

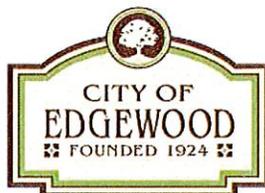
**Charter Review Committee Meeting
City Hall – Council Chamber
405 Larue Avenue, Edgewood, Florida
Tuesday, July 12, 2016
6:00 p.m.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

- A. Call meeting to order
- B. Approve Minutes of June 30, 2016 CRC Meeting
- C. Presentation by Lynn Tipton, Florida League of Cities
- D. Public Comments
- E. Adjournment

“More than one member of the City Council may be in attendance at this meeting and may participate in discussions.”

In accordance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), if any person with a disability as defined by the ADA needs special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, he or she should telephone the City Clerk at (407) 851-2920.



June 30, 2016
City of Edgewood – Charter Review Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Dan Drummond
Keith Farmer
Mike Hendrix
Will Mims
Walter Moon
Chris Rader

Absent

Bob Olsen (tendered his resignation)
John Dowless, Council President

Staff

Ray Bagshaw, Mayor
Bea L. Meeks, City Clerk
Chris Francisco, Police Chief

Mayor Bagshaw opened the CRC meeting at 6 p.m. He announced that Bob Olsen resigned due to medical reasons. He said Keith Farmer, Vice Chair is willing to step up the chair. Dan Drummond agreed to be the Vice Chair.

City Clerk Meeks announced that the agenda was posted and shows that two or more Council Members may be in attendance.

Vice Chairman Farmer asked to amend the agenda to include public comments at the end.

CRC member Mike Hendrix made the Motion to approve Keith Farmer as CRC Chair and Dan Drummond as Vice Chair; Seconded by CRC member Walter; unanimously approved (6/0).

CRC Member Chris Rader made the Motion to approve the June 10, 2016 CRC Minutes; Seconded by CRC Member Mike Hendrix. Unanimously approved (6/0)

Chairman Farmer said he would like recommendations as to how to proceed with the Charter review. Walter Moon asked about the requirement for a seventh member and Mayor Bagshaw confirmed that Resident Jennifer Killen will be the seventh committee member. Mayor Bagshaw gave his input on how and why the Charter serves the City.

Walter Moon asked if the City has grown enough since the last Charter Review Committee was in place, to hire a full time, paid administrator. Mayor Bagshaw said the City Clerk has done some research on City Managers/Administrators and pay that she can provide the Committee. **City Clerk Meeks said she will email information to the Committee.**

Chris Rader referenced Council members' terms and noted that two year terms are not enough time for continuity. He said the terms may need to be longer terms.

CRC Member Dan Drummond said he has been a resident in Edgewood for 42 years and has served on the Planning & Zoning Board, Council and CRC, as well as a volunteer police officer. He said the City has the best Mayor they have ever had. He said there has been push back in the past about paying the Mayor and Council Members. He said the City does need continuity. CRC Member Drummond said the Mayor should answer to the electorate and not the Council. He said consideration should be given to compensating the Mayor. He said two year terms are too short; four year terms may be too long. However, he said three or four year terms should be considered. He said the current Charter allows for an assistant that can be called whatever Council wants to name the position. He said if the Committee wants to change direction, it needs to happen before budget so it can be appropriately budgeted. CRC Member Dan Drummond said there could be consideration given in doing away with a Mayor and have 5 Council Members who select their Mayor. He said that the Mayor's pay should be decided by Council.

CRC Member Chris Rader said he would like to see improvements on the Orange Avenue corridor, which is why a City Administrator will be helpful.

It was the consensus of the Committee to address City Administrator, Council Member terms and the compensation of the Mayor in the Charter.

CRC Member Dan Drummond said he is not of the opinion that council should be compensated.

Mayor Bagshaw read into the record an email from Resident Ellen James who indicated she is in favor of a City Administrator.

CRC Chair Keith Farmer asked the committee to be prepared to address the following in the next meeting:

- Pros and cons of City Administrator
- Pay for the Mayor
- What do residents want (can staff put out on social media)
- Bring back three or four things from Charter to discuss

CRC Member Dan Drummond referenced Amendment 8 in the last Charter Referendum and said the Mayor should not work for Council. He said he wants to strike this from the Charter, as the Mayor should be responsible to the electorate. Chairman Farmer said he noted the same thing and wanted to know the history. CRC Member Walter Moon disagreed.

CRC Member Dan Drummond asked for a note to be sent to Council President Dowless regarding the committee's consensus to have an administrator so that it could be considered during the budget process.

Chairman Farmer said he will not be at July 12, 2016 meeting because he has military duty. He said he would like for deadlines to be established so that the committee is on a schedule.

