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CHARTER REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OCTOBER 5, 2022

J.1 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FORMATTING THE REPORT THAT
WILL BE PRESENTED TO CITY COUNCIL

CONTACT: COMMITTEE MEMBER, EUGENE SOLOMON

FIRST REPORT OF RB CHARTER REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DRAFT)

DRAFT

First Report of Redondo Beach Charter Review Advisory Committee

Assembled and submitted with approval by the Committee
to the Redondo Beach City Council by Rolf Strutzenberg, Chair
November 2022

Committee Members:
Kathy Wunderli
Marc Narain
Bob Pinzler
Ron Maroko
Joe Dawidziak
Eugene Solomon, Vice-Chair
Rolf Strutzenberg, Chair

DRAFT

Preamble

This Charter Review Advisory Committee was created by City Council Resolution CC-2204-022. The original resolution included SECTION 5 as follows:

That the purpose of the Charter Review Advisory Committee shall be to advise the Mayor and City Council on recommended changes to the City Charter to submit to the voters. The subject matters reviewed shall be compartmentalized, with input from the city manager/staff/other elected officials and shall include but not be limited to the following:

All fiscal limits; contractual obligations; purchasing policies, procurement, etc.

Article XX, Section 20.1 - Approval of Demands

Article VIII, Section 8.3c - Contract Signatures

Article XIX, Section 19 – PW Contracts Bid Limits

Article XIX, Section 19.1 - Maintenance-Repair and Materials under \$5k

Article XIX, Section 19.9 – Municipal Purchases

Article XIX, Section 19.7 – Retention Percentage

Administrative Business

City Treasurer Position

City Clerk

City Attorney's Office

Although a subsequent amendment to the resolution removed the delineated list of subject matters to be reviewed, the Committee held to the spirit of the original resolution in prioritizing the above items. While the topics of City Clerk and City Treasurer Position have been alluded to during discussions of other topics these two positions have not yet been discussed as individual agenda items. The committee was in agreement that any potential ballot measure regarding these would best be delayed until the 2025 election cycle as the appearance of a measure regarding these positions would not affect the 2023 election in which these two positions also appear, and further that it may lead to voter confusion if both the election for these positions and any measure concerning them were to appear on the same ballot.

Under the specification of “but not be limited to” with regard to potential proposed Charter changes the Committee also entertained multiple topics suggested by various Committee members. So far of those topics suggested and initially agenda items for discussion one has been agreed to be brought forth and will be included in this initial report to the Council, that of amending any language of the Charter to be gender neutral. Several other topics have been put forth for future agenda however have not yet been discussed so that the list above remained prioritized under the time allowed prior to this first report.

City Charter Article VIII Section 8.3(c) Contract Signatures

This topic was suggested for review by the Committee to alleviate the need for the Mayor to sign all contracts, ordinances, resolutions and warrants. The present day proliferation of the sheer number of such documents places an undue burden on the Mayor to comply with the current requirement. Perhaps originally written as a means of check and balance, or possibly just a standard operating procedure at a time when the number of documents was not so voluminous.

It is now proposed that the requirements of signature by the Mayor be further determined by Ordinance of the City Council rather than universally prescribed by Charter. Within such Ordinance the City Council may designate signature requirements to the City Manager or other such officer or employee as they see fit. It is not recommended that such Ordinance be set for review by prescribed schedule however it is noted that such Ordinance may be updated at any time the City Council.

It is also noted that removal of the signature requirement by the Mayor does not remove a check and balance aspect for any such documents as they still require approval by the City Council

This change to the Charter if passed by the electorate would require an accompanying Ordinance to be enacted by the City Council to be effective.

Gender neutrality changes would apply to this Section as well and are presented as a separate item in this report.

The Committee was unanimous on the proposed changes for this topic.

Proposed changes to Charter language: **(additions in bold deletions in strike through)**

Sec. 8.3. Mayor, presiding officer.

He shall be the executive head of the City of Redondo Beach for the purposes hereinafter set forth:

- (a) He shall preside over the meetings of the City Council.
- (b) He shall be the representative of the City for all ceremonial purposes.
- (c) He shall sign, on behalf of the City, all contracts, ordinances, resolutions and warrants except **when the City Council, by ordinance, has authorized the City Manager, or other officer or other employee to approve and sign a written contract on behalf of the City** ~~as hereinafter set forth.~~
- (d) He shall approve all bonds as to amounts.
- (e) He shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Charter or as may be assigned to him by the City Council.