

**CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS, MISSOURI
MINUTES OF CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
OCTOBER 25, 2018**

A meeting of the Charter Review Commission was held on Thursday, October 25, 2018, 6:00 p.m. in the Parks Administration Conference Room of the Blue Springs Fieldhouse, 425 NE Mock Avenue, Blue Springs, MO.

COMMISSION MEMBERS	Jeanie Lauer	James Wallace
	Kelli Montgomery - ABSENT	Jason Bonney
	Bryan Pratt (arrived at 6:10)	Kynette Campbell
	Maureen Johnson	Traci Via – ABSENT
	Becky Nace	

Also present were Assistant City Administrator Christine Cates, City Attorney Jacqueline Sommer, and City Clerk Sheryl Morgan. Councilmen Culpepper, Kaylor and Carter were present, as well as Planning Commission member Scott Casey.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER Co-Chairs Pratt and Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Commissioner Bonney moved to approve the Minutes of the October 11, 2018 Charter Review Commission meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Nace and was approved unanimously.

**CO-CHAIR PRATT
ARRIVED AT 6:10 P.M.**

**SECTION 3.12.D –
LEGISLATIVE
PROCEEDINGS; VOTING** Commissioner Wallace moved to recommend no changes be made to Section 3.12.D - *Legislative Proceedings; Voting*. Motion seconded by Commissioner Nace and was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE VI –
ADMINISTRATIVE
ORGANIZATION,
PERSONNEL SYSTEM
AND COMPREHENSIVE
DEVELOPMENT PLAN** The Commission unanimously agreed that no changes were recommended.

**ARTICLE VII – FINANCIAL
PROCEDURES** The Commission unanimously agreed that no changes were recommended.

**ARTICLE VIII –
NOMINATION AND
ELECTION** **Section 8.1.A Regular Elections** - The Commission unanimously agreed to amend this section to be consistent with State statute by adding “after the first Monday” to read as follows: The regular municipal election shall be held on the first (1st) Tuesday **after the first Monday** in April in each year.

Section 8.2 Nominations - The Commission agreed to add the words “**as determined according to Section 8.3**” to the end of Paragraph 8.2.C *Certification to Election Authority*.

Section 8.3 Preparation of Ballots – The City currently uses a random drawing on the first day of filing. City Attorney Jackie Sommer presented proposed verbiage to reflect the current practices relating to the order in which candidates are listed on the ballot. The Commission agreed to not allow representatives to file Declarations on the candidate’s behalf. Co-Chair Pratt stated he would review the proposed verbiage and bring suggested revisions to the next meeting.

The Commission unanimously agreed that no other changes were recommended.

ARTICLE IX – INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

The Commission unanimously agreed that no changes were recommended.

ARTICLE X – FRANCHISES

The Commission unanimously agreed that no changes were recommended.

ARTICLE XI – LICENSING, TAXATION, AND REGULATION OF BUSINESS, OCCUPATIONS, PROFESSIONS, VOCATIONS

The Commission unanimously agreed that no changes were recommended.

ARTICLE XII – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 12.2 Political Activity – Co-Chair Pratt moved to remove the first sentence as follows: ~~No City employee shall solicit or contribute any contribution for the campaign fund of any candidate for Blue Springs City Office or take part in the political campaign of any candidate for Blue Springs City Office.~~ Motion seconded by Commissioner Bonney and carried unanimously.

Section 12.3 Activities Prohibited – Scott Casey, representing Blue Springs for a Bright Future, presented a scorecard from the Human Rights Campaign for the City of Independence (attached to these Minutes), which he advised is similar in policy and practice as Blue Springs in relation to non-discrimination. Mr. Casey requested the words “sexual orientation or gender identity.” Jackie Sommer will research Charter verbiage for other Jackson County cities for review by the Commission at the next meeting.

Section 12.8 Charter Review Commission – Councilman Dale Carter led a discussion relating to the structure and appointments to the Charter Review Commission. The Commission agreed this matter should be added to the list for Council consideration to approve an Ordinance defining the structure and appointments in more detail. The Commission also suggested that the Council consider changing the timeline for review of the Charter, which is currently not less than every five years.

The Commission unanimously agreed that no other changes were recommended.

**ARTICLE XIII –
TRANSITIONAL
PROVISIONS**

The Commission unanimously agreed that no changes were recommended.

**ARTICLE XIV –
SCHEDULE**

Co-Chair Pratt moved to repeal this Article in its entirety as it became irrelevant after the Charter was initially adopted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bonney and carried unanimously.

**COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR COUNCIL
CONSIDERATION**

- Sections 3.14 and 5.5 – City Attorney and City Administrator Performance appraisals
- Organizational chart reflecting what should be happening on a daily basis
- Four-year terms for Council and Mayor to save on election expenses
- Consistency with voting Councilmember on each board and commission
- Section 3.12.E – Overriding Mayor’s Veto
- Section 3.12.H – in relation to Section 110.150 of the Code
- Section 12.8 – Charter Review Commission structure
- Section 12.8 – 5-year timeline for Charter review

REDLINED CHARTER

A copy of the Charter with all proposed changes redlined are attached to these Minutes and incorporated herein.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- The Commission agreed the meeting schedule will be as follows:
- Thursday, November 8 – short meeting to go back through the sections reviewed discussed on October 25
 - Thursday, December 6 – final vote on recommendations
 - Monday, December 17 – presentation at City Council meeting

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:10 p.m., there was no further business to come before the Council, Co-Chair Lauer adjourned the meeting.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION



Jeanie Lauer, Co-Chairman



Sheryl Morgan, City Clerk