

July 21, 2023

To: Honorable Ms. Katherine Jordan, 2nd District Council Representative and Chair of Government Operations

From: Mr. Antoine Banks (Secretary), Ms. Rachael Deane (Vice Chair), Dr. Thad Williamson (Chair), on behalf of the 2022 City Charter Review Commission

Re: July 20, 2023 – Minutes of the Public Hearing of the City Charter Review Commission (DRAFT)

Please review the attached meeting minutes that were taken at the seventeenth meeting of the 2022 City Charter Review Commission in Richmond, VA.



**CITY OF RICHMOND
2022 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
June 2023**

Meeting Date: Thursday, July 20, 2023

Meeting Location: Richmond City Hall, 5th Floor Conference Room

Presiding: Thad Williamson, Chair

Approval: **DRAFT**

Recorded by: Antoine A. Banks, Secretary _____

Attest: Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst

2 **OPENING:**

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4 The seventeenth meeting of the 2022 City Charter Review Commission was called to order at 6:02 p.m. on Thursday, ,
5 July 20, 2023 by Commission Chairman **Williamson** in the auditorium of the Richmond City Hall, 5th Floor Conference
6 Room.

7
8 **COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

9 Thad Williamson, *Chair* 14 John P. Girardi
10 Rachel Deane, *Vice Chair* 15 Travis Gunn
11 Antoine Banks, *Secretary* 16 Steve Koski
12 William "Bill" Echelberger, *Historian* 17 Daisy Weaver
13 Kyle Elliott

18
19 **STAFF AND COMMUNITY IN ATTENDANCE (REPRESENTATION):**

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21 Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst (*Council*)
22 Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney (*Administration*)
23 *Online Attendance Count: 2*
24 *Live Audience in Attendance: 1*

25
26 **PUBLIC HEARING:**

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28 The chair called upon Commission Secretary **Banks** to provide an overview of the public hearing process. Secretary
29 **Banks** directed all audience members interested in offering testimony to clearly state their full name, council district,
30 remain on topic, keep your discussion within the 3-minute time allotted and avoid ad hominem attacks.

31
32 **PUBLIC COMMENTS 14.1:**

- 33 1. **Kim Bridges, District 1, and Former School Board Member:** In support of staggered council terms.
34 Richmond is one of two cities in state not to have staggered terms.

35 *

36 ***No other member from the live or virtual audience testified before the Commission.***

37
38 **REVIEW OF DOCUMENT OPTIMIZATION SECTION:**

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40 Chairman **Williamson** called upon Commission Vice Chair **Deane** to provide an overview of the document optimization
41 section and walked-thru the changes with the full commission. Commission members engaged in a lengthy discussion
42 on the proposed changes and made several edits to the document along with adding several suggestions on council
43 actions needed regarding personnel policy, eminent domain, in addition to other areas.

1 **REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL-MANAGER OPTION SECTION:**

2
3 Chairman **Williamson** provided an overview of the council-manager section and walked-thru the changes with the full
4 commission. Commission members reviewed the proposed changes and made several edits to the document along
5 with adding several suggestions on changing the executive summary and next steps and concluding observations of
6 our plans.

7
8 **UPCOMING COMMISSION MEETING DATES:**

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10 The chair announced the upcoming meetings of the commission to be held on **July 27 (final meeting)**. **All meeting times**
11 **to be announced**. Subcommittees will schedule meetings and provide notice to the public.

12
13 **ADJOURNMENT:**

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15 There being no further discussion or business that came before the commission at the time, A motion was made and
16 seconded and unanimously adopted that the meeting be adjourned at 8:39 pm. Motion carried.