

**Open Work Session**  
**Review of Charter Review Committee Recommendations**  
**June 7, 2022**

Mr. Cannon said they are trying to finalize this tonight and will try to keep it quick, and Council has had the opportunity to review this as Mrs. Hurley emailed it to everyone well ahead of time so they could expedite this tonight.

Mr. Cannon said there are several amendments before them, 24 to be exact, and, to begin with, he thinks they would want to move towards the amendments that were recommended by Lindsey Rader because they pretty much know those are necessary, and they do not have any choice.

Mrs. Hurley said the recommendations are ranked as low, medium, and high, and that is just based on a conversation she had with Mr. Wilber thinking it through as far as what they thought was best for the government operations of the County. She said they ranked bond counsel's as the highest priority.

Mr. Cannon asked if everyone would be in agreement that whatever was recommended by Ms. Rader that they move forward with to accept and have on the ballot, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said they will move on to other suggested amendments of highest priority and they will go in chronological order.

Mrs. Hurley said next is Section 408 – censure, removal of the County Executive from Office, and they decided that was a high priority because there was such emphasis put on the Charter not having any teeth if there was a violation, so this was a way to correct that. Mr. Cannon said this is amendment number seven.

Mr. Cannon clarified, the word censure is being added to the title, to which Mr. Wilber responded, yes. Mr. Cannon said they have added a section B stating that the County Executive may be censured by an affirmative vote of at least five members of the County Council for actions which are repeated, substantial violations of this Charter.

Mr. McCain asked if they did the same thing for the Council, to which Mr. Wilber responded, yes, there is an identical provision. Mr. Cannon said that is the next amendment.

Mr. Cannon said amendment four is a high priority. He said, in Section A they would add the term of committees and quorum and below that they are putting in "or electronically present with approval of the Council President due to extenuating circumstances." He clarified, this is the power to create standing committees, and the second part of it is censure – a County Council person may be censured by an affirmative vote of at least five members of the County Council for actions which are repeated, substantial violations of the Charter. He clarified, it is not as if that would be an additional amendment, the two are sort of combined as one, to which Mr. Wilber responded, that is the plan.

Ms. Acle asked what censuring is really going to do? She said they are going to reprimand them, but they do not have to change their action, so they will still have to go through the same process. Mr. Wilber said it is a public reprimand. Mr. Holloway said they can do that anyway, so this does not have to be a Charter amendment. He said they can do a vote of no confidence or a public reprimand, so why put this on? Ms. Acle said she does not understand why they are putting this in here. Mr. Hastings said they are

not parliamentary, so they cannot do a vote of no confidence, but this would make the most sense, and this is widely accepted in other governments.

Mr. Cannon said to keep in mind that Mr. Wilber did not just put this on here, this is part of what the Council recommended during the work sessions. Ms. Acle said she opposed this before and she still opposes it. She said she thinks that is why they have elections.

Mr. Holloway said, with the amount of questions they want to put on the ballot, they have to come down to what is most important, and they do not want to put 20-some questions on there.

Mr. McCain said, actually, his thought on that is, they are going to have a bunch on there, so what does it matter once they have 12 or 15, at that point what is the difference between 15 and 20? He said it is one thing to have three or four, but when they get to 10 and 12, what is the difference?

Mr. Cannon said he fully understands what Ms. Acle is saying because that was his first response too when talking about censuring, but he thinks the reason it is on here is because Mr. Wilber was trying to address the frustration the Council had at one point in time where there were violations that were occurring and they did not have any substantial way of addressing it. He then asked Mr. Wilber if a censure is like a very important first step if they eventually would have to go to court, to which Mr. Wilber responded, yes. He said, actually, he thinks if the Council went to court, it would be helpful to the Council's case to have censured, and then to the Writ of Mandamus stage, which is the courtroom, but hopefully they will not get into that scenario.

