



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

**Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Tuesday, August 03, 2021 at 5:30 PM**

MINUTES

It is the policy of the City of Norman that no person or groups of persons shall on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, marital status, including marriage to a person of the same sex, disability, retaliation, or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in employment activities or in all programs, services, or activities administered by the City, its recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. In the event of any comments, complaints, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services regarding accessibility or inclusion, please contact the ADA Technician at 405-366-5424, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT

Mayor Breea Clark
Councilmember Ward 1 Brandi Studley
Councilmember Ward 2 Lauren Schueler
Councilmember Ward 3 Kelly Lynn
Councilmember Ward 4 Lee Hall
Councilmember Ward 5 Rarchar Tortorello
Councilmember Ward 6 Elizabeth Foreman
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 8 Matthew Peacock

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Clark

AGENDA ITEMS

1. PRESENTATION BY BOB THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION, OF THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS FOLLOWING THEIR REVIEW OF THE NORMAN CITY CHARTER AS DIRECTED IN RESOLUTION R-1819-66.

Items submitted for the record

1. City of Norman Charter Review Commission Final Report
2. Charter Review Commission minutes of July 8, 2019
3. Charter Review Commission minutes of August 12, 2019
4. Charter Review Commission minutes of September 9, 2019
5. Charter Review Commission minutes of October 14, 2019
6. Charter Review Commission minutes of November 4, 2019

Item 1, continued

7. Charter Review Commission minutes of December 2, 2019
8. Charter Review Commission Public Hearing minutes of January 6, 2020
9. Charter Review Commission minutes of January 13, 2020
10. Charter Review Commission minutes of February 10, 2020
11. Charter Review Commission minutes of March 9, 2020
12. Charter Review Commission minutes of August 10, 2020
13. Charter Review Commission minutes of September 14, 2020
14. Charter Review Commission Public Hearing minutes of October 12, 2020
15. Charter Review Commission minutes of November 12, 2020
16. Charter Review Commission minutes of April 19, 2021
17. Charter Review Commission minutes of May 17, 2021
18. Charter Review Commission minutes of June 14, 2021

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney
2. Mr. Bob Thompson, Chairman of Charter Commission

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2. REVIEW OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2, TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE CITY ATTORNEY SHOULD BE APPOINTED AND SUBJECT TO REMOVAL BY THE CITY COUNCIL. CRC vote 8-3.

The proposal was approved to move forward to a ballot.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 4 Hall.

Voting Yea: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Voting Nay: Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello

Items submitted for the record

1. Article VII, Section 2 - Appointment and Removal of City Attorney by City Council
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of September 9 and October 14, 2019

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3. REVIEW OF ARTICLE II, SECTION 1 TO CONSIDER INCREASING THE MONTHLY STIPEND PROVIDED FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS.

Language recommended that would provide an initial increase in annual stipend and provide for a Compensation Commission that would determine additional increases every three years. CRC vote unanimous.

The proposal was approved to move forward to a ballot.

Item 3, continued

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 4 Hall.

Voting Yea: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Voting Nay: Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn

Items submitted for the record

1. Article VII, Section 1 - Stipend increase for Mayor and City Council
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of August 12, September 9 and October 14, 2019

Participants in discussion

1. Mr. Dan Munson, Ward 6, made comments
2. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney

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4. REVIEW OF ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 2, 5, 6 AND 14 TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILMEMBERS SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM TWO TO THREE YEARS, AND WHETHER THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR BE CHANGED FROM THREE TO FOUR YEARS.

Language recommended to provide for three year terms for all ward representatives. No changes to the term of office for the Mayor recommended by the Charter Review Commission. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was approved to move forward to a ballot.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Voting Nay: Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn

Items submitted for the record

1. Article II, Sections 2, 5, 6, 14 - Mayor and Councilmember's Term Expiration.
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of August 12, and November 4, 2019, and June 14, 2021

Participants in discussion

1. Mr. Dan Munson, Ward 6, made comments

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5. REVIEW OF ARTICLE II, SECTION 2, TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILMEMBERS AND MAYOR SHOULD EXPIRE ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH IN WHICH A RUNOFF ELECTION IS HELD OR SCHEDULED TO BE HELD.

Language recommended to change the beginning and end date of terms such that a new term would begin (and the prior term end) on the first Tuesday following certification of the election results for the new term. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was rejected as written and held back for further review by Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn

Voting Nay: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Items submitted for the record

1. Article II, Sections 2, 5, 6, 14 - Mayor and Councilmember's Term Expiration
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of August 12 and November 4, 2019

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Cynthia Rogers, Ward 4, asked questions
2. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney

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6. REVIEW OF ARTICLE II, SECTION 22 TO CONSIDER ALLOWING THE OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER CREATING THE VACANCY TO APPOINT HIS OR HER SUCCESSOR, UNLESS SUCH VACANCY HAS BEEN CREATED DUE TO REMOVAL FROM OFFICE AS A RESULT OF PROCEEDINGS BY A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION, OR WHETHER TO DELETE LANGUAGE ALLOWING COUNCIL TO APPOINT A SUCCESSOR AND INSTEAD REQUIRE A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILLING SUCH VACANCY.

Language recommended to clarify that Council can either appoint someone to fill the vacancy or call a special election. Language also recommended to eliminate confusion about appointments being for the remainder of the term. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was rejected as written and held back for further review by Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler.

Voting Nay: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Item 6, continued

Items submitted for the record

1. Article II, Section 22 - Filling Vacant Council Positions.
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of August 12 and September 9, 2019

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Cynthia Rogers, Ward 4, proponent
2. Mr. Dan Munson, Ward 6, made comments
3. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney
4. Mr. Bob Thompson, Charter Review Commission Chairman

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7. ARTICLE XVI, SECTION 2 OF THE CHARTER TO REQUIRE THE CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A VOTE OF THE ELECTORATE TO INCREASE CITY UTILITY RATES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Language recommended to require Staff to prepare a rate study for each utility annually and requiring Council to submit a rate increase for one or more utilities at the next Council election, and making provision for situations where an additional rate increase may be needed to meet an unexpected need. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was rejected as written and held back for further review by Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 4 Hall.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello

Voting Nay: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Items submitted for the record

1. Article XVI - Municipally Owned Utilities
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of August 10 and September 14, 2020

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney

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8. ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1 OF THE CHARTER TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF NORMAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY FROM NINE TO ELEVEN MEMBERS.

Language recommended to increase the number of board members from 9 to 11, provided that at least 9 of the members are Norman residents. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was approved to move forward to a ballot.

Item 8, continued

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 4 Hall.

Voting Yea: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Voting Nay: Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman

Items submitted for the record

1. Article IX - Hospital
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of March 9 and August 10, 2020

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney
2. Mr. Doug Cubberley, Chairman of Norman Regional Hospital Authority

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9. ARTICLE XIII, RECALL OF ELECTIVE OFFICERS TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE LANGUAGE SHOULD BE MODIFIED.

The Charter Review Commission recommended changes to Article XIII to address potential timing conflicts with existing elections, ensuring the Clerk has adequate time to review signed petitions, and incorporating state law where appropriate in light of *In re: Petition to Recall Ward Three City Comm'r Ezzell*, 2021 OK 5. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was rejected as written and held back for further review by Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Voting Nay: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman

Items submitted for the record

1. Article XIII - Recall of Elected Officers to consider whether the language should be modified.
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of April 19 and May 1, 2021

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney
2. Ms. Brenda Hall, City Clerk

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10. ARTICLE II, SECTION 2 OF THE CHARTER TO REQUIRE A CANDIDATE FOR CITY COUNCIL TO RESIDE IN THE WARD IN WHICH HE OR SHE SEEKS ELECTION FOR A MINIMUM OF SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO FILING FOR SAID OFFICE.

Language recommended to require residency within the ward for 6 months prior to filing for elective office with provisions made for cases where ward boundaries have changed. CRC vote unanimous

The proposal was approved to move forward to a ballot.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Voting Nay: Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn

Items submitted for the record

1. Article II, Section 2 - Requiring a person to reside in a ward for a minimum of six month in order to be an eligible candidate for a Councilmember position.
2. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of August 12 and September 9, 2019

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney

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11. RESOLUTION AS FOR REVIEW TO CONSIDER ADDING LANGUAGE TO THE CHARTER TO REQUIRE A VOTE OF THE ELECTORATE FOR APPROVAL OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT OVER \$5,000,000.

The motion voted on was to recommend the electorate vote on all Sales Tax Increment Finance Districts. CRC vote 5-5

The proposal was rejected as written and held back for further review by Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman

Voting Nay: Mayor Clark, Councilmember Ward 1 Studley, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 3 Lynn, Councilmember Ward 4 Hall, Councilmember Ward 5 Tortorello, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock

Item 11, continued

Items submitted for the record

1. Voter approval required for Tax Increment Finance Districts over \$5,000,000
2. Tax Increment Finance District Approval Comparative Table
3. Voter approval required for Tax Increment Finance Districts over \$5,000,000 dated January 13, 2020
4. Pertinent excerpts from Charter Review Commission minutes of December 2, 2019, and January 13, 2020

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney
2. Ms. Cynthia Rogers, Ward 4, made comments

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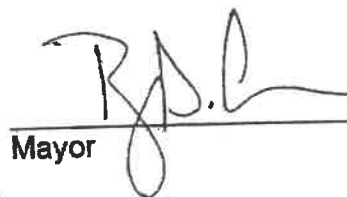
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



City Clerk




Mayor