

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE 2019  
4:00 P.M. MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019**

**CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
9101 BONITA BEACH ROAD  
BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135  
MEETING WILL BE TELEVISED**

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to Order by Chairwoman Jacke McCurdy**

4:01:19 PM Ms. McCurdy called the Charter Review Committee Meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

4:01:19 PM

**Present**

Barbara Craig  
John Jenkins  
Omer Dror  
Jacqueline McCurdy  
Chris Corrie  
Alan Horowitz  
Russ Winn  
Jesse Purdon (joined later in the meeting)

**Staff**

Meg Weiss  
Derek Rooney  
Arleen Hunter

**3. Approval of minutes of May 20, 2019 Committee Meeting**

4:02:07 ***Mr. Horowitz made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Jenkins seconded with the following amendment under Item 6 clarifying that Council increases are not conditioned on staff increases, all in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

**4. City Attorney to Review and Discuss DRAFT City Charter**

4:03:26 PM Mr. Rooney discussed the four changes he made to the draft City Charter:

1. Approved by the committee
2. City Attorney initiated items
3. Section 19 change motion at the last meeting by Member Jenkins
4. Highlighted sections discussed by committee members with additional direction needed

4:04:28 PM Mr. Rooney would like to clarify Mr. Purdon's request regarding a 48-hour notice needed for public meetings. Forty-eight hours versus 48 business hours, notices for emergency meetings and three-day weekends. The Committee decided to hold this discussion until Mr. Purdon arrived.

4:05:18 PM Mr. Rooney addressed Section 56 on Ethics and requested more direction from the Committee for the language.

Mr. Corrie stated his concern regarding ex parte discussions with developers and members of Council. Discussion ensued regarding the consequences of a prohibition on Ex Parte discussions with developers as well as citizens and Zoning Board members.

Mr. Rooney will draft language for the ex parte discussions and contributions and have it prepared for the Committee's review at the next meeting.

4:27:56 PM Section 24 – Page 19. Mr. Rooney requested additional Committee input regarding the 48 hours regarding Mr. Purdon's request for 48 business hours for public notice. Mr. Rooney stated that they needed to define emergencies and three-day weekends. Discussion ensued. Mr. Rooney clarified they would follow the City, State or County process to define emergency meetings and separate meetings that could affect legislation.

4:32:28 PM Section 7 – Page 15. Previously voted on, Committee approved.

4:32:38 PM Section 13 c and d. Mr. Rooney wanted to clarify if they needed anything else added. This section was discussed briefly in earlier meetings. No additional discussion, added to the working list.

4:34:08 PM Section 16 – Page 17. Mr. Rooney stated that is was unnecessary and extraneous. State law establishes election procedures. Mr. Purdon asked if there could be one referendum for a catchall. Chairwoman McCurdy requested that this be added to the list of language that can be removed.

4:36:18 PM Mr. Corrie addressed Section 12 regarding the concern of the Council to move the election date from March to November.

4:39:43 PM Section 18 and Section 21. The Committee discussed the language regarding vacancy in office and the cost of living adjustments for Council members. Discussion ensued. Ms. McCurdy asked Ms. Weiss to look into the City of Naples Committee that meets periodically to review the salaries of their elected officials.

4:47:22 PM Section 19 – The Committee discussed the language regarding City Council members' COLA.

***Mr. Jenkins made a motion to vote to recommend to the City that they approve Section 19 with the change that the \$20,000 in the first line be changed to \$22,596 and \$15,000 in the second line to \$16,947. And with the further edits that are in Section 19 with the understanding of what Naples***



***does in regard to review of their compensation, Mr. Purdon seconded; all in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

[4:48:09 PM](#) Section 29- Page 20 section 29. Mr. Rooney proposed changes and changes replicated by state law. The language is slightly different from state statute requires which could cause misinterpretation.

***Mr. Purdon made a motion to remove the 30-day publication rule and take out the extraneous language, Ms. Craig seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

[4:50:11 PM](#) Section 31 next page last sentence, "copies of the technical publications are available for a price" flagged because it is unusual it is addressed in State law.

[40:50:53 PM](#) Section 32 codification of printing, this is something that is not required by state law. Today everything is published online immediately; this entire section does not have useful meaning. Mr. Rooney asked if we should take it out. Ms. Weiss stated that online is updated quarterly and print is updated annually.

***Mr. Corrie made a motion to eliminate, Ms. Craig seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

[4:52:30 PM](#) Section 40 Mr. Rooney stated this section is already provided by State law. Ms. McCurdy asked Mr. Rooney to add to the list of the items that can be removed.

[4:57:33 PM](#) Section 42. Mr. Rooney stated that the Fiscal Year defined by state law.

***Ms. Craig made a motion to keep it in stating less changes will avoid voter confusion, Mr. Corrie seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

[4:58:16 PM](#) Section 46 – The Committee briefly discussed the ten percent cap on long-term liabilities. The Committee asked staff to get an estimated value of the long-term of the City's liabilities.

[5:01:39 PM](#) Section 47 – Previously voted on to remove

[5:01:55 PM](#) Section 48 – Committee said to keep and gave direction not to remove.

[5:02:18 PM](#) Public Records – State statute determines guidelines. Committee gave direction to keep.

[5:02:53 PM](#) Section 59, page 73 – Code of Ethics already discussed. State Law, do not remove.

[5:06:43 PM](#) Section 62 Discussion of the political issues involving City Manager, City Attorney and Assistant City Manager's involvement with political issues. Mr. Jenkins suggested the Committee review and discuss next meeting. Ms. Craig asked Mr. Rooney to provide examples of other municipalities' language and policies and how they were worded.

5:13:12 PM Section 68 – 72 - Previously voted to delete by City Council ordinance.

5:14:10 PM Section 73 – Mr. Rooney amended based on his experience with this issue. Previously voted to delete transitional item, Mr. Rooney amended to clarify some issues.

**Mr. Corrie made a motion to amend instead of delete, Mr. Horowitz seconded; motion passed unanimously**

5:17:24 PM Section 76 – included in the previous voting.

5:18:55 PM Discussed before City Council Meeting to draft descriptive information. Ms. Hunter reported in reference to Section 76 and provided the information on the assessed property values

**5. Discuss timeline and tentative schedule – 5:20:45 PM**

Ms. Hunter informed the Committee that the deadline for wording must be submitted to the Supervisor of Election by November 18, 2019.

5:23:53 PM Mr. Dror proposed changing the name of the City from The City of Bonita Springs to the City of Bonita Beach. Mr. Dror suggested an economic study citing that he knew of two municipalities that recently changed their names and it has had enormous economic returns. Discussion ensued.

The Committee asked what process did local cities use to change the name and what was the economic impact.

**6. Public Comments**

No public Comment


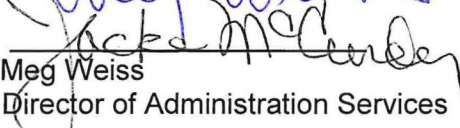
**7. Next meeting July 8, 2019 at 4:00p.m.**

**8. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:30:10 PM

5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
  
Meg Weiss  
Director of Administration Services

Date: July 8, 2019

AUTHENTICATED

Jacke McCurdy

Jacke McCurdy, Chairwoman

Debbie Filipek

Debbie Filipek, City Clerk