Mr. Holloway asked if they have to have an amendment to censure and they cannot just censure someone without doing an amendment, to which Mr. Wilber responded, he thinks there needs to be the ability given.

Mr. Cannon said that gets back to amendment number seven as the genesis to this, and going to amendment four is making it fair and balanced between both Executive and Legislative Branches if needed, simply for clarification. He clarified, he fully understands what some of the reservations are.

Mr. Cannon then asked if everyone is okay with amendment number four, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said the next high priority is amendment 12, and he thinks this is a high priority. He said they are adding the Department of Aviation as one of their Departments, and he thinks they are recognizing the fact that they are putting the Airport in as a formal Department. He said they kind of did that a few years ago when they gave the County Governing Body authority over the Commission, so this is an extension of that. He then asked for Council's opinion on this, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said amendment 16 is the next one on the high priority list, and that is upon the recommendation of the County Executive, the Council shall establish a personnel system which shall have the force of law. He said, to cut to the chase, is this where they are trying to revert the personnel system back to the Executive Branch, to which Mr. Wilber responded, that is correct. He explained, the recommendation would come forward from the Executive Branch and be approved by Council, which was the prior process. Mr. Cannon asked if everyone is okay with this, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said next is amendment 17 – prohibition against additional compensation. He said this was the clarification that Mr. Wilber felt was necessary because the County Executive should not have been

included in that terminology whatsoever. Mr. Wilber said that is correct. Mrs. Hurley said there was a lot of discussion on this one on the Charter Review Committee about whether the County Executive should devote his fulltime duties to the Office of the County Executive.

Mr. Cannon asked if everyone is okay with amendment 17, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. McCain asked, when these are on the ballot, are they able to categorize them, such as with the bond issues, to which Mr. Wilber responded, there is going to be a very large newspaper advertisement that will have the ballot question and the full text of the Charter, which will be run five times as a huge advertisement. He said, then on the ballot when they go to vote, it is just the ballot question, which will be much tighter and shorter. Mr. McCain clarified, his question is whether they are able to categorize questions, such as all the questions that are bond related, to which Mr. Wilber responded, he thought he could title it with every section and then the ballot question and amendments, etc. He said the idea by State Law is that, with a large newspaper advertisement, the public is made aware of all the detail, and they are supposed to be educated and then they go into the voting booth.

Mr. Cannon said they have gotten through all the high priorities and have made decisions on them. He said next goes back to amendment two, which is the first medium priority in reference to vacancies where the terminology replaces the word shall with may.

Mrs. Hurley said Council can propose all 24 amendments if they want, but there is a cost. She said, the more Charter amendments they do, they have to advertise everything in the newspaper, and it is not just one or two weeks, it is several weeks they have to advertise, so that is an expense. She said then of course it can be overwhelming for the citizens when they go into the ballot box to have 24 amendments, so they prioritized it with high, medium and low. She said she believes they came up with 13 high priorities if they were to just select those.

Mr. Dodd asked if in 2018 they limited it to ten because of those same reasons, to which Mr. Cannon responded, he thought it was three or four. Mr. Dodd said they cut a lot back.

Ms. Acle asked if they can do this on the ballot with every election, such as 2026, to which Mr. Wilber responded, yes. Mr. Holloway said they can do more in two years, to which Mr. Wilber responded, that is correct. Mr. Holloway said that might even be better because then they are doing it in an off year for Councilmembers and the County Executive, and it does not get as concluded.

Mr. Cannon asked how many they have, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, if they were to just move forward with the high priority ones, she believes it was 13. Mr. Cannon said they just decided all of the high priority ones were going to stay, so they have 13 right now. Mr. McCain suggested they keep going because there are some listed as medium, but, in his book, they are high.

Mr. Cannon said next is amendment two in reference to vacancies. There was then some discussion about the wording of this amendment. Mr. Cannon then clarified, they did not want to get locked into the 45 days. Mr. Wilber said this enables Council to do their own list if they want. Mr. McCain said he thinks this one is important and is pretty simple for people to understand.

