



CITY OF KEIZER
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Elizabeth Smith, Chair
Garry Whalen, Vice Chair
Broderick Pack
Kathy Lincoln
Rick Kuehn
Shannon Flowers
Zaira Flores-Marin
Pat Fisher

Absent:

Kim Freeman

Staff:

Shannon Johnson, City Attorney
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

Meeting called to order 6:00 pm.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair: Elizabeth Smith and Garry Whalen were elected unanimously to serve as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

Appearance of Interested Citizens: Michael DeBlasi suggested:

- Section 3.1: establishing wards or districts rather than having six councilors at large. He noted that since 1995 only two council members have been from the southeast portion of Keizer, the rest were either from west or north Keizer, and having a district or ward system would ensure that the voice of all citizens was on the council.
- Section 7.4: increasing the required residency time for eligibility to serve as Councilor or Mayor.
- Section 8.1: requiring that the City Manager reside in Keizer.
- Adding a guiding goal that Keizer will accommodate all methods of transportation (bike, pedestrian/bus/cars/trucks) throughout the city during any and all infrastructure projects.

Review of Charter: City Attorney Shannon Johnson summarized his staff report. Discussion followed regarding the process. Committee members agreed that they wished to keep the meetings at 90 minutes or less.

Committee then began review of the matrix with the following suggested changes approved by consensus:

Preamble: Use LOC version, replace 'voters' with 'the people of the city of Keizer'. Whenever the city is referred to as a governing body it should be capitalized.

Section 1.1: Use LOC version, add 'City'.

Section 1.2: Keep City version

Section 1.3: Use LOC version

Section 2.1: The following was discussed: Add 'now or hereafter' after 'grant municipalities', change 'city shall have' to 'city has'. Use LOC version, add 'now or hereafter'. Possibly consider second sentence. Shannon will work on this for the next draft.

Section 2.2: Keep City version

Section 2.3: Use LOC version as follows: Keep first two sentences, delete third and fourth sentences and leave in the sentence about delegation of authority.

Section 3.1: To be addressed at next meeting. The following was discussed: The issue of changing to wards is a policy question. Staff will get information about voter turnout for each area. Pat Fisher will get link to website that lists the pros and cons of zone vs. at large voting. Kathy Lincoln noted that another method is one with no specific positions - candidates receiving the most votes get seats. Another suggestion was to have three positions representing zones and three at large. Making arrangements for city growth would have to be addressed if wards or zones were adopted.

Section 3.2: Committee members suggested that the format be changed and Mayor/Councilors sections be consolidated. Mr. Johnson pointed out that the LOC version would need to be changed because Keizer rules have Council appointing the members of committees so that sentence would need to be deleted. Committee agreed to do this but requested that it be placed under the Council paragraph. They also requested that bullet points be used rather than paragraphs. Mr. Johnson will check the 3-day signature requirement and have the section ready for review at the next meeting.

Section 3.3: Keep City version but strike the 'by ballot'. Last line - replace 'president' with 'Council President'

Section 3.4 and 3.5: Committee members suggested (1) using bullet points for conditions of holding special meetings, and (2) using non-gender terms (as in LOC document). Mr. Johnson will check the state statute on meetings. It was noted that the LOC version has 'in accordance with the rules and laws of the State of Oregon' and that could cover the public meetings laws.

Section 3.6: No decision on this section. Mr. Johnson will come back with information on 'incumbent' and whether or not a quorum is the majority of the remaining members. Zaira Flores-Marin suggested that if the Keizer version is used, it be made into two sentences.

Adjourn ~ Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Minutes approved: 12-11-19