**Minutes of the October 22, 2025**
**Charter Review Commission Meeting**

## Call to Order

Chairman Chuck Brown called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Present: Chuck Brown, Ryan Stanley, Melodee Colbert-Kean, Michael Seibert, Dan Pekarek, Diane Reid-Adams, Morris Glaze, Rob O'Brian. Staff: Peter Edwards, City Attorney and Holly Nagy, City Clerk.

Absent: Phil Stinnett

## Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mr. O'Brian, seconded by Ms. Colbert-Kean to approve the October 8th meeting minutes. Voting in favor were commission members: Brown, Stanley, Colbert-Kean, Seibert, Pekarek, Reid-Adams, Glaze and O'Brian.

## Public Hearings

Public Hearing procedures were read by City Clerk Holly Nagy

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 3.1 (Rate of pay for Council)
Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing
No one spoke in favor of this item.
No one spoke in opposition of this item.
The Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 3.2 (Reduce number of signatures for nominating petitions)
Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing
No one spoke in favor of this item.
No one spoke in opposition of this item.
The Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 3.3 (Emergency/expedited ordinance language)
Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing
No one spoke in favor of this item.
No one spoke in opposition of this item.
The Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 3.4 (Public Works Director – prof. engineer requirement)
Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing
No one spoke in favor of this item.
Kurt Higgins, Clayton Christie, and Frank Thompson spoke in opposition of this item.
The Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 3.5 (Publication requirements)
Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing
No one spoke in favor of this item.
Frank Thompson spoke in opposition of this item.
The Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ITEM 3.6 (Public comment)
Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing

Tom Robertson – asked about potential other charter changes not charged to commission but still being included in final report to Council.

Richard Thurman – spoke about reasoning from Council on amendments.

Mary Price – spoke about the use of the words emergency and expedited for Item 3.3. Citizens need more input and doesn't suggest changing the name, she is concerned regarding the transparency for the residents.

Doris Carlin – suggested the use of both terms emergency and expedited for Item 3.3.

Frank Thompson – feels as though this commission is an attempt to shield city actions from the residents. Mr. Thompson is against council pay, lowering signature requirements, changing emergency ordinances, professional engineers, publication requirements.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Public Hearing portion of this meeting ended at 4:43 PM. The meeting reconvened into the Informal Conference Room.

**Discussion of Proposed Charter Amendments (4:48 PM)**

The commission discussed timing of future meetings and the final report. November 12th and 19th have been tentatively selected for the next meetings.

Discussion ensued regarding Item 3.1 (Council pay) Mr. Stanley suggested $650 a month per Councilmember. $1000 for Mayor and $825 for Mayor Pro Tem. Mr. Stanley feels as though a hard number is needed and we should put something out in front of the voters. Other commission members voiced differing opinions.

Discussion ensued on Item 3.2 (number of signatures for petitions). Various opinions were considered. No consensus or decision was made.

Discussion ensued on Item 3.3 (Emergency/expedited ordinance language) Mr. Peter Edwards discussed the use of emergency ordinances and what they have been historically used for. Mr. Seibert pointed out that these ordinances require a super majority vote. Mr. Nick Edwards suggested changing the spending thresholds so that ordinances aren't

required for smaller construction projects. Discussion ensued regarding comparisons with the City of Springfield Charter. The broad consensus was put it in front of the voters and let them decide.

Discussion moved to Item 3.5 (Publications). Discussion ensued regarding the charter requirement to publish notice in the paper if printed media is being phased out.

**No formal votes were made on any of the discussed items.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM.

Chuck D. Brown, Chair