

Minutes

Princeton Home Rule Charter Commission

Regular Meeting of April 6, 2022

The Princeton Home Rule Charter Commission of the City of Princeton, Texas ("HRCC"), met in Regular Session on April 6, 2022, at 6:31 p.m., in the City Council Chamber at City Hall, located at 2000 E. Princeton Dr. Princeton, Texas 75407.

The following HRCC commissioners were present: David Walker, John Ragan, Nikki Krum (Vice Chair), Lora Wilcher, Lindsey Kessler, Brenda Honea, Maxine Ellis, Ryan Gerfers, Kelly Carr, Nichole Amadio [arrived 6:34 PM], and.

The following commissioners were absent: Jody Sutherland (Chair), Jeff Truitt, Rachel Wallace, Jim Key, Mike Brinkerhoff.

The following HRCC alternates were present: Andrew Bongiani and Matthew Krum.

The following Staff Members were present: City Manager Derek Borg, City Attorney David Overcash, and Records Clerk Gabrielle Sutton.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL.** Nikki Krum, serving as Chair for the HRCC in absence of Jody Sutherland, called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.
- 2. Public Comment.** Members of the public were invited to address the HRCC regarding any topic on the night's agenda, or any other topic. A member of the public, Elam Vaiyapun, addressed the HRCC to ask questions and present comment regarding the origins and mission of the HRCC. General factual information regarding the City Council actions to initiate the HRC process and the related ballot item approved by the City's voters was provided in response.
- 3. Consent Agenda:** The following items were adopted unanimously, without objection or debate, as part of the consent agenda:
 - a. Adoption of the draft minutes of the HRCC March 16, 2022 meeting as the official minutes for said meeting.
 - b. Adopting updates to the HRCC roster to reflect exchanges of alternates and voting members.

4. Discussions and deliberations regarding the formation of a charter for the City of Princeton, Texas (continued from February 2, 2022 meeting). The agenda for this meeting included discussions and deliberations regarding the charter provisions for:

- a. Chapter Two: Form of Government
- b. Chapter Three: City Council
- c. Chapter Four: City Manager

The HRCC deliberations included a variety of topics relating to the governing body of the city, including term lengths and/or limits for its city council and voting power of the office of mayor.

A motion to provide for both Mayor and City Council members to serve terms of 4 years in length in the draft HRC was made by John Ragan and seconded by David Walker; said motion was adopted 9-0 following a roll call vote of members present.

A motion to include term limits the offices of Mayor and City Council in the draft HRC was made by Brenda Honea and seconded by John Ragan; said motion was adopted 9-0 following a roll call vote of members present.

A motion for the draft HRC to provide a consecutive term limitation for all persons serving in the office of Mayor or City Council, such that no individual would serve longer than 2 consecutive terms in an office, was made by John Ragan and seconded by David Walker; said motion was adopted 7-1 following a roll call vote of members present. Ryan Gerfers cast a vote against the motion; Nichole Amadio abstained.

A motion for the draft HRC to include provisions whereby an individual's service for 2 consecutive terms as city councilmember disqualifies them election to the office of city councilmember for a period of 8 years thereafter was made by Brenda Honea and seconded by John Ragan; said motion was adopted 9-0 following a roll call vote of members present.¹

A motion for the draft HRC to include provisions whereby an individual's service for 2 consecutive terms as mayor disqualifies them from election to the office of mayor for a period of 8 years thereafter was made by Maxine Ellis and seconded by John Ragan said motion was adopted 9-0 following a roll call vote of members present.²

A motion for the draft HRC to provide that any individual who has served 16 years in the offices of either mayor or city council, by any combination of terms, places, and offices and without regard to any separation in periods of service, to be thereafter disqualified

¹ For purposes of term limits, the deliberations of the HRCC reflected the majority's intent to treat all council member places as equivalent, with only the office of mayor treated separately, and this motion shall be construed in that light. An individual reaching the limit of two terms as councilmember (in any place designation) would remain eligible to immediately run for the office of mayor, and vice versa, but a councilmember who has completed two consecutive terms shall not be eligible for election to any other city councilmember place.

² See n. 1.

from future election to any of those positions was made by Lindsey Kessler and seconded by Maxine Ellis; said motion was adopted 7-2 following a roll call vote of members present. Lora Wilcher and Kelly Carr cast votes against the motion.

5. **Discussion and potential action regarding meeting calendar and letting agenda items for the next HRCC meeting, scheduled for April 20, 2022.** HRCC engaged in general discussion regarding the agendas for upcoming meetings and provided input to staff. The April 20, 2022 agenda will include further deliberations relating in Chapter Three ("City Council"), Chapter Eleven ("Elections"), and Chapter Twelve ("Initiative, Referendum, and Recall"), and Chapter Fourteen ("General and Transitional Provisions") including but not limited to provisions relating to the governing body and mayor and details of the adopted term limits. Chapter Four ("City Manager") and other chapters may also be listed for discussion as time permits.
6. **ADJOURN.** The Chair invited a motion to adjourn, which was made from the floor and seconded. The meeting was adjourned by voice vote without objection or debate at 8:32 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ADOPTED AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2022 HRCC MEETING, BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE HRCC, AT ITS MEETING ON THE ~~ZOH~~ DAY OF April, 2022.



Jody Sutherland, Chair

ATTEST:



Gabrielle Sutton