

**RICHLAND HILLS CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022
MINUTES**

Roll Call:

Committee Members Present

Theresa Bledsoe
Bill Garretson
Athena Campbell
Stacey Morse
Roland Goveas
Sheleen Jaymes

Committee Members Absent

Staff Present

Candice Edmondson, City Manager
James Donovan, City Attorney

Citizens Present

Allison Barger

1. CALL TO ORDER

City Manager Candice Edmondson called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. Appoint a member to serve as Chairperson to the Committee

City Attorney James Donovan advised that the member chosen to serve as the Chairperson will not be allowed to vote unless in the case of a tie as described in the resolution creating the Charter Review Committee.

Motion: Motion was made by Athena Campbell to appoint Sheleen Jaymes as Chair of the Charter Review Committee and seconded by Theresa Bledsoe.

Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

4. Discuss and take possible action on amendments to the City Charter

City Attorney James Donovan introduced the charter review process and committee objectives.

The committee reviewed and discussed proposed amendments to Article IV. Enumerated Powers, Article V. City Council and Article VI. Powers and Duties of Officers.

The committee discussed the expansion of the governing body to six (6) Councilmembers plus the Mayor with the Mayor being a voting member. The members discussed expanding term limits to three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms.

Motion: Motion was made by Stacey Morse and seconded by Roland Goveas to expand the governing body to six (6) Councilmembers plus a Mayor with the Mayor being a voting member.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0

The committee wanted to add language to the charter that in order to be Mayor a candidate must have served as a Councilmember previously. The candidate could have served as Mayor or Councilmember for any other city and would have to list city and dates of term. Additional documentation may be required to verify service.

Motion: Motion was made by Stacey Morse and seconded by Bill Garretson that a prerequisite be added that a candidate for Mayor must have previously completed a full term as a Mayor or Councilmember.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0

Motion: Motion was made by Theresa Bledsoe and seconded by Athena Campbell to expand term limits to three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0

The committee discussed the ability for a person to serve as a Councilmember for three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms and then immediately serve as Mayor for three (3) consecutive three (3) year terms. After six (6) consecutive six (6) year terms a person must sit out for one (1) election cycle.

The committee discussed Council absences and changing language to make it four (4) meetings in a year (May – May). The committee also considered changes to Council compensation.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion was made by Theresa Bledsoe and seconded by Stacey Morse to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Jaymes declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Lindsay Wells, City Secretary

Sheleen Jaymes, Chair