

CHARTER REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION

CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA

Old City Hall

315 E Kennedy Blvd.

Tampa, Florida 33602

APPROVED MINUTES FOR MEETING ON: February 24, 2026, AT 6:02 P.M.

The Charter Review Commission of the City of Tampa, Florida convened in a regular meeting in the Sister Cities Room at Old City Hall, 315 E. Kennedy Boulevard, First Floor, at 6:02 p.m. on the 24th day of February 2026. The Zoom meeting was live streamed recorded, made available to the public on YouTube and minutes were prepared by Karencia Ciagala, Senior City Council/City Clerk Support Specialist, Office of the City Clerk.

Members present upon roll call: Stephen Benson, Bobby Creighton, Ron Christaldi (participating virtually), Ashley Morrow, Rebecca Kert, Alan Cohn, Kathleen Shanahan, Bill Schifino, and Alternates Sue Carlton and Alison Hewitt. Not in attendance: Garrett Greco.

City Staff in attendance were: Legislative Aide Samuel Thomas, Office of the Mayor Director of Strategic Initiatives Marley Wilkes, T & I Support Technicians Gavin Barrera and Brian Le and Sr. City Council/City Clerk Support Specialist Karencia Ciagala.

Others in attendance were CRC Facilitator Robert Hendrickson and CRC Attorney Kenneth Tinkler of Carlton Fields.

Public Comment

The following individuals appeared before the Charter Review Commission to make public comment:

Stephanie Poynor
Alison Hewitt
Joseph Citro

Approval of 1/20/26 Kickoff Meeting Minutes and 2/10/2026 Meeting Minutes

Chair Ashley Morrow asked for motion to approve minutes. Ron Christaldi asked that January 20, 2026, minutes be revised on page two and three for totals changing five (5/3 vote) to six (6/3 vote), and that the term majority vote should be “super” majority vote.

**MOTION (Schifino/Kert) to approve January 20, 2026, CRC Minutes as amended.
Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION (Creighton/Kert) to approve February 10, 2026, CRC Minutes.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Review and Discuss Potential Amendments to the Tampa City Charter (Articles 4 and 6)

Charter Review

The facilitator asked the CRC for feedback on Charter Articles 4.01 through 5.01.

With respect to section 4.01, the CRC requested more information to decide whether amendments are required. Action items included the following: 1) Clarify administration role and limits of resolutions with City Attorney, 2) Ascertain more details re: the 2015 Biking While Black controversy and what the Council could have done to prevent it, 3) Determine if the City's procurement policy requires the mayor to disclose conflicts of interest, and 5) Request data about salary adjustments occurring mid-budget year – beyond COLA and merit adjustments.

With respect to sections 4.02 and 5.01, the CRC did not request changes.

For the sections, the Facilitator utilized a whiteboard to take notes covering recommended changes, items requiring clarification, and action items for follow up. Attached to the minutes at Exhibit A are the whiteboard notes.

Discussion

The facilitator advised that the City Attorney has agreed to attend a future meeting if the City Council Attorney also attends, but that the City Council Attorney must first secure approval to attend from the City Council.

New Business

Bobby Creighton stated that there was a 2025 Memo to legal from Council, requesting their proposed recommended changes to the Charter for this Commission. He also stated that he is uncertain if it was ever completed but would like a copy. He also wants to ask administration to promote these meetings.

MOTION (Creighton/Kert) to request a copy of the list (previously requested by city council) from the legal department listing their non-subjective changes to the charter. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION (Creighton/Benson) respectfully request that the Administration promote these Charter Review Commission meetings to the public, in newsletters and in the media to promote awareness. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: There being no further business to come before the Charter Review Commission at this time, upon no objection, CRC Chair Ashley Morrow adjourned said meeting at 8:49p.m., on this the 24th day of February 2026.

Minutes Approved by CRC on March 10, 2026
Chairperson Ashley Morrow

4.01 Mayor

- "admin" for city council → beyond ordinance
- A: city atty to clarify "admin" role + limits of resolutions
- Resident requirement → be consistent w/ A12.
- 2 consec terms is ok. keep NO to CC? 1

- Compensation - 6.06 - budgeting process

- Q2: Tradeoffs either direction major v. ec. Maybe 7 vote req?
 For criminal activity, law enf. sets involved
 CC raised issue of a policy (Did CC do anything?) What can they do?
 Elections affect changes
 If policy overturned, what then? ← Action: learn more details
 Example: blocks on bikes
 Was it a policy? Likely not.

NOTE - Q3 - major subj to ethics rules (Chapter 12)
 - Applies to all city employees
 - CC members disclose but mayor approve or veto / LEO-admin
 - ethics code enacted by CC - who enforces? state-civil
 Action - Do RFPs require disclosure

4.01

Q4 - No & S

Q5 - Can increase salaries mid budget year if \$ is available. HR policy caps increase even if promotion. 4%. Intervening at this level goes beyond scope of budget.

Action => Provide data about this happening mid budget year beyond COLA + merit.

4.02 - No changes but see 10.01. sub 4 -> for Special election
- Would not stop salary for mayor

5.01 => bullet 2 protected by charter

Q1 -> No

Q2 -> all attys subject to FL Bar rules Yes

Q3 - City atty ~~rep~~ reps the city but the mayor

Who is city council atty's client?

Action: Bill will explore this

city council
attly - advising

Q5 -
may be tied
to residency
ref

-> 6.03

Q6
can

-> NO

Is it a person
or entity?
sep from cot?

QA: more this for 6.03

- No to?