Mr. Cannon asked if Council wants to put this on the ballot, to which Mr. Dodd responded, he does not. Ms. Acle said she does not. Mr. Hastings said he thinks the unaffiliated piece needs to be on there.

Mr. Cannon asked Mr. Dodd if he remembers the trouble they ran into when trying to pick a County Executive and they had a 45-day limit and they were in violation of the Charter.

Mr. Hastings said he thinks this is a high priority.

Mr. Dodd asked if everyone wants to include it.

Mr. Mitchell said this does not state a time, to which Mr. Cannon responded, but it tells them they should try to work within a 45-day timeframe. Mr. Mitchell said, but it never has to be filled. Mr. Cannon said he does not know what other avenues they have to resolve that problem. He then asked if there is anything else that could resolve the 45 days, to which Mr. Wilber responded, he thinks they looked at that, and it is a guide and a directive, but it does not mean it cannot be filled after that. Mr. Cannon said it could say may be filled by a qualified person within 45 days, but no later than six months. Mr. Hastings suggested saying within 90 days after the vacancy, which would extend the timeframe. Mr. McCain said the whole intent of that is they do not want the County to be without an Executive for a long period of time, which is what they are trying to avoid.

Mr. Cannon said the word may is for two purposes, not only the 45 days, but also to give the Council more flexibility in case they want to work beyond what was recommended by the Central Committee, so there are two issues with the word may.

Mr. Cannon said, to Mr. Mitchell's point, do they want to keep may there but then determine within 45 days but no later than 90? He said they need a consensus, to which there was a consensus to say may be filled by a qualified person within 45 days but no later than 90 days after the vacancy occurs.

Mr. Wilber said, to play that out, if they go to the 91<sup>st</sup> day, then is it going to be just left vacant after that, to which Mr. Cannon responded, they have to do their job in 90 days. Mr. McCain said that is the same problem as it is written now if they go to the 46<sup>th</sup> day. Mr. Holloway said personally he thinks they ought to put a six month limit on it because it can get complicated. Mr. Cannon said, what if no one even volunteers, to which Mr. Holloway responded, then they are not going to get anybody anyway no matter how much time they put in there. He said it is just like the situation when he volunteered and then the lawyers found out that he really could not volunteer, and that could have held it up. He said, if they got to the edge of that time limit, they might need more time.

Mr. Cannon said they will keep the word may because they want that flexibility. He said they will start with the 45 days, but are they going to end it, as Mr. Mitchell is saying, with the words "no later than?" He said it has to have some finality to it, period. He then asked what Council feels comfortable with. Mr. McCain said 120 days.

Mr. Cannon asked if everyone is comfortable with no more than 120 days, to which there was a consensus. Mr. Wilber said, instead of 45, he will put 120, to which Mr. Cannon responded, no, he thinks they need to put in there that they have to get it together by 45 days, but no later than 120. Mr. Holloway said that does not make sense. Mr. Cannon suggested striking the 45 and putting 120, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Mitchell said they are still saying may, to which Mr. Cannon responded, that is why they need two different times. He said it may be 45 days but no later than 120, so they have to keep the word may in there. Mr. Mitchell said he is thinking that may is in there to deal with how the election goes by the

people who are nominated by the parties. He said they could say “shall be filled no later than 90 days” and “may be selected from the people who are nominated.” Mr. McCain said they have to appoint, so that should be shall. Mr. Cannon suggested, shall within 120 days, and then may have the option to choose from the four choices. Mr. Wilber said they want may with the being selected from a list of four people. Ms. Aclé asked if that means it is not just the people the Central Committee sends, but are they opening the application process, to which Mr. Wilber responded, right, if the Council wants to. Mr. McCain explained, if there was a fifth person the Council wanted to consider, they would have that option if they wanted to, but they do not have to do it, it just leaves the door open. Mr. Wilber said, for an unaffiliated Councilmember, they are not going to have a recommendation from a party, it will just be that the Council would put a request out for people.

