

**Charter Review Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2020**

This meeting was be conducted partially via teleconference Pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-69, issued by the Office of Governor Ron Desantis on March 20, 2020, extended via Executive order no. 20-112, and further extended by Exectutive Order No 20-114, municipalities may conduct meetings of their governing boards without having a quorum of its members present physically or at any specific location, and utilizing communications media technology such as telephonic or video conferencing, as provided by Section 120.54 (5)(b)2, Florida Statutes.

The City of Lake Wales held this hybrid virtual public meeting using the GoToMeeting Web/Teleconference service.

8/13/2020 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chevon Baccus, Andy Oguntola, Keith Wadsworth, Jim Weaver

Commission Members: Al Goldstein, Terrye Howell, Curtis Gibson

Staff Members Present: Jennifer Nanek, City Clerk; James Slaton, Interim City Manager

2. Minutes - July 30, 2020

The Minutes of July 30, 2020 were reviewed. A motion was made by Jim Weaver to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3. Review Of Charter Sections

Article IV. City Manager

Commissioner Howell recommended that it be put in the Charter that the City Manager must move into the City Limits. She was concerned that a new City Manager could stall as far as moving to Lake Wales. A City Manager should live here if they are going to recommend policies here. Commissioner Goldstein agreed and suggested 6 months time frame. Jim Weaver said that may tie our hands as sometimes housing in Lake Wales can be hard to find. Andy Oguntola said this is a common problem with professionals in other industries. Commissioner Howell said that the City Manager should pay taxes and shop here if they are making decisions about Lake Wales. Jim Weaver said he is in favor of narrowing the boundaries to the greater Lake Wales area to include Babson Park or Country Oaks. Andy Oguntola said the restriction of greater Lake Wales would be fine. The Chair said she preferred the City Manager to live in the City Limits. There was a consensus to add this to the Charter. The City Manager needs to move to the Lake Wales area within 15 miles of the limits within 6 months.

The Chair brought up 4.02 Removal of the City Manager. Andy Oguntola pointed out in reference to the City Manager to change he to he or she. Ms. Nanek said she will address it. The removal process was discussed. The Chair reviewed changes made in 2010 when a City Manager was fired.

The Chair brought up number 9 regarding purchasing procedures under 4.04 Powers and Duties of the City Manager. James Slaton, Interim City Manager, reviewed a requirement that the City Manager approve all purchases and explained that the process to approve everything is wasteful and time consuming. The Chair recommended changing it to refer back to the ordinance. Keith Wadsworth said he agreed. Everyone consented to this.

V. Administrative Departments

The chair said there was no reason to further discuss the position of the City Clerk as three members of the Commission preferred that it stay the same.

The City Attorney position was discussed. The Chair said some of the Commissioners don't really know what the City Attorney does day to day. Commissioner Howell said she doesn't know what he does and she can't really ask staff. Andy Oguntola said the City Commission can change the method of evaluation. Keith Wadsworth said he is not sure the City Attorney should report to the City Manager. Commissioner Curtis Gibson said he agreed with the City Manager doing the evaluation but they should stay reporting to the Commission. There was consensus on this.

4. Duties Of Commissioners

Chair said we can keep working on this. It was decided to defer this to another meeting.

5. AROUND THE ROOM

Jennifer Nanek, City Clerk, provided a draft of the Ordinance concerning the mission statement for the Committee to review. It can be discussed at a later meeting. The Chair asked if all the recommended changes can be presented to the commission together. Ms. Nanek said yes but the Committee can approve each one as it is finished.

6. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned. Next Meeting is August 27, 2020.

Chair:

City Clerk:
