



**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**

**Meeting Minutes**

**City Hall Council Chambers**

**February 24, 2026, 6:30 PM**

**Present:** Robert Boldt, Brian Culley, Iain Crouch, Lyn Haselton, Rich Ganim, Drew Glasser, George Heinemann, Bridge Wu

**Not Present:** Cilia Holocker, Sam Alai

**Also Present:** Vince Ruffa, Lisa Putka

**Guests:** Tom Pavlica, Glenn Goodwin

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ian Crouch. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

All members were present except Cilia Holocker, and Mayor Alai. Recognized attendees included Ward 1 Council Member Tom Pavlica, and Council at Large Glenn Goodwin.

**Meeting Minutes:**

February 17, 2026, minutes were approved by Mr. Crouch provided that the date on top gets corrected.

**Charter Review:**

During the meeting, Mr. Crouch proposed reviewing each article and section, planning to allocate 8-10 minutes at the end to discuss future schedules. Mr. Ganim raised concerns about the adequacy of having three at-large council members for representation. Mr. Ruffa and Mr. Boldt discussed the history of ward changes and the reasons behind them. Ms. Wu questioned whether we should reorganize the wards and have five so the residents would feel more represented.

The discussion included the potential restructuring of council dynamics, including the possibility of having one at-large Council President position and six ward representatives. Mr. Ruffa emphasized the need for an odd number of council members to prevent voting deadlocks and noted that changes may need to be presented as two separate issues. He also proposed compiling a list of recommended changes, with Ms. Putka noting these for future reference as they continued to review other sections.

Ms. Haselton discussed the efficiency of the mayor approving contracts under a certain monetary threshold. Currently, the mayor can spend up to \$10,000 without council approval, but contracts under that amount still require council review. Ms. Haselton suggested increasing the threshold to \$15,000 to streamline the process. Mr. Boldt supported the spending increase but expressed caution regarding contract approvals. The group agreed to gather data on the frequency of contracts and the amounts so a better decision can be made. Ms. Putka will create a spreadsheet showing the number of contracts in \$5000 increments for the next meeting. Ms. Haselton also requested a future discussion on emergency declaration language related to mayoral contract signing.

The discussion focused on Section 7 regarding the Council's power to abolish offices and whether the Council has the power to create an economic development committee. Additionally, Mr. Culley inquired whether all council members are elected at the same time and expressed a preference for staggered elections for the Council, citing concerns about potential chaos if all members were replaced at once. Mr. Boldt and Mr. Ruffa pointed out that staggered elections could pose problems, especially because all members have the chance to run for mayor. Mr. Culley asked the commission for a vote on whether all are interested in staggering the election of the Council. No one raised their hands. Mr. Ganim and Ms. Wu expressed interest in understanding the benefits of staggering elections, with Mr. Culley emphasizing it to avoid chaos. Mr. Crouch suggested adding this topic to their agenda for future discussion.

Mr. Crouch announced the next meeting is March 19<sup>th</sup> and will be open to the public. He would like to set ground rules and give people a maximum of 2 minutes to talk. Also, the meeting should start at 6:30 and go until 8:00 pm. The public will have the opportunity to talk at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Boldt explained that through council, he is going to go to Rules Orders and Franchises to allow public speaking at any open committee or council meeting in the city. If a resident has an issue, they shouldn't have to wait 3 weeks to complain to the city, they need to be able to communicate that to council. He will leave this up to the committee if they want to make this a ballot item. Mr. Crouch asked Ms. Putka to add to the Items list to discuss.

Mr. Crouch asked everyone to be prepared to talk about article 4 and article 5 at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:36