

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, CREATING A CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER AND ADVISE THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CHARTER AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2017, the City Council requested staff to place an item on the July 17, 2017, City Council agenda to allow discussion and consideration of the establishment of a Charter Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council to create an advisory committee to review, receive public input and provide recommendations on changes to the City of Mesquite Charter ("Charter"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to provide direction to the Charter Review Committee by adopting a charge that outlines City Council expectations regarding the scope and deadlines for charter review.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Composition of the Committee.

- (a) The City Council hereby establishes a Charter Review Committee ("Committee") to consider and advise the City Council of proposed amendments to the Charter.
- (b) The Committee is purely advisory and its decisions are not binding on the City Council.
- (c) The Committee shall be composed of ____ members.
- (d) City staff in the offices of City Manager, City Attorney and City Secretary shall be available as resources to support the efforts of the Committee. Staff from other departments shall be made available upon request to the City Manager.

SECTION 2. Mission.

- (a) The City Council hereby adopts the City Council's Charge ("Charge"), attached as Exhibit "A," which identifies the issues to be reviewed by the Committee, the scope of review, the number of public hearings to be conducted and applicable deadlines. The Charge shall be provided to each appointee of the Committee to direct execution of the Committee's objectives.
- (b) The Committee shall provide all recommended amendments to the Charter as directed in the Charge, with corresponding proposed ballot language, to the City Council for consideration as provided in Exhibit "A."

- (c) The Committee shall solicit citizen input through surveys, town hall meetings and other public forums and processes as provided in Exhibit “A.”

SECTION 3. Appointment.

- (a) Each member of the City Council shall appoint ____ member(s) to serve on the Committee.
- (b) A majority of the City Council shall select and approve ____ additional members.
- (c) The City Council shall appoint two liaisons to the Committee from among its members who will serve as ex officio, non-voting members.

SECTION 4. Eligibility.

In order to be qualified to serve, all members of the Committee must, at the time of appointment and through their term of service:

- (a) Be qualified electors of the City of Mesquite;
- (b) Be a resident of the City for at least ____; and
- (c) Commit to attend at least 90 percent of the Committee’s meetings.

SECTION 5. Vacancy.

In the event a vacancy occurs on the Committee, the City Secretary shall immediately notify the City Council for consideration of a replacement.

SECTION 6. Meetings.

- (a) The Committee shall select and appoint a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members. The Vice Chair shall conduct a meeting in the absence of the Chair.
- (b) All meetings shall be held in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.
- (c) The small committee rules of Robert’s Rules of Order shall apply.
- (d) Minutes of the meetings shall be kept by the City Secretary or her designee.
- (e) Meetings shall be coordinated through and by the City Secretary, who will reserve the meeting room, issue proper notices and ensure compatibility with the City calendar.

SECTION 7. Application of Other Laws.

- (a) City Charter and Code provisions applicable to the Committee.

- (1) Section 34, "Personal Financial Interest," of Article IV, "Officers and Elections," of the City of Mesquite Charter, which prohibits a direct or indirect financial interest in a City contract, does not apply to appointees to the Committee.
 - (2) To the extent not in conflict with this Resolution, the City's Rules for Boards and Committees, codified in Division 2, "Code of Ethics," of Article IV of Chapter 2, Code of Ordinances of the City of Mesquite ("Code of Ethics"), apply to the Committee.
 - (3) Section 2-123(a)(8) of the Code of Ethics, which prohibits representation of others before the City, does not apply to appointees to the Committee.
- (b) *Removal.* The City Council may remove any member from the Committee for excessive absenteeism or other cause. Absence of two consecutive meetings of the Committee or more than three nonconsecutive meetings shall result in immediate forfeiture of position.

SECTION 8. That this resolution is effective immediately upon passage.


DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 7th day of August, 2017.

Stan Pickett
Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Sonja Land
City Secretary



B. J. Smith
City Attorney

EXHIBIT “A”

City Council’s Charge

(to be attached)