



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
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024
10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

1. Review and Discuss BOC comments on draft ordinance
2. City Clerk and City Attorney to review next steps

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to 4 minutes)

BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

BOC REVIEW

Section 3. – Limitation of Powers

(b) The acquisition by the city of real property under the power of eminent domain, storm drainage improvements and dredge and spoil sites; or

Maybe List

(h) The purchase, sale, exchange, conveyance or leasing of real property or any interest therein, excluding parks, recreation, and waterfront property, except for their purchase, for a sum less than \$500,000.00 which is approved by the affirmative vote of four members of the board of commissioners. The board of commissioner(s) will identify funding source, adopt sale, purchase, conveyance and leasing procedures by ordinance to govern this paragraph. BOC Okay with (Question 1)

(i) Real property purchased by the City by public referendum or real property which has a value equal to or greater than the maximum value the City may purchase without requiring a referendum, may not be sold, swapped or traded without first receiving approval by a public referendum. BOC Okay with (Question 2)

Section 8. – Board of Commissioners, Composition, Duties, responsibilities, and Powers

(d) To adopt a City budget as prescribed by law in conjunction with reviewing the Charter for funding requirements. Remove, should be policy

(i) ~~To review and update, every three fiscal years beginning October 1, 2020 all elements of the Comprehensive Plan in addition to all implementation master plans in existence currently or in the future.~~ As a result of the effects of population growth, environmental changes and impacts, including the introduction of invasive species, the City of Tarpon Springs shall maintain a Sustainability Plan and committee which shall provide for the improvement and maintenance of the environmental, social and economic vitality of the City of Tarpon Springs and allocate adequate resources to implement the plan. Okay to remove strikethrough section, added portion
remove, should be a policy

(j) To review and update the Comprehensive Plan in coordination with the state required Evaluation and Appraisal review cycle. Conduct an interim review of the City's Comprehensive Plan at the mid-point of the state mandated Evaluation and Appraisal cycle. Remove, should be policy

(k) To review, update, retire, abandon or deem completed all City Master and Action Plans, every five fiscal years beginning October 1, 2024. Maybe List

(l) To review and update, every ~~three~~ five fiscal years beginning October 1, 2023 4, a Citywide Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan shall be implemented and utilized for creating city policy, budgeting and capital project planning, consistent with its mission statement, core values, and vision statement. BOC Okay with (Question 3)

Section 11. – Terms of Office, Qualifications, Date of annual election

(a) The municipal election to select the board of commissioners shall be held on the second Tuesday in March. All elections shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis without regard for the political party affiliation of any party. Candidates for the office of city commissioner shall qualify for a single specific seat. The qualifying time for the office of city commissioner shall be thirty (30) days prior to the qualifying period. A notice, by First Class mail, shall be sent to all City registered voters thirty (30) days prior to the qualifying period identifying all Commission seats open for election and indicating who currently holds the seat and their eligibility for reelection. The information shall also be posted on the City's social media site and announced in a Press Release. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for the office of mayor, and for each respective seat, shall be declared elected, if otherwise qualified. Remove

Section 12. – Zoning Powers

The board of commissioners shall have all powers concerning land use as may be prescribed by general law. Provided, however, that the board of commissioners shall appoint a board of adjustment to be composed of five members, and two alternates, who shall vote in the absence of a regular member, to hear and decide appeals solely from administrative staff decisions for special exceptions and for variances to zoning and land use regulations of the City. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the board of adjustment may present a petition to a court of competent jurisdiction setting forth that such decision is illegal, in whole or in part, specifying the grounds of the illegality, within 30 days of the decision of the board of adjustment. The board of commissioners shall appoint a planning and zoning commission to advise the board of commissioners on issues concerning land use and such other powers as may be provided by law.

Maybe List (not needed)

Section 13. Interference with administration

Except for the purpose of inquiries and investigations, the board of commissioners or its members individually shall deal with city officers and employees who are subject to the direction and supervision of a charter officer solely through the charter officer who supervises that city officer or employee, and neither the board of commissioners nor its members individually shall give orders to any such officer or employee, either publicly or privately. Nothing in the foregoing is to be construed to prohibit individual commissioners from closely scrutinizing by questions and personal observation, all aspects of city government operations so as to obtain independent information to assist the members in the formulation of sound policies to be considered by the board of commissioners. ~~It is the express intent of the Charter, however, that recommendations for improvement in city operations, under the jurisdiction of the city manager, by individual commissioners be made to and through the city manager, so that the manager may coordinate efforts of all city departments to achieve the greatest possible savings through the most efficient and sound means available.~~

BOC Okay with (Question 4)

Section 14. – Internal Auditor

(i) Through audits, recommend improvements to ensure city resources are being used economically and efficiently. Report all findings or non-compliance issues to the City Manager and the City Attorney to review before being provided to the Board of Commissioners. ~~Remove, already added as policy since issue occurred~~

Section 16. – City Manager; Acting City Manager and Assistant City Manager

(g.) Keep the board of commissioners fully advised as to the financial condition and future needs of the city, prioritizing future capital improvement programs, and make such recommendations to the board of commissioners concerning the affairs of the city; ~~Remove, already a policy~~

[(3) Assistant city manager.] The city manager shall appoint, in writing, an assistant city manager, subject to the approval of the board of commissioners. The assistant city manager shall be appointed solely on their executive and administrative qualifications. The assistant city manager is subject to the same residency requirements as the city manager. The duties of the assistant manager shall be assigned by the city manager but shall include the exercise of the powers and performance duties of the city manager during the city manager's absence from the city. The assistant city manager shall serve as the acting city manager. ~~Remove~~

Section 20. – Residency

The City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Fire Chief and Police Chief are required to reside within the city limits as defined by the City's planning boundary (North: Pasco County border, South: Klosterman Road, East: East Lake Road). Established City employees who are promoted to one of the positions above do not have to meet the residency requirements unless they change their residence during their employment in the positions above. BOC Okay with, remove Assistant City Manager (Question