Mr. Cannon asked if amendments two and three can be combined? He said he does not know why they would not be, to which Mr. McCain responded, but it is a separate item.

Mr. Cannon asked if amendment number three is important to Councilmembers, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said amendment eight was established as a low priority regarding the Director of Administration. He said that is striking “prior to assuming the duties of the Office” and adding “within six months of the appointment.”

Mr. Hastings said he does not have any strong feelings about that, so if they want to put that on the ballot four years from now, he thinks that would be okay. Mr. Holloway said they could do it two years from now. There was a consensus to strike this amendment. Mr. Cannon asked Mrs. Hurley to keep notes about bringing this back in two years.

Mr. Cannon said the next item is amendment number nine, which is also considered a low priority, which is striking the term “within six months after each election for a County Executive.” He said this talks about appointing the Director of Administration and Assistant Director of Administration and then says, after each election for County Executive, only the Director of Administration, new Assistant Director of Administration, and new Department Heads or Deputy Directors shall be subject to Council confirmation. He said this was put in so that, when they transitioned, if it was the same Executive, the same Executive could maintain continuity and everybody would not have to worry every four years about losing their job. He said that is why they put this in here.

Mr. Dodd said that is a low priority. Mr. Cannon said it is not necessarily a low priority as the Council decided, but it is something in review from Mr. Wilber and Mrs. Hurley that they thought it might be a low priority.

Mr. Hastings said they heard from Administration folks saying that this is another reason they pointed to why they cannot fill some positions because it adds that level of feeling like politics are involved. He said, if they had this in place, it would make these individuals feel more comfortable. Mr. Holloway said the negative side of that is they might have a 100 employees running around campaigning for the County Executive to keep their job.

Mrs. Hurley clarified, it is not that they did not think this was important, it was just because of some of the other proposed Charter amendments, they just thought this one was lower. Mr. Wilber said he and Mrs. Hurley were focused on government operations.

Mr. Hastings said he is okay with keeping this in. Mr. Dodd said he is okay with cutting it and letting it go until the next election. Mr. Cannon said he thinks it is important for continuity. Ms. Acle said they are all at-will employees, so they could be let go at any time. Mr. Cannon said, after the election cycle they have to not only go through the Executive, but they have to go through the Council as well, which is a little bit different than if the Executive decides at-will to let somebody go. He said he thinks the intent of this is to avoid some of the politics that get involved with the transition of a Body of Government.

Mr. Hastings said they want folks in these positions to feel confident that they do not have to worry about politics, and this is just a step to help make that happen.

Mr. Wilber said it still does not remove the Executive's ability to say they want somebody different. Mr. Hastings responded, but it does limit the County Council's ability to have retribution, to which Mr. Wilber responded, correct.

Mr. Cannon asked for a consensus, to which Mr. Dodd, Mr. Holloway, and Ms. Acle said to let it go, and Mr. Hastings said to keep it in. Mr. McCain said he is okay with keeping it in. Mr. Cannon said he would like to see them keep it in. Mr. Davis said everybody harps that it is an at-will job, but any job is at-will as anybody can get fired at any time. He said, if they are here and doing a good job, they should not have to worry about getting fired.

Mrs. Hurley said she would like to make a point. She said they have certain employees who are at-will, but they have other employees who have the grievance process, which gives them a little more protection. She said she thinks the ones mentioned in this particular section would be the at-will ones though.

Mr. Cannon said the real question is whether the Council as a Body feels they would like to continue to have the authority to decide which Department Heads stay on after an election or whether that will remain with the authority of the County Executive. Mr. Davis said the Executive is who works with them every day. Mr. Holloway said he would say to take this out for now. Mr. Cannon said, as it is right now, the Council maintains that authority.

