

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

5:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room (#16)

Legislative and Organizational Policy Committee Mayor Ed Braddy, Chair Commissioner Craig Carter, Member

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051
Commissioner Todd Chace, Member

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Braddy called the Legislative and Organizational Policy Committee meeting to order at 5:05PM.

ROLL CALL

*Mayor Braddy, Commissioner Chase
Guests: Commissioner Warren
Interim EO Director Gwen Saffo*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adopted

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Adopted

[150118.](#)

Legislative and Organizational Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from May 4, 2015 (B)

Attachments: [150118_May Meeting Minutes_20150812.pdf](#)

RECOMMENDATION *The Legislative and Organizational Policy Committee approve the minutes from the May 4, 2015 meeting as submitted.*

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

The minutes are a summary of the meeting and are not verbatim discussion. A copy of the meeting recording will be provided upon request.

[120125.](#)

Overall Charter Review Process Referral (B)

Attachments: [Draft Charter Review Process Overview.pdf](#)
[Current Charter Laws.pdf](#)
[120125_CHARTER LAWS_20130729.pdf](#)
[120125A_Charter overviewpowerpoint_20131104.pdf](#)
[120125_EO-HR Discussion_20131104.pdf](#)
[120125A_Charter Laws_20150812.pdf](#)
[120125B_Charter Overview Ppt_20150812.pdf](#)
[120125A_Charter Laws_20151015.pdf](#)
[120125B_Charter Overview_20151015.pdf](#)

Administrative Services Director Becky Rountree introduced the agenda item. In November 2013 staff was directed to prepare an ordinance to lengthen the terms of office and reduce elections from every year to every other year. The City Attorney's office identified several concerns and requested further direction in July 2014.

Moving City elections to the fall, in the years opposite the general election, was previously placed on the ballot and was voted down. Commissioner Warren expressed interest in moving the City elections to the the fall to coincide with state elections. Committee members discussed the benefits and drawbacks of combining City elections with the general elections in the fall. The committee members prefer a spring election with well-informed voters focused on City issues.

Committee members decided to take no action on this agenda item at this time. Mayor Braddy asked for this agenda item to be placed on the City Commission agenda as a consent item to remove it from the Legislative and Organizational Policy referral list.

RECOMMENDATION *The Committee discuss the Overall Charter Review process, particularly, the elections issues described above and take any action deemed appropriate.*

Take no action and recommend removal from the Legislative and Organizational Policy Committee Referral List

[140186.](#)

Residency Requirement for Candidates (B)

Attachments: [140186A ARTICLE II CITY COMMISSION 20150414.pdf](#)
[140186B Qualifications of Candidates for City Commission 20150414.pdf](#)
[140186A ARTICLE II CITY COMMISSION 20150504.pdf](#)
[140186B Qualifications of Candidates for City Commission 20150504.pdf](#)
[140186 Charter Laws Article II 20150812.pdf](#)
[140186 FL Bills Residency Requirements 20151104.pdf](#)
[140186 FL Bills Residency Requirements 20160218.pdf](#)

Becky Rountree, Administrative Services Director, explained that our Charter requires candidates to be a qualified voter and a resident in their district for not less than 6 months prior to the date the person qualifies to run for office. Residency is self-declared by the candidate. Florida law puts the responsibility on the candidate (not the Supervisor of Elections or the City) to ensure that he/she complies with all state and local elections laws. Challenges regarding a candidates residency can be made by another candidate or a voter. If challenged, the court will make the final determination.

In an effort to define residency and avoid/prevent issues in future elections, committee members discussed a list of criteria to prove residency (a drivers license, utility bill, credit card statements, homestead exemption, school records, etc). Eligibility Article 2.03 will require a Charter change.

Mayor Braddy recommended no action be taken on this agenda item until Commissioner Warren has an opportunity to contact other communities to determine

their residency qualifications for candidates prior to an election.

RECOMMENDATION

*The Committee: 1) Hear an update from staff; and 2)
Remove this agenda item from referral list.*

No Action Taken. Hold in Committee.

MEMBER COMMENT

CITIZEN COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, September 9, 2015 in the Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room (#16)

ADJOURNMENT

*Mayor Braddy adjourned the Legislative and Organizational Policy Committee
Meeting at 6:21PM*