CITY OF MOUNT DORA, FLORIDA
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2024, 3:00 P.M.

Mount Dora City Hall
510 North Baker Street
Mount Dora, FL 32757

CALL TO ORDER

Having been duly advertised as required by law, at 3:00 p.m. City Attorney Patrick Brackins called to order the April 11, 2024 Charter Review Committee meeting in the City Hall Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL WITH DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Members Present

Keashawn "Kay" Volmar, Mayoral Appointee
Francis "Frank" Kirwin, Vice-mayoral Appointee
Gregg Joshua Hemingway, District 1
Lynn Tipton, District 2
Adrian Coombes, District 3
Ozell Ward, District 5
Thomas Hudson, At-large

Also Present

Vince Sandersfeld, Acting City Manager
Patrick Brackins, City Attorney
Jeanann Hand, City Clerk

Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

ELECTION

A. Chairperson

MOTION BY MR. HEMINGWAY TO NOMINATE MS. TIPTON TO SERVE AS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON; MS. VOLMAR SECONDED THE MOTION. MS. TIPTON WAS ELECTED CHAIRPERSON BY A 7-0 ROLL CALL VOTE.

B. Vice-chairperson

MOTION BY MR. KIRWIN TO NOMINATE MR. COOMBES TO SERVE AS VICE-CHAIR; MR. HEMINGWAY SECONDED THE MOTION. MR. COOMBES WAS ELECTED VICE-CHAIR BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairperson Tipton opened public comment. No one spoke. Chairperson Tipton closed public comment.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT-LEGAL REVIEW PRESENTATION

Mr. Brackins suggested the committee set their meeting schedule. He provided an overview of the committee's duties and the timeline for their work to be completed. Mr. Brackins recommended the committee be prepared with their final report toward end of May. The Supervisor of Elections needs amendments to be received no later than August 23rd. Mr. Brackins explained requirements for amendment ballots.

Mr. Brackins reviewed Sunshine Law and Public Records laws, especially as they apply to the committee members.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Charter Overview

Ms. Tipton opened discussion regarding frequency of meetings and length of meetings.

Meetings would take place on Thursday afternoons, beginning at 3:00 p.m., and lasting as long as necessary. Committee members discussed the method by which they would conduct the charter review. Ms. Tipton suggested members notify the City Clerk regarding absences.

Committee members were advised that material to be shared with the committee should be communicated through the City Clerk.

Ms. Tipton shared a presentation from the Florida League of Cities on the topic of Charters, which included information specific to the State of Florida and the City of Mount Dora.

The committee began a review of Articles I through VII to consider sections for possible amendment.

Committee members discussed considering form of government, Charter positions, length of term, Council size, the roles of Mayor and Vice-mayor, residency requirements for City positons, Council actions and minutes, non-interference charter provisions, and the City Manager role and evaluation.

The extent to which the Committee could suggest actions to Council was discussed.

Mr. Hemingway expressed interest in Initiative and Referendum (Article VI.)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE

Chairperson Tipton worked with the committee to define their approach for continuing their review at future meetings. The committee acknowledged the meetings may sometimes exceed two hours. It was noted that public participation may occur at different times throughout the meeting. The committee discussed methods for obtaining public feedback.

Chairperson Tipton asked committee members to confirm that the contact information appearing on the roster was correct.

Committee consensus would be sought for proposed Charter changes.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY MR. COOMBES TO ADJOURN; MR. WARD SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:19 p.m.

Lynn S. Tipton

LYNN TIPTON, CHAIRPERSON
2024 Charter Review Committee

Jeanann Hand

JEANANN HAND, CITY CLERK
City of Mount Dora