that no family members related to a council person or mayor may be appointed to the charter commission was extensively discussed. Discussion of that issue and the issue of whether commissioners should be restricted to serving on no more than two consecutive charter commissions.

The commission took straw poll votes on the issues that've been discussed tonight and tentatively agreed to thus far:

- Article III Section 2 [councilmember qualifications]: 9 yes
- Article III Section 6 [election of council leadership at organizational meeting]: 9 yes
- Article V Section 3 [Clerk of Council appointment]: 9 yes
- Article V Section 10(b) [mandatory zoning referendum]: 7 yes; 2 no
- Article X-A [term limits for Charter Review Commission]: 5 yes; 4 no
- Article X-A [family members of elected officials prohibited from serving on Charter Review Commission]: 3 yes; 6 no

The commission decided to limit issues to those considered, pending final approval at the next meeting. Next meeting will be June 22 to approve the commission's final report prepared by Kevin Butler.

Meeting adjourned.



Ron Balbier
Chairman

Jill Ludwig
Secretary