

City of Taylor
Charter Review Commission Meeting
Taylor Public Library, Meeting Room, 801 Vance Street
May 4, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman McDonald declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Present:

John McDonald, Chair
Gary Gola, Vice Chair
Peter Bryan
Jim Buzan
Betty Day

John Harper
Jackie Krueger
Christine Lopez (arrived at 6:18 pm)
Angelina Shelton

Also attending:

Legal Counsel, Charlie Zech
City Clerk, Lucy Aldrich

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Pam Harper spoke on recall.
Lara Baker spoke on recall.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Consider approval of April 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes.**
Motion was made by Betty Day to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by John Harper. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Discuss and consider a drafted amendment to Article 5 - Appointive Officers, regarding the appointment process for boards and commissions.**
Mr. Zech presented a drafted amendment to Article 5 related to the appointment process for boards and commissions (CR-54). The Commission discussed the proposed amendment.

Motion was made by Jim Buzan to disapprove the amendment as presented. Motion was seconded by Christine Lopez. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission further directed that an addendum be included in the Council's final Charter Amendment Report recommending that the City Council adopt clear rules and procedures governing the appointment process for boards and commissions.

3. **Discuss and consider a drafted amendment to Article 7 – The City Council, regarding council member authority to place items on meeting agendas.**
Mr. Zech presented a drafted amendment to Article 7 related to council member authority to place items on meeting agendas. The Commission discussed the proposed amendment and determined that the final line of the amended language, referencing an ethics ordinance, should be removed.

Motion was made by Betty Day to approve the amendment as revised, removing the final line. Motion was seconded by Peter Bryan. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discuss and consider amendments on Recall.

The Commission discussed potential amendments to the Charter that would include recall provisions for elected officials.

Motion was made by Gary Gola to add recall provisions to the Charter requiring a petition signed by 25% of eligible voters and approval by 3/5 (60%) of votes cast at an election. Motion was seconded by John Harper. Motion failed by a vote of 4 ayes (Gary Gola, John Harper, Jackie Krueger, and Angelina Shelton) to 5 nays (John McDonald, Peter Bryan, Jim Buzan, Betty Day, and Christine Lopez).

Amendment:

During approval of the May 4 minutes at the May 18 meeting, the Commission directed that item 4 be amended to reflect the following:

- Discussion on the recall item occurred both before and after the vote.
- The Chair's written statement distributed by the City Clerk after the May 4 meeting is to be included in the record.
- The statement incorrectly attributed the motion to "call the question" to Gary Gola; the motion was made by Peter Bryan.
- The statement also required clarification that the reference to legal counsel referred not to Mr. Zech but to the City Attorney.

The May 4 minutes were approved with these amendments.

Chair's Statement:

The following statement was provided by the Chair after the May 4 meeting and was directed by the Commission on May 18 to be included in the May 4 minutes:

"In the committee's first meeting, Mr. Zech delineated the organizational rules which would be followed and to which the entire committee agreed. One of those rules was that 'once an item had been discussed and voted on, the committee would move on to the next item. The committee was NOT going to reconsider the same amendment in the future. "Vote and move on."'

As in a city council meeting, for a recorded vote, there is not a "do over" for those in the minority vote. In this particular case, Jackie was not the only one who spoke to Peter prior to the vote being taken. I specifically asked Peter for his input and clarified the 6-month state time limit for a recall petition. Likewise, Mr. Gola is the committee member who made the motion to terminate debate and called for a vote. I also recognize the dynamics of the committee may now be altered with the Buzan resignation. Finally, the recommendation of legal counsel is that reopening the vote for recall would be improper and should not be allowed."

5. Discuss and consider any amendments to Article 13 through Article 17.

The Commission considered submitted amendments related to Articles 13 through 17. Mr. Zech addressed the proposed amendments through legal memorandums provided to the Commission.

Following discussion, no amendments were proposed, and no changes were recommended to these sections.

6. Discuss and consider the addition of a new Article regulating City Council Meetings.

The Commission discussed the potential addition of a new Article related to City Council meetings, including the following item:

- CR-30 – Proposed new charter article requiring matters discussed in City Council executive session to be placed on the agenda of a future regular meeting prior to final action being taken.

By consensus, the Commission directed Mr. Zech to draft proposed language for consideration.

7. Discuss and consider the addition of a new Article regulating Charter Review.

No discussion was held on this item.

8. Discuss and consider tabled item - Council Compensation.

No discussion was held on this item.

9. Discuss and consider tabled item - Number of Council Members.

No discussion was held on this item.

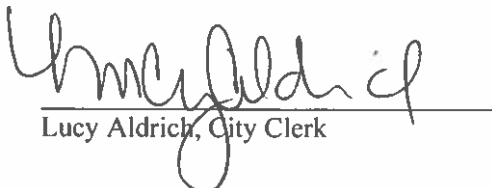
ADJOURN

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Buzan announced his resignation from the Commission following the election results (resignation notice attached).

Chairman McDonald called for a motion to adjourn. Jackie Krueger motioned to adjourn, and Angelina Shelton seconded. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.


John McDonald, Chairman

ATTEST:


Lucy Aldrich, City Clerk

From: [James Buzan](#)
To: [John McDonald](#); [Lucy Aldrich](#)
Subject: Charter Review Commission - Resignation
Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 10:36:36 AM

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

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Lucy / John,

As I mentioned at our meeting on Monday, I'm resigning from the Charter Review Commission. Mark Schroeder said that an email to you two would be adequate; therefore, this email serves as my formal resignation, effective immediately.

It has been an honor to serve.

Kind regards,
Jim Buzan