Ms. Acle said she does not have a really strong position on this. Mr. Holloway said, looking at the positive and negative of this, if they have a new County Executive, they are going to bring to the Council the people they want to put in, so what is the negative about it? Mr. Cannon asked, what if it is the same Executive, to which Mr. Holloway responded, they will still bring them to the Council. Mr. Cannon said the idea here is there will be people working for four years and at the end of that four years they have to go back to the Council to see if they still want to keep these people, to which Mr. Holloway responded, that is checks and balances.

Mr. Dodd said they had an issue with an employee who was a problem for many employees in the County, and because of the Council they were able to move things forward.

Mr. Holloway said remember after they were first elected in 2006 there was an issue with an employee.

Mr. McCain asked if this recommendation came from the Charter Review Committee or the Council, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, she believes it came from the Committee. Mr. Wilber confirmed that it did come from the Charter Review Committee.

Mr. Holloway said he thinks the citizens expect the Council to be the checks and balances of the Executive form of Government. He said the Executive form of Government is pretty powerful as it is. Mr. Hastings clarified, they would still be the checks and balance because they still would have to confirm folks, but they do not want a situation of retribution. He said, if there was a contentious election, a wave of a new political party could come in and turn around and get rid of everyone, to which Ms. Acle responded, but that is government. Mr. Holloway asked, why would Mr. Hastings even think that would happen? Mr. Hastings said the bigger piece is just trying to make sure what they have heard from conversations was that, when they discussed this, they want to be able to make sure that they pointed to this as a way to continue to make sure that they have continuity and that they can attract new people to these positions and not feel like they are going to be out four years later. Ms. Acle asked, what happens when there is a new Governor, to which Mr. Hastings responded, the Senate confirms the Department Heads.

Mr. Hastings said, in this case, they are the Legislative Body to confirm and they do not want somebody to move their family here and then be out, or choose not to come here just because they feel like politics are too much. He said, if anyone was reading the newspaper four years ago, they would have thought this was not a place to come work, so this is a way to provide more opportunity.

Mr. Dodd said the biggest issue has always been pay.

Ms. Acle said this is what happens in government.

Mr. Cannon said he feels that sometimes Department Heads need one boss and not eight, to which Mr. Davis responded, they do have just one boss. Mr. Cannon said this gives them eight every four years. Mr. Davis said the Council is just confirming them, not being a boss. Mr. Cannon said, what if the Council does not confirm them, to which Mr. Davis responded, that is not being a boss, it is like Mr. Holloway said with checks and balances of government.

Mr. Cannon asked if they should move this recommendation to the 2024 election, to which Mr. Holloway responded, yes. Mr. Cannon said he is okay with that.

Mr. Cannon said amendment ten is the Executive shall notify the Council in writing within ten working days of a vacancy of a position of a Director of Administration, Assistant, or Head of a Department.

Mr. McCain said this gets back to the opening statement from the Charter Review Committee. He clarified, if they are following the Charter and working like they should, they probably do not need something like this. Mr. Cannon said he thinks this is in here because they had a difficult time as a Council Body being able to prove when a term began or did not begin as far as a vacancy, to which Mr. McCain responded, they definitely had the issues.

Mr. Holloway said this is in here because they had phone calls saying they do not have a Department Head and the Council did not know. Mr. Hastings said this should just be better procedure and he does not think it is really going to make a difference. Mr. Dodd asked how they can make this better.

Mr. Davis said, if they approve this and the Executive does not do it, what are they going to do to him? He said they do not have any teeth. Mr. Wilber said they can censure him. Mr. Cannon said they could do away with the whole Charter under that argument, but the idea is to simply say he is hoping as things continue on that an Executive will just tell the Council that a Department Head has left.