The following meeting schedule was agreed to:

- Tuesday, 8/2/2016 at 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, 8/23/2016 6 pm
- Tuesday, 9/6/2016 6 pm
- Thursday, 9/22/2016 6 p.m.

Chairman Farmer Opened for public comment at 7:43 p.m.

Business owner Fran Pignone presented her thoughts on the growth around the City and the effect it has on land value. Regarding the Charter, she said the Committee's first consideration should be the role of the Mayor. She said the second consideration should be having a professional administrator. She noted her disappointment that the agenda was not posted online.

Council Member Susan Fortini questioned the procedures and asked CRC Member Drummond about compensating the Mayor. Specifically "How do you do that"? CRC Member Dan Drummond said his intent is to allow compensation, not to set compensation.

Mayor Bagshaw said that City Attorney Smith will be provided with the report and do the wordsmithing for the ballot language.

CRC Member Hendrix made the Motion to adjourn at 7:59 pm: Seconded by CRC Member Dan Drummond.

Keith Farmer, Chairman

ATTEST:

Bea L. Meeks, MMC, CPM, CBTO
City Clerk

Edgewood: City charter review meeting

Lynn Tipton

Florida League of Cities, Inc.

July 12, 2016



Municipal charters in Florida

- All charters are unique; haven't found any two identical
- 412 cities, towns and villages – all have a charter
- Goal for tonight: discuss municipal characteristics in Florida and compare Edgewood using peer statistics



Comparable charter characteristics

- Size of Council or Commission: five (5) members is most common; some seven (7) and some (6) where mayor is non-voting
- Length of term: two, three and four year terms are fairly evenly spread across 410
- Type of election per council seat: at-large; single-member district (SMD); elected seat with at-large voting; some councils are mix of at-large and SMD
- Selection of mayor: elected at large; elected from within the council; rotational
- Form of government: see next slide



Forms of municipal government in florida

- **Council-weak mayor:** original form brought over from England; about 80 Florida cities with populations less than 25,000
- **Council-strong mayor:** an elected executive implements council actions and administers the city; about 49 Florida cities in all populations
- **Commission:** each elected official oversees one or more departments autonomously; come together as legislative body. Less than 3 Florida cities have this
- **Council-Manager or Commission-Manager:** professional manager appointed by mayor & council to administer city, prepare agenda and recommend actions to council, and present a budget each year; about 280 Florida cities of all populations
- **Hybrid:** elements of the above; about 2 Florida cities



Edgewood: peer comparisons

- Using population: see chart with 25 cities
- *Should also compare scope of services if any charter elements are compared more deeply*



Form of Government Comparisons

A	B	C
Municipality (County)	2015 pop.	Form of Gov't.
Williston (Levy)	2,848	Council-Manager
Indialantic (Brevard)	2,787	Council-Manager
Bal Harbour (Miami-Dade)	2,778	Council-Manager
Carrabelle (Franklin)	2,765	Council-Manager
Hypoluxo (Palm Beach)	2,691	Council-Strong Mayor
Freeport (Walton)	2,667	Council-Strong Mayor
Bonifay (Holmes)	2,665	Council-Weak Mayor
Lake Helen (Volusia)	2,651	Council-Weak Mayor
Port Richey (Pasco)	2,638	Council-Manager
Edgewood (Orange)	2,635	Council-Strong Mayor
Oakland (Orange)	2,624	Council-Manager
Blountstown (Calhoun)	2,468	Council-Manager
Bushnell (Sumter)	2,459	Council-Manager
Monticello (Jefferson)	2,458	Council-Weak Mayor
Virginia Gardens (M-D)	2,416	Council-Strong Mayor
Lake Placid (Highlands)	2,415	Council-Strong Mayor
Eagle Lake (Polk)	2,387	Council-Manager
El Portal (M-D)	2,334	hybrid/commission
Malone (Jackson)	2,317	Council-Strong Mayor



Best practices in charter reviews

- Holding several public forums for discussion (especially if referendum is scheduled)
- Use of website for display of current and proposed language, as well as minutes from CRC meetings
- If referendum is being held, develop “FAQ” for website
- Utilize League of Women Voters and other civic organizations to help with forums, public discussions – proactive role of elected officials and city staff to reach out and include these groups



Charter Trends in Florida

- **Form of government:** trend since 1950s toward the council-manager and commission-manager form of government (including new incorporations)
- **Charter reviews:** seven to ten (7 to 10) years is widely seen



Charter review: questions to consider

- From the 2008 eighth edition of the *Model City Charter*:
- Is the charter reflective of the city's current needs?
- Is the council representative of the population, both resident and business?
- Does the charter address responsible professionalism, and do it adequately?
- Has the city provided opportunities for citizen participation in the process?
- Is the city engaged in civic education about the charter (web site, for example)?



Questions and discussion

- Thank you for including the Florida League of Cities in your process!

