

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
THE 2025 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**

**April 27, 2025**

**1.** Amend various sections of the charter to update such references as “him, her, or his” to “them, their or they” as applicable

**Purpose:** To update terminology consistent with current practices.

Passed 5 - 0

**2.** Amend various sections of the charter that require publication of public notices in a newspaper to additionally require posting of such notices on the city’s website and applicable social media.

**Purpose:** To improve transparency regarding matters of public interest as citizens are increasingly relying on social media for information.

Passed 5 - 0

**3.** Amend Section 3.01 to increase the term of office for mayor from two years to four years with allowance for two consecutive terms with a break of at least two years after such consecutive terms to become effective at the regular election in November 2028.

**Purpose:** To enable the mayor to focus on matters of city business without the burden of campaigning every two years and align mayoral elections with election years having the highest voter turnout.

Passed 3 – 2

*For:* Arevalo, Roark, Thomaides

*Against:* Burleson , Meeks

**4.** Amend Section 3.09 to reduce the minimum number of regular council meetings during a calendar year from 22 to 20.

**Purpose:** To provide city council flexibility in approving its meeting schedule while still allowing city council to call additional meetings as appropriate.

Passed 5 - 0

**5.** Amend Section 3.09 to limit the number meetings in which a council member may participate by videoconference to three, with allowances for additional participation by videoconference under circumstances defined by ordinance such as during declarations of disaster or when a council member is ill.

**Purpose:** To encourage face-to-face interactions among council members and to maintain in-person interactions between elected officials and the public throughout the official’s term of office.

Passed 5 - 0

**6.** Amend Section 3.10 to require that regular city council meeting agendas include copies of minutes of the immediately preceding city council meeting together with an agenda item for consideration of approval such minutes.

**Purpose:** To ensure a public record of council actions is readily available to the public.

Passed 5 - 0

**7.** Amend Section 3.13 to improve the wording of a run on sentence and to clarify that printed copies of the code of ordinance may be available for purchase at reasonable price.

**Purpose:** To improve grammar and sentence structure for clarity.

Passed 5 - 0

**8.** Amend Section 3.16 to acknowledge the authority of the city council to request or require audits of entities receiving funding from the City.

**Purpose:** To set a standard ensuring that the city council may require accountability for entities receiving public funds.

Passed 5 - 0

**9.** Amend Article VI to add a provision requiring a form of financial disclosure approved by city council identifying the sources of funding for referendum and initiative petitions.

**Purpose:** To provide transparency for the public in identifying what external groups are funding particular initiatives.

Passed 5 - 0

**10.** Amend Section 6.02 to increase the time to file a referendum petition from 30 to 90 days after passage of an ordinance.

**Purpose:** To allow citizens a more feasible time frame in which to collect signatures for petitions challenging ordinances adopted by the city council.

Passed 5 - 0

**11.** Amend Section 6.10 to increase time for the city clerk to verify citizen petitions from 45 to 60 days.

**Purpose:** To provide city clerk staff a reasonable amount of time to verify the validity of signatures, on citizen-initiated petitions, e.g., that the signer is a registered voter in the city.

Passed 5 – 0

**12.** Amend Section 7.01(b) to reduce the residency requirement for members of the Planning and Zoning Commission from five years to three years.

**Purpose:** To enlarge the pool and diversity of citizens available for service on the commission.

Passed 3-2

*For:* Arevalo, Roark, Thomaides  
*Against:* Burleson, Meeks

**13.** Amend Section 7.02(7) to change the interval for the Planning and Zoning Commissions periodic review of the comprehensive plan from at least every five years to at least every 10 years.

**Purpose:** To enable adequate time for the implementation of the City's development and related codes and standards consistent with a new comprehensive plan and to reduce the time and resources devoted to implementing a new comprehensive plan.

Passed 5 - 0

**14.** Amend Section 8.02 providing that the city will endeavor to use plain language in the City's budget documents.

**Purpose:** To make the city budget more accessible and understandable to citizens.

Passed 5 - 0

**15.** Retitle Article 12 from "General Provisions" to "Ethics" and a create a new Article 13 entitled "General Provisions."

**Purpose:** To consolidate similar subjects related to ethics under a single article move and unrelated general matters under a separate article.

Passed 5 - 0

**Recommendation Regarding Single-Member Districts:** The commission recommends that the city council study the possibility of transitioning from at-large elections of city council members to elections via single member districts, in whole or in part, with appropriate levels of community engagement and education and the retention of experts as deemed necessary.

Passed 5 - 0