Mr. Cannon said amendment eleven is the next item and is simply legal jargon. Mr. Wilber said they are trying to spread the umbrella out so it covers all federal and State Law classifications. Mr. Holloway asked, what happens if they put this on there and it gets voted down, to which Mr. Cannon responded, he is not worried about how they will vote, he wants to know if they want this or not. Mr. Mitchell said they would still have to abide by that. Mr. Cannon said he would be okay with putting this to 2024 as it is not going to make or break them. He then asked if everybody is okay with leaving this alone for now, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said amendment 13 is striking the Director of Finance shall be appointed and removed and his salary fixed in accordance with Section 502B of this Article. He then asked if this was done because of redundancy, to which Mr. Wilber responded, yes, this was a housekeeping item. Mr. Cannon said both of these are simply done due to redundancy and he thinks they could survive for two more years and put it into 2024. He then asked if everyone is okay with that, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said next is amendment 15 dealing with the Department of Law. He said the sentence reads now that the County Attorney shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive and the Council. He said this is the one where they decided they would relinquish the County Attorney from the oversight and direct authority of the Council and let the County Attorney remain under the supervision of the Executive understanding that the Council would have its own attorney.

Mrs. Hurley said, under duties and responsibilities, the County Attorney would still have the responsibility of reviewing the Legislative Branch's contracts, just for clarification. Mr. Cannon said this was to simply strike the authority of the Council getting involved in that.

Mr. McCain said he knows it says there is the understanding that the Council will have their own attorney, but that is not actually said anywhere. Mr. Mitchell said it is under the provision that the Council can hire experts. Mr. Dodd said it probably should be spelled out.

Mr. Cannon said, as it is right now, he gets the fact that the County Attorney is a very unique role where it serves both branches of government directly. He said the Council cannot fire a Department Head, but, as it is now, they can fire the County Attorney, and this is trying to say that the County Attorney is no different than a Department Head and is under the supervision of the Executive Branch.

Mr. Cannon asked if they want to leave this on the ballot, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said next is amendment number 19 dealing with Section 707. He then asked if this came from Lindsey Rader, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, no, this came from the Charter Review Committee. She said the discussion was whether the CIP should be adopted at the same time as the budget, and there was discussion as far as perhaps they could just change the hearing date of when the CIP is held. She said the CIP is submitted in December and the Public Hearing is to be held in February, but if they are going to postpone adopting the CIP until the budget, then they might want to change the Public Hearing date for the CIP to a date closer to June.

Mr. Cannon said, since this is wrapped up in amendment 19, they might as well leave it because it is already part of a recommendation they have already agreed to. He said it is going to add more verbiage, but will not be another item that has to be voted on, it would be put together as one amendment together with Section 705. Mrs. Hurley said the difference there though is that she thinks all of Lindsey Rader's will be grouped together, whereas, this one is not a Lindsey Rader one, so that is why it was kind



of put in a different category. Mr. Cannon said, but it is categorized as amendment 19, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, but it is low. Mr. Cannon asked if it would be on the ballot as amendment 19, to which Mr. Wilber responded, these are mixed, and this is mixed in with the Rader ones. Mr. Cannon asked if it would be included, or would they have to separate it, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, Mr. Wilber is saying it is mixed in with the Lindsey Rader one because of section 705, which is right above it, they both fall under the same article, and they pertain to the budget.

Mr. Cannon asked, on the ballot, will it be one amendment, or will there be two different questions subjected to the voter, to which Mr. Wilber responded, he was thinking to have subparts. He said, if the voter was dissatisfied with one of the subparts, then they would vote no on the ballot question. He said otherwise they would have to break this down into many, many little questions. Mr. Cannon asked if Mr. Wilber is suggesting they would try to keep them together, to which Mr. Wilber responded, that is the way he is looking at it.

Mr. Cannon asked if everyone is okay with leaving this in, to which there was a consensus.

Mr. Cannon said the last one is number 24 where the word County Commissioners shall mean County Council. He said this is definitely a housekeeping measure where they are trying to remove the Commissioner reference, to which Mr. Wilber responded, this could go to 2024.

