

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS, HELD ON OCTOBER 4, 2012 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CIVIC CENTER, 16327 LAKEVIEW, JERSEY VILLAGE, TEXAS.

The Jersey Village City Council met with the 2012 Charter Review Commission for the purpose of discussing with the Commission how well the City is operating under the existing Charter and offering recommendations for amendments to the existing Charter.

Council Members attending this meeting were as follows:

Council Member, Justin Ray  
Council Member, Rod Erskine  
Council Member, Harry Beckwith  
Council Member, Sheri Sheppard

Mayor Pro tem, Jill Klein was not present when this meeting was called to order, but joined the meeting in progress at 6:30 p.m. Mayor, Russell Hamley was not present at this meeting.

The 2012 Charter Review Commission of the City of Jersey Village, Texas, convened on October 4, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Meeting Room, 16327 Lakeview, Jersey Village, Texas.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman, Barbara Freeman at 6:02 p.m. The following Commissioners were present for this meeting:

Barbara Freeman, Vice Chairman	Karie Lawrence
Joyce Berube	Fannie Messec – Alternate
Rick Faircloth	Justin Ray – Alternate
Susan Edwards	

Chairman, Rene Lozano and Alternate Commissioner Jill Klein were not present when the meeting was called to order, but joined the meeting in progress at 6:10 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. respectively.

City Staff attending the meeting were as follows:

Mike Castro, City Manager; City Attorney, Bobby Gervais; City Secretary, Lorri Coody; Eric Foerster, Chief of Police; Mark Bitz, Fire Chief; Isabel Kato, Director of Finance; Michael Brown, Director of Parks and Recreation; and Christian Somers, Building Official.

Danny Segundo, Director of Public Works, was not present at this meeting.

Vice Chairman Freeman designated Alternate Commissioners, Justin Ray to serve in the place of the absent Commissioner and Fannie Messec to serve in the vacant position created by the resignation of George Ohler.

After attending to Item B pertaining to approval of the minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting, Vice Chairman Freeman called the following item requiring participation from the Council Members:

**C. Receive input from the Mayor and Members of the City Council on how well the City is operating under the existing Charter and consider any recommendations the Mayor and the Council Members may have for amendments to the existing Charter.**

Vice Chairman Freeman called the item and asked attending Council Members for input concerning any recommendations for amendments to the existing Charter. Council Member Sheppard stated that she had reviewed the Charter and finds no need for change. Council Member Beckwith stated that he has attended the previous Charter Review Session, has reviewed the Charter and he too feels that there is no need for amendments. Council Member Erskine stated that he read the notes from the Charter Commission meetings. He appreciated the discussion had by the Commission concerning an amendment for the length of the term of office for Council Members. However, he also stated that he did not have any recommendations for amendments. Council Member Ray echoed the comments of the other Council Members. Being that he is an Alternate Member of the Charter Commission, he reviewed the Charter line by line and finds that there are no structural changes needed.

Commissioner Berube stated that the item involving the most discussion for the Commission involved a change to provide that candidates run at large, but for no specific position, with the top “vote getters” being elected to serve. She asked if the Council Members had any comments to share concerning this topic. Council Member Beckwith stated that his preference is to leave the Charter as it is for this requirement. He prefers running for the position. Council Member Ray agreed stating that the way it is now provides for a strategic election. Council Member Erskine felt it is better to run against a person and a set of issues instead of just getting enough votes to win.

The Commission then discussed the process if the position for Mayor is up for election and a sitting member of Council seeks this position. In connection with same, Section 2.03 of the Charter was discussed and reviewed.

*Chairman Rene Lozano joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m. at which point Commissioner Ray resumed the Alternate position on the Commission.*

Item C involving input from the Council Members concluded at approximately 6:12 p.m. There were no other items on the 2012 Charter Review Commission Agenda that involved input from the Council Members. However, the Council Members remained in attendance until the meeting adjourned.

At approximately 6:30 p.m. Council Member Jill Klein joined the meeting in progress. She was asked for input regarding recommendations for Charter amendments. She stated that she did not have any recommendations for change.

The 2012 Charter Review Commission meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Lorri Coody, City Secretary