

City of Big Spring
Charter Committee Meeting
Minutes 03/31/2021

Meeting called to order by John Scott, committee chair.

Committee members present in person were John Scott, Nati Saldivar, Troy Tompkins. Committee members attending virtually were A.J. Weaver and Elias Gamboa. Others in attendance were Mayor Shannon Thomason, Andrew Hagen, John Medina, Charles Zech.

Public Comment Period – there were none present requesting to make comments.

Old Business

Second Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Measure C, Candidates to Reside in District from Which Elected – Motion to approve by T. Tompkins; second by N. Saldivar. Approved unanimously.

Second Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Measure D, Providing Clarity to Appointment of City Attorney, City Judge, and Independent Auditor – Motion to approve by N. Saldivar; second by E. Gamboa. Approved unanimously.

Second Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Measure E, Making Pronouns Gender Neutral – Motion to approve by T. Tompkins; second by N. Saldivar. Approved unanimously.

Second Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Measure F, Filling of Vacancies – motion to approve by N. Saldivar; second by T. Tompkins. Approved unanimously.

New Business

Approval of the Charter Committee Minutes from the Regular Meeting of March 24, 2021 – Motion to approve by N. Saldivar; second by T. Tompkins. Adopted unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Amended Measure G, Term Limits – (Article 5 Sect 3A) Motion by A. J. Weaver to amend as follows: “However, years or time of service that an official may serve in filling a full term, an unexpired term or a partial term to which they are elected shall be counted toward the above.” Second by N. Saldivar. Adopted unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Amended Measure H, Automatic Resignation – discussion of the legal definition of “office” in common law (appointed or elected) vs. Texas Elections Code (elected) law. Motion by T. Tompkins to use the for Art. 6 Sect 3b, the Texas Elections Code definition be used. Second by E. Gamboa. Adopted unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Measure I, Repeal of Personnel Disciplinary Procedures – Motion to approve charter amendment deleting Art. 6 Sect. 5 made by N. Saldivar; second by E. Gamboa. Passed 4 to 1.

Discussion and Possible Action with Regard to Recommending Amendments to the City Charter, Articles IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and related law

Discussion by Mr. Zech about the recommended revisions to Article 6 as to City Government, City Depository, and City Officers & Employees.

City Depository – request to Mr. Zech by committee to bring provision in line with state law.

Re: Article 6, Sect 11 - Motion to strike “and shall furnish bond...prescribed by council” make by T. Tompkins; second by A. J. Weaver. Adopted unanimously.

Re: Oath of Officers – Motion by T. Tompkins to have Mr. Zech suggest language to bring oath of office requirement in line with state of Texas guidelines. Second by E. Gamboa. Adopted unanimously.

Article 7 – previously stricken.

Article 8 Indebtedness – Motion by T. Tompkins to replace section 8 with language suggested by Mr. Zech to bring into compliance with Texas law. Second by N. Saldivar.

Motion by A.J. Weaver to limit issuance of Certificates of Obligation by the city. There was no second, so motion died.

Article 9 – Sect. 1 Motion by T. Tompkins to specify the city’s fiscal year as Oct. 1 through Sept. 30. Second by A.J. Weaver. Adopted unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on Calling Future Meetings and Agenda Items – next meeting will be on 04/07/2021.

Input & Adjourn

City Manager, Mayor, and Staff Input –


Input from mayor Thomason citing guidance from Texas Municipal League as to officeholder Oath per Texas constitution.

Input from J. Medina that he believes appointing an interim city manager would be the role of city council.

Kudos from A Hagen to legal staff M. Haynes and S. Stice, as well as to Mr. Zech.

Committee Input –

N. Saldivar asked that committee please review Sweetwater charter Sect. 7.07 and 7.08. She also encouraged council to address the matter of equal representation by council district of various committees. She also advised that Mr. Rodman has indicated he resigned from the committee. Chair Scott adjourned the meeting.



Troy Tompkins
CRSC Member and Secretary
04/21/2021

Date