



Charter Review Committee
Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers
214 Sams Avenue, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Having been duly advertised as required by law, the regular meeting of the Charter Review Committee of the City of New Smyrna Beach, Florida, was held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at the City Commission Chambers, 214 Sams Avenue, New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168.

Charter Review Facilitator Susan Boyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: Mark Billings, Steve Fusilier, Spencer Hathaway, Michael J. Ison, Farley Palmer, Judy Reiker, Khalid Resheidat, Daniel Rokjer, and Palmer Wilson.

Excused Absence: Diana Puhl, and Steven Snively

Ms. Boyer provided a brief history of her experience. The Charter Review Committee members introduced themselves.

2. OVERVIEW OF SUNSHINE LAWS

2A Overview Public Meetings and Public Records

City Attorney Avallone provided an overview of public meeting and records.

3. MUNICIPAL CHARTERS

Susan Boyer outlined a PowerPoint presentation regarding Municipal Charters.

4. MODEL CHARTER - NATIONAL CIVIC LEAGUE

4A. Model City Charter

Susan Boyer outlined the Model City Charter.

5. CHARTER REVIEW PROCESS

Member Ison inquired about the 2020 Charter Review proposal.

A discussion ensued regarding the 2020 Charter Review proposal, Model Charter, and a special election.

City Attorney Avallone provided an overview of the Charter approval process.

6. CITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACH CHARTER

6A. City of New Smyrna Beach Charter

Section 2.02 – Composition and terms of office.

Motion:

Member Ison motioned to revise Section 2.02 to set the mayoral term at four (4) years, with an election for mayor to be held every four (4) years. Member Resheidat seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 8-1, with Member Rojker voting no.

Committee Consensus: To review sections of the Charter and, with the committee's consensus, advise City Attorney Avallone to draft revised language for presentation and discussion at the next Charter Review Committee meeting.

Review of Preliminary Recommendations:

By consensus, the Committee will review the revised draft language for the following sections.

Section 2.11 - Compensation

The city commission shall determine the annual salary of the mayor and commissioners by ordinance.

- By consensus, Charter Review committee will revisit after the Florida Legislation decision.

Section 3.05 - Nomination and election; when primary election unnecessary; tie vote.

Section 4.04 – City Clerk

7. MEETING SCHEDULE

7A. Charter Review Committee meeting dates.

The Charter Review Committee is scheduled to meeting the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, April 15, 2025
- Tuesday, May 6, 2025
- Tuesday, May 20, 2025
- Tuesday, June 3, 2025
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025
- Tuesday, July 1, 2025
- Tuesday, July 15, 2025
- Tuesday, August 5, 2025
- Tuesday, August 19, 2025

8. CHARTER TOPICS

Article VI – Sustainability

- **Section 6.01- Environmental stewardship**
- **Section 6.03 - Historic Preservation**

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Dlubac, 3321 East Locanda Circle, commented on the impact of the State Legislature. He discussed the Charter Review Committee in 2020 and expressed his thoughts on the development of Venetian Bay.

Jesse Romero, 708 South Cooper Street, recommended a strategy for the upcoming Charter Review process. He also commented on the primary election and suggested adding the benefits of annexing property into the City Charter. Additionally, he provided reasoning for why the City Clerk should be considered a charter officer.

Randy Herman, 108 Ester Street, commented on the city's vision, mission, and structure. He also discussed the community, the development west of I-95, and the Historic Districts.

10. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, the facilitator adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.