



Charter Review Work Session

Presentation of Committee Charges

May 21, 2024



Recap

- Feb. 20, 2024: Selection of Charter Section Priorities
- March 19, 2024: Article II. The Council
 - Sec. 2.01. Number, selection and term
 - Sec. 2.02. Qualifications
- April 2, 2024: Article XIV. General Provisions
 - Sec. 14.03. Official newspaper
 - Sec. 14.04. Ethics ordinance requirement
 - Sec. 14.16. Boards and commissions
- April 16, 2024: Article IV. Initiative, Referendum and Recall
 - 4.12 Recall petition, committee of petitioners
- May 7, 2024: Article VI. City Attorney, Municipal Court and City Auditor
 - Sec. 6.03. Municipal court



Charter-Perfecting Charges

- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton on whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions as to **resolve conflicts with state law**, where applicable.
- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton on whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions as to **resolve vague/unclear language**, where applicable.
- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton on whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions as to **replace all instances of gendered language with non-gendered language**.



Charges: Article II. The Council

- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article II, Section 2.01 of the Denton City Charter as to **modify the mix of single member and at-large districts.**
- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article II, Section 2.01 of the Denton City Charter as to **increase the two-year term provision to either three or four-year terms,** as allowed by State law.
- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article II, Section 2.01 of the Denton City Charter as to the **addition of new council seats based on population size and projected growth.**
- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article II, Section 2.02 of the Denton City Charter so as to consider **modifying the Mayor and Council stipend.**



Charges: Article IV. Initiative, Referendum & Recall

- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article IV, Section 4.12 as to **require a statement less than 200 words on the grounds of removal for recall petitions.**

Charges: Article VI. Municipal Court

- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article VI, Section 6.03 as to **increase the two-year term of the Municipal Judge to a four-year term.**



Charges: Article XIV. General Provisions

- To consider and advise the City Council of Denton whether and in what manner to revise the current City Charter provisions of Article XIV, Section 14.04 as to **modify the Ethics Ordinance requirements.**



Council Direction: Committee Scope

Option 1: Committee scope should be limited to the Sections identified by Council in the Committee Charges Resolution.

Option 2: Committee scope should allow for review of additional Articles/Sections of the Charter.

Council Direction: Committee Leadership

Option 1: Committee should appoint a Chair and Chair Pro Tem upon convening.

Option 2: Council should appoint a Chair and Chair Pro Tem prior to the Committee's first convening.

Council Direction: Committee Geographic Makeup

Option 1: Committee appointments should be chosen from a member's respective district.

Option 2: Committee appointments should not have any geographical restrictions.



Committee Appointments

- **Each Council member will nominate two individuals to serve on the Charter Review Committee.**
- **Nominations should be submitted to the City Secretary's Office via email by the July 2 deadline.**
- A quorum of the committee will be 8 members and all committee recommendations will be made by a majority vote of the whole committee.
- The Chair of the committee will be authorized to create subcommittees.
- Recommendations of the subcommittees must be approved by a majority of the subcommittee.

Considerations for Nominations

- Nominees must be 18 years old and resident of the City of Denton
- Time commitment:
 - Biweekly meetings from July to December (minimum of eight meetings)
 - Meeting dates and times are TBD, but will be 1-2 hours, in-person, and likely in the evening
 - Possible subcommittee meetings
- Preferred experience, expertise, or interest in municipal governance, law, or community engagement



Charter Election Timeline

- June 4, 2024: Council issue final charges
- July 2, 2024: Deadline for committee appointments
- July – November 2024: Committee will meet biweekly (minimum of eight meetings)
- November – December 2024: Committee will present recommendations to Council (three Work Sessions)
- December 2024: Council will approve final amendments to be submitted to the voters
- January 2025: Council will call the election
- January – May 2025: Informational Campaign
- **Saturday, May 3, 2025: Election Day**