Mr. Mitchell said this was the one he raised the issue about. He said he thinks the reason County Commissioners is in there is for what they passed prior to there being a Council. He said, from that date forward, Commissioners and Council would be the same, but if there is an existing statute, he would have to see exactly what it means. Mr. Wilber said it says in number six County Commissioners under the word law.

Mr. Hastings asked if it is possible that they could give themselves the authority theoretically if they have 25 amendments where the Council could approve amendments to the Charter that are strictly related to clerical so they could fix some of the language without having to go back to the voters? Mr. Wilber said the State Law does not speak to that, and Charter amendments are controlled by State Law.

Mr. Cannon asked, when they changed to the Executive form of Government, did they put the entire Charter on the ballot, to which Mr. Wilber responded, he would say they would have, but he would have to go back and check. Mr. Cannon said he would like to know because it could not have been an easy undertaking. Mr. Holloway said they have to put it on there to change the form of government because, ever since that happened, it was voted in, but it came into being in 2006 and they have been doing corrections in this Charter ever since, and some of them did not require amendments, some of them were just language. He clarified, not necessarily in the Charter, but any part of the government. Mr. Wilber said the Code is all here within the County, but for the Charter, they have to look at State Law.

Mr. Mitchell said he thinks what they do in that instance is they ask on the ballot if they want to change the form of government and there is a yes or no. He said, if it passes, then they study how it is going to be changed, but when the Charter actually comes up, he thinks it is on the ballot in some form, even if it is very brief.

Mr. Cannon said the Board of Elections has to have it in their archives somewhere, to which Mr. Wilber responded, they should be able to dig that out. Mr. Cannon said he is just curious.

Mr. Cannon said, for their purposes here, they are moving this to 2024.

Mr. Mitchell said, in five it says the word law shall be construed as including all acts, ordinances, etc. and it talks about the Council, and then it says all ordinances and resolutions of the County Commissioners not hereby or hereafter amended or repealed are still law. He said that is why Commissioners is in that definition to say that what they did before there was a Council still exists unless it has been changed. Mr. Dodd said then they should keep it in there, to which Mr. Mitchell responded, unless they put henceforth or something like that. Mr. Cannon said he thinks they can leave it out. Mr. Mitchell said he thinks that language does it.


Mrs. Hurley said they will put all of this in Resolution form and then have that ready for Council's consideration at the next meeting.

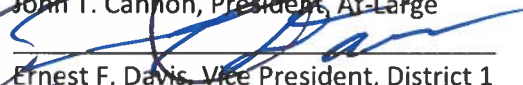
Mr. McCain asked if it is 17 amendments, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, yes.

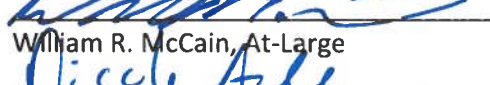
Mr. Hastings said it is positive that they all took steps, though they may not get enough credit because there are a lot of folks saying there is a lot of Executive and Legislative Branch discord, but, by going through all of these, the Legislative Branch is giving up some authority and moving it over in different ways, so it is a positive thing that the government is at play. He said no one is really probably even going to notice, but this is actually a really positive step, and he commends all of the Council for the work they put into it in addition to the Charter Review Committee.


Mrs. Hurley said the Chair of the Charter Review Committee is sick, so he would have liked to have come tonight, but he was not feeling well, so that is why he is not here. Mr. Cannon said they need to send him a big thank you card. Mr. Wilber said they worked hard.


There was no further discussion.

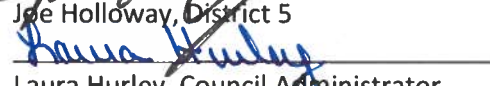
  
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John T. Cannon, President, At-Large

  
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Ernest F. Davis, Vice President, District 1

  
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William R. McCain, At-Large

  
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Nicole Acle, District 2

  
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Larry W. Dodd, District 3

  
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Josh Hastings, District 4

  
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Joe Holloway, District 5

  
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Laura Hurley, Council Administrator