

**CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
CHARTER REVIEW TASK FORCE
AUGUST 19, 2015**

Present:

Dionne Bagsby, Chair
Pete Geren
Henry Borbolla
Julie Miers
Keith Shankland
Bert Williams
Lu Moskowitz
Mike Holt
Danny Scarth
Mike Coffey

Absent:

Carlos Flores

Staff Present:

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager
Sarah Fullenwider, City Attorney
Mary Kayser, City Secretary

1. Call to Order - Dionne Bagsby, Chair

With a quorum present, Chair Bagsby called the Charter Review Task Force to order at 4:03 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, in the Pre-Council Chamber of the Fort Worth City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102.

2. Introductions

Chairman Bagsby welcomed the members and audience. Assistant City Manager Fernando Costa introduced the staff that would be assisting the Task Force. The Charter Review Task Force members introduced themselves.

Chair Bagsby requested that Assistant City Manager Fernando Costa review the charge to the Task Force.

The Task Force is charged with the following:

The City Charter Review Task Force is charged with considering and making recommendations to the City Council on the following City Charter amendments:

- (a) City Council terms of office;
- (b) City Council staggered terms;
- (c) City Council compensation;
- (d) Number of Council Members, with any increase to become effective upon redistricting in 2021 after the 2020 census for a 2023 election;
- (e) Conflict of interest provision in Chapter XXVII §16 of the City Charter; and
- (f) Technical and other amendments that may be brought forward to the Charter Review Task Force by the City Manager or City Attorney.

3. Texas Open Meetings Act Training - Mary Kayser, City Secretary

City Secretary Mary Kayser reminded the Task Force that the meetings would be compliant with the Texas Open Meetings Act. She also reminded them to complete their Texas Open Meetings Act Training and to submit their certificates.

4. Overview of City Charter - Sarah Fullenwider, City Attorney

5. Issues to be Considered by Task Force - Sarah Fullenwider

City Attorney Sarah Fullenwider presented an overview of the history and functions of the City Charter. Ms. Fullenwider discussed the major issues and the current charter provisions

Issue	Current Charter Provision
Longer terms of office	Two-year term
Staggered Terms	Concurrent Terms
Compensation	Mayor - \$29,000 Council members - \$25,000
Number of Council Members	Current 8-1 Proposed 10-1 Redistrict in 2021(after 2020 census) for 2023 election
Conflicts of Interest	Prohibits any direct or indirect financial interest in City Contracts

Technical amendments to: revise specific chapters, reorganize, ensure compliance with state law and revise or delete archaic language.

6. Benchmark Data from Other Cities - Mary Kayser

The Task Force reviewed and discussed the data presented from other cities. The Task Force narrowed down the list of comparison cities to:

Austin, San Antonio, El Paso, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Charlotte and Kansas City.

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The Task Force requested the following additional information be provided:

Current representation by single member district
Date the compensation was last reviewed
Staffing for the Mayor and Council office
How would staggered terms be implemented

The Task Force briefly discussed the process for the public hearings. Fernando Costa indicated that it was anticipated that the public hearings would take place in October and November. More information will be presented at the next meeting.

7. Proposed Schedule of Task Force Meetings - Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager

Group	Day	Date	Time	Location
Task Force	Thursday	September 3	4:00 p.m.	Pre-Council Chamber, City Hall
Task Force	Thursday	September 17	4:30 p.m.	Pre-Council Chamber, City Hall
Task Force	Wednesday	September 30	4:00 p.m.	Pre-Council Chamber, City Hall
City Council	Tuesday	October 13	3:00 p.m.	Pre-Council Chamber, City Hall

After discussion it was the consensus of the task force to meet at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 3rd. The remaining dates will stand.

8. Requests for Future Agenda Items - All

Items requested under Items 5 & 6.

9. Citizen Presentations

There were none.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Bagsby adjourned the Regular meeting at 5:17 p.m.