



BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL CHARTER CHANGE COMMITTEE

9/20/2018

Charter Change Committee

Minutes

September 20, 2018

Committee Members Present: Joan Shannon (JS), Chair, Richard Deane (RD), Max Tracy (MT)

Others Present: City Attorney Eileen Blackwood (EB), staff; M. Dillon, public

The meeting was reconvened at 5:13 pm, and the following items were added to the agenda.

2.01 Approval of the Minutes from 9/12/18: Deane moved; Tracy seconded. Unanimous.

3.01 No public comments.

4.01 Continuation of discussion of Council Rules. The Committee picked up where it left off at the last meeting:

Rule 12: This item was postponed.

Rule 13, 14: No changes.

Rule 15: The Committee discussed possibly changing the meeting starting time to 6:30 pm. Generally appointments are not made at the end of the agenda, so that item should go before resolutions--#4. Information items and reports usually occur early--#5. Add to the order of business that work sessions and/or executive sessions should generally be held before public forum, although no votes would be taken at that time, and can start at 6 pm or earlier, as the president decides. Except for local control and other meetings, the rest of the agenda and all actions should occur after public forum.

Rule 16: The Committee discussed changing deadlines to submit items earlier to avoid submissions over the weekend. EB indicated that the Administration is working internally on submission deadlines and process, but at this time had no suggestions for changes to Council rules. The Committee discussed time limits on the meeting and how and why to extend the meeting beyond 10:30.

The Committee then reviewed the new changes drafted by the City Attorney for this meeting:

Rule 5: The Committee discussed changing the forms for public forum to clarify whether the person is speaking to a particular agenda item. Change "that individual to "that individual person."

Rule 9: Committee members noted that President Wright and Councilor Hartnett had contacted them and suggested that friendly amendments can be useful. The Committee decided to bring the issue to discuss with the entire Council, except that EB will draft a provision that a friendly amendment could be accepted by the President if it is a technical correction.

Rule 18: The Committee discussed whether to describe an appointment process. Rule 7 should be clarified so that someone can vote for no candidate for an appointment. EB will draft a description of the current appointment process. In addition, for one seat, a councilor can only cast one affirmative vote per round.

The Committee discussed circulating the next draft to the Council before the next Council meeting (10/15), and then having a discussion with the full Council. EB will work with JS to prepare a memo to accompany the draft.





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5.01 Next meeting: none scheduled

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.