BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL CHARTER CHANGE COMMITTEE
Virtual Meeting
11/25/2020

Charter Change Committee Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom

November 25, 2020

DRAFT Minutes

Committee Members Present: Joan Shannon, Chair; Perri Freeman; Jane Stromberg

Staff: Eileen Blackwood, City Attorney.

Public Members who participated in 3.01 discussion below:

Lilla Fortunoff

William Dunkley

Jess LaPorte

Ashley LaPorte

Melo Grant

Gene Bergman

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm.

1.01 Agenda. Approval of agenda moved by Freeman, second by Stromberg. Unanimous.

2.01. **Minutes**. Approval of the minutes of Nov. 19 postponed to next meeting. Motion by Freeman, second by Stromberg, unanimous.

3.01 Discussion of Police Discipline Charter Change. Freeman moved to refer this version, as amended by the discussion below, to the Charter Change Committee to be placed on the March 2021 ballot and to refer it to the Joint Committee for its review. Stromberg seconded.

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The Committee continued its line by line review of the proposed charter change working from the revised draft proposed by Councilor Freeman.

The Committee decided on a number of minor changes with the following more significant changes and discussion:

On line 116, the reference to "14 days" was removed in relation to the time period for a suspension.

On line 135, the reference to maintaining discipline records permanently was changed to 75 years.

There was discussion whether lines 138-39 reference to the new board having input to the hiring of the chief should be deleted or not, and it was agreed that it should be retained.

There was discussion of officers and/or members of the public being able to view body camera footage and when.

Further discussion of the composition and terms of the committee changed the staggered terms to include 3 options.

Once the review was finished, the Committee discussed whether to just refer the language to the Joint Committee and let it send it to the Council, but the majority was not in favor of that option. Councilor Shannon stated that she was not supportive of sending the language to the Council as is and thought it deserved more discussion, particularly at the Joint Commission.

The Committee asked the City Attorney to circulate a clean draft to this Committee before forwarding to the Joint Committee and Council.

The original motion [to refer this version, as amended by the discussion below, to the Charter Change Committee to be placed on the March 2021 ballot and to refer it to the Joint Committee for its review] passed 2 (Freeman, Stromberg) to 1 (Shannon).

4.01 Adjournment. The Committee having completed its work, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.