

NOTICE: ANY SUBJECT APPEARING ON THIS AGENDA, REGARDLESS OF HOW THE MATTER IS STATED, MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TEXAS CITY CHARTER COMMITTEE.

CITY OF TEXAS CITY  
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2018 - 5:30 P.M.  
NESSLER CIVIC CENTER - DAVY CROCKETT ROOM  
2010 5th Avenue North  
Texas City, TX 77590

PLEASE NOTE: All in attendance are required to remove hats and/or sunglasses (dark glasses) during meetings and to also silence all cell phones and electronic devices.

1. WELCOME
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4. OVERVIEW
  - a. Summary of Charter Review to-date
  - b. Priorities
  - c. Discussion of Charter Articles
5. OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO CITY CHARTER REVIEW
  - a. Consider and recommend the appointment of Don Edmonds as the Consultant for the Texas City Charter Review Committee.
6. TASKS/ASSIGNMENTS
  - a. Review Charter Review Survey for City Department Heads
7. ADJORNMENT

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NICHOLAS J. FINAN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES

**Texas City Charter Committee**

**3.**

Meeting Date: 12/10/2018

Submitted By: Rhomari Jackson-Glover, City Secretary

Department: City Secretary

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ACTION REQUEST (Brief Summary)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BACKGROUND

ANALYSIS

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

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Attachments

Minutes

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# DRAFT

## TEXAS CITY CHARTER COMMITTEE

### Minutes

#### NOVEMBER 12, 2018 - 5:30 P.M. NESSLER CIVIC CENTER DAVY CROCKETT ROOM

Meeting came to Order at 5:35pm.

- I. Welcome – *Phil Roberts and Bob Senter welcomed the committee.*
- II. Introductions of Members/Roll Call – *Nick Finan, Bob Senter, Carlos Garza, Russell Plackemeier, Phil Roberts, Lupe Cantu, Jenny Senter, Mark Ciavaglia, Aric Owens, and Dedrick Johnson were present.*
- III. Overview
  - a. City Charter – what is it?

*Bob Senter discussed what a charter is. Charter amended in 1995. The Charter is an agreement with Citizens. The charter affects at a 30,000 ft. level not specific laws, etc. That lower specific level is for ordinances and policies.*
  - b. Committee's Charge
    - i. Maybe nothing
    - ii. Maybe some clean up
    - iii. Maybe major

*Bob Senter summarized the three items above. Our charter should at least meet State law. Don't expect city charter to mirror state law, but does staff see items with state law conflicting or more lenient, open, flexible? We will want to know this from staff. We may also want some assistant and spoke with Terrell Blodgett a known Municipal expert in the state of Texas. Carlos Garza stated that Terrell assisted with the 1995 Charter Review and was very beneficial and feels we should. Bob said that Terrell does not feel he can travel like we used to and suggested we use his associate. Lupe Cantu asked if Charter Review Committee is making a recommendation to City Commission? Bob Senter said, "Yes."*

*Carlos Garza stated the City went through this process in 1995, wants to make sure we request a review of City Charter to state law if we get someone like Terrell Blodgett to assist us. We should send to Terrell or his associate our charter.*

*Lupe Cantu asked does the Mayor have things he expects? Bob Senter and Phil Roberts- No, up to the Committee.*

*Dedrick Johnson asked if we can we review with Terrell Blodgett and he adjust for his bias for city manager form of government? Bob Senter said yes, he feels that we can work with him and he would not let the bias interfere.*

## **DRAFT**

IV. Selection of Vice Chair

*Mark Ciavaglia nominated Carlos Garza to be Vice Chair, Lupe Cantu seconded. Unanimous vote to approve.*

V. Review of Existing Charter

- a. Handbook as assistance – *These items were passed out and requested to be reviewed.*
- b. Copy of Charter – *A PDF version was passed out, but Nick Finan stated that a word document would be emailed and provided in double space format prior to next meeting. Bob requested everyone to start to review.*

VI. Next Meeting

a. Start Discussing Priorities

*Everyone will start looking at priorities. Bob Senter stated going forward will be discussions on priorities- form of government, elections, etc.*

*Assignment of tasks for next meeting: Nick Finan- will reach out to Terrell and request if he can compare to state inquire about the associate to maybe visit with the committee. Also, prepare a survey to the Executive Staff requesting if they are aware of any conflicts or inconsistencies with State law.*

*Russell Plackemeier- continue to look at charter for State law conflicts or inconsistencies.*

VII. Establish Meeting Dates and Times

*December 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. will be the next meeting and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month after that.*

**Texas City Charter Committee**

**4. a.**

Meeting Date: 12/10/2018

Submitted By: Rhomari Jackson-Glover, City Secretary

Department: City Secretary

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ACTION REQUEST (Brief Summary)

Summary of Charter Review to-date

BACKGROUND

ANALYSIS

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

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**Texas City Charter Committee**

**4. b.**

Meeting Date: 12/10/2018

Submitted By: Rhomari Jackson-Glover, City Secretary

Department: City Secretary

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**ACTION REQUEST (Brief Summary)**

Priorities

**BACKGROUND**

At the initial meeting of the Charter Review Committee, Bob Senter requested everyone to prepare a list of what they felt may be priorities concerning the City Charter.

**ANALYSIS**

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

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**Texas City Charter Committee**

**4. c.**

Meeting Date: 12/10/2018

Submitted By: Rhomari Jackson-Glover, City Secretary

Department: City Secretary

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ACTION REQUEST (Brief Summary)

Discussion of Charter Articles

BACKGROUND

ANALYSIS

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

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**Texas City Charter Committee**

**5. a.**

Meeting Date: 12/10/2018

Submitted By: Rhomari Jackson-Glover, City Secretary

Department: City Secretary

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**ACTION REQUEST (Brief Summary)**

Consider and recommend the appointment of Don Edmonds as the Consultant for the Texas City Charter Review Committee.

**BACKGROUND**

At the initial meeting of the Charter Review Committee, staff was requested to reach out Terrell Blodgett or his associate to consider for assistance on the project. Don Edmonds is the associate that Terrell had refer to when he originally spoke to Bob Senter, Phil Roberts and staff. Terrell feels even the review of State law is not something he could commit to at this time. Don Edmonds is interested and in discussions with Bob Senter, it was felt it would be good to bring Mr. Edmonds down to talk to the committee to gauge each others' interest. Attached is Mr. Edmonds Bio as well as a list of other cities who Mr. Edmonds worked with on their charters.

**ANALYSIS**

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

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**Attachments**

Bio

Job list

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DON R. EDMONDS  
Biographical Information

Education and Academic Honors

Graduated from Quanah Public Schools, Quanah, Texas - 1954.  
Received B.A. degree in Government from North Texas State University - 1958.  
President of Student Body - NTSU.  
President of Theta Chi National Social Fraternity - NTSU.  
Recipient of Colley Memorial Trophy, as outstanding undergraduate member of  
Theta Chi in nation - 1958.  
Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.  
Member of Blue Key, Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Chi, National Honor Societies.

Professional

Administrative Intern - City of Lubbock, Texas - 1958-59.  
City Manager - Texas Cities of Rosebud, Donna, Monahans and Hurst - 1959-68.  
Private Business - Associate, Consulting Engineering Firm, Realtor and Land  
Developer - 1968-70.  
Executive Director - East Texas Council of Governments - 1970-80.  
City Manager - City of Martinsville, Virginia - 1980-85.  
Executive Director - Republican Party of Virginia - 1985-86.  
Campaign Manager - Ratliff for Texas State Senate - 1988, 1992 and 1994.  
Executive Director - Sulphur River Basin Authority - 1991.  
Consultant - International Executive Service Corps - 1993 and 1994.  
Director of Transition - Office of Lt. Governor Bill Ratliff - January, 2001.  
Consultant - Various Texas Cities - 1998 - Present.

Civic Honors

Named Outstanding Young Man in Community by Hurst Jaycees - 1965.

Current Memberships

Texas City Management Association. American Model Aviation Assn.

Family

Wife, Bonny, and daughters, Amy Rice and Cassie Edmonds.

Hobbies and Other Interests

Travel, Art, Radio Controlled Model Airplanes.

DON R. EDMONDS

List of Consulting Engagements -- City Charters

1998-99	City of Marshall, Texas	Complete Revision
1999-00	City of Texarkana, Texas	Comprehensive Amendment
2001-02	City of Mt. Pleasant, Texas	Comprehensive Amendment
	City of Bastrop, Texas	Original Document
2003-04	City of Pittsburg, Texas	Original Document
2004-05	City of Bellaire, Texas	Comprehensive Amendment
2005-06	City of Kilgore, Texas	Comprehensive Amendment
2013-14	City of Tomball, Texas	Comprehensive Amendment

**Texas City Charter Committee**

**6. a.**

Meeting Date: 12/10/2018

Submitted By: Rhomari Jackson-Glover, City Secretary

Department: City Secretary

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**ACTION REQUEST (Brief Summary)**

Review Charter Review Survey for City Department Heads

**BACKGROUND**

At the initial meeting of the Charter Review Committee, staff was requested to put together a survey asking city department heads what inconsistencies or conflicts with State statutes they felt may exist with the City Charter. Attached is the survey that will go out unless there are other comments or suggestions.

**ANALYSIS**

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

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**Attachments**

survey

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## Charter Review Survey for City Department Heads

The Mayor and City Commission has selected a Charter Review Committee to look at the current City Charter. It has not been reviewed or updated since 1995. Often a city charter has conflicts or is inconsistent with State law. The inconsistency is where the state now allows something that it did not allow cities to do before, but would make the operation or oversight within a city better if the charter allowed it.

The Charter Review Committee has requested that a survey is sent out that asks the directors to review the city charter (not the general ordinances) and reply where the conflicts or consistencies are within your arena of governance. If you could please work with your department heads and answer the following:

- 1) What section of the City Charter has a conflict? Please list separately. Please cite the State Law and the section of the City Charter in conflict and describe how the conflict exists. Example: City Charter, Section XX. State Law: Section XY, subsection AB of the Local Government Code. City Charter limits the use of widgets to 10... The State Statutes limits the use of widgets to 5. The state limit is more restrictive, therefore, it is conflicting and confusing to someone if they were to only look at the city charter and felt it could use 10 widgets.
  
- 2) What section of the City Charter has an inconsistency? Please list separately. Please cite the State Law and the section of the City Charter in conflict and describe how the inconsistency exists. Example: City Charter, Section XX. State Law: Section XY, subsection AB of the Local Government Code. City Charter limits the use of widgets to 10... The State Statutes allows the use of widgets up to 50. The state limit is less restrictive, therefore, it is inconsistent and confusing to someone if they were to only look at the State Statutes and felt it could use 50 widgets. The city needs to use 35 widgets every year and is having to find substitutes for widgets which is more costly.

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Finan or Russell Plackemeier.

Thank you.