

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 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

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](#)

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](#)

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