



# City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

324 E. Pine Street  
Second Floor Media Room  
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689  
<https://tarponspringsfl.portal.civicclerk.com>

Charter Revision Commission  
MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024  
2:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. May 13, 2024

**2. CHARTER CHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS BY:**

- a. Basilios "Billy" Poulos, Internal Auditor
- b. Public (Limited to 15 Minutes)

**3. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CHARTER SECTIONS (Continued - as time permits)**

**4. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS - NEXT MEETING MAY 29, 2024**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

MINUTES  
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION  
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS  
May 13, 2024

THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION MET IN THE SECOND FLOOR MEDIA ROOM, 324 EAST PINE STREET, TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, ON MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024, AT 2:00 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

	DR. CARRIE ROOT	CHAIR
	JIM KOLIANOS	VICE-CHAIR
	DR. TINA BUCUVALAS	MEMBER
	JOAN JENNINGS	MEMBER
	MERLIN SEAMON	MEMBER*
ABSENT/EXECUSED:	MIKE KOUSKOUTIS	MEMBER
	JOHN TARAPANI	MEMBER
ALSO PRESENT:	ANDREW SALZMAN	CITY ATTORNEY
	IRENE S. JACOBS	CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR
	K.MICHELE MANOUSOS	DEPUTY CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Root called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Deputy City Clerk Manousos called roll.

\* Mr. Seamon arrived at 2:09 p.m. prior to the start of agenda item 2.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (APRIL 29, 2024 AND MAY 6, 2024)

MOTION: MRS. JENNINGS  
SECOND: VICE CHAIR KOLIANOS

To approve minutes of April 29, 2024 as written.

Vote on Motion: Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bucuvalas	Yes
Mrs. Jennings	Yes
Mr. Kouskoutis	Absent
Mr. Seamon	Absent
Mr. Tarapani	Absent
Vice Chair Kolianos	Yes
Chair Root	Yes

MOTION: DR. BUCUVALAS  
SECOND: MRS. JENNINGS

To approve minutes of May 6, 2024 as written.

Vote on Motion: Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bucuvalas	Yes
Mrs. Jennings	Yes
Mr. Kouskoutis	Absent
Mr. Seamon	Absent
Mr. Tarapani	Absent
Vice Chair Kolianos	Yes
Chair Root	Yes

2. CHARTER CHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS BY:

- A) COMMISSIONER KOULIAS
  - B) COMMISSIONER DiDONATO
  - C) PUBLIC (IF PRESENT)
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A.) COMMISSIONER KOULIAS

Commissioner Koulias made a presentation on charter sections regarding Section 20: Residency; Section 19: Civil Service; and Section 8: Board of Commissioners, composition, duties, responsibilities, and powers (Exhibit 1).

In Section 8, he requested it be amended to require the commissioners to act as lobbyists to promote Tarpon Springs beyond the boundaries of the community and to gain traction for obtaining grants.

Vice Chair Koulianos responded that this type of activity was better provided by the city hiring lobbyists and suggested addressing that in the next budget cycle.

Commissioner Koulias then gave his thoughts on purchasing thresholds, stated that he supports the cuts; had no issues revamping the Marine Commerce Committee; noted that volunteers were selected based on experience; and did not support the Planning & Zoning Board making any final decisions at this time.

B.) COMMISSIONER DiDONATO

Commissioner DiDonato said that he knew the importance of the Charter Commission because he served as a member twice in the past. He cautioned them to be careful what was put in the Charter and on what would be taken out of the Charter.

He then advised his thoughts on purchasing thresholds, felt the Board of Commissioners should agree to disagree and work together, felt the Board of Commissioners should refine giving direction, and was in favor of setting a radius for the residency requirement.

C.) PUBLIC COMMENTS (If present)

Anita Protos, 901 Bayshore Drive, spoke on reasonings that a Civil Service Board was in place, agreed that a lobbyist was needed, and her feelings on residency.

A break was taken at 3:23 p.m. and the reconvened at 3:34 p.m.

3. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CHARTER SECTIONS (Continued only if time permits)

Section 11: Terms of Office, qualifications, date of annual election

The following items were discussed:

- In (b) a scrivener’s error to at the word “and” after \$25.00 in the second sentence.
- Attorney Salzman was asked to define what was a majority in which he read the definition under Florida Statute.
- If there were any criteria on excused absences

Section 12: Zoning Powers

The following items were discussed:

- If P & Z should have the final say on minor actions – Mr. Seamon
- Third sentence has a scrivener’s error and should read after “and two alternates,” “one of whom shall vote”.

Section 13: Interference with Administration

There was discussion if the language of this section covered the separation of the City Manager’s employees vs. City Clerk’s employees. It was then determined that this would be accomplished by removing the last sentence.

MOTION: MR. SEAMON  
SECOND: MRS. JENNINGS

To remove last sentence of this section.

Vote on Motion: Upon roll call, the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bucuvalas	Yes
Mrs. Jennings	Yes
Mr. Kouskoutis	Absent
Mr. Seamon	Yes
Mr. Tarapani	Absent
Vice Chair Kolianos	Yes
Chair Root	Yes

Section 14: Internal Auditor

The Commission had discussions on this section and would like the City Clerk to invite the Internal Auditor to the next meeting.

The following items were discussed:

- If provisions should be added to handle sensitive HR issues differently.

4. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS – NEXT MEETING MAY 20, 2024

Chair Root announced that the next meeting would be held on Monday, May 20, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Anita Protos, 901 Bayshore Drive, commented on the Planning & Zoning section and felt that the final decisions on minor actions should stay with the Board of Commissioner and that the Board of Adjustments should have less power than they have currently.

Mr. Seamon agreed that there was an inconsistency with how both Boards work and thought they should be in line, so process was similar between the two.

BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Chair Root asked for Board and staff comments and there were none.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Root adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

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DR. ROOT, CHAIR

ATTEST:

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IRENE S. JACOBS, CMC  
CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

*CITY CLERK'S NOTE: This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the recordings are kept on file in the City Clerk's Office for the required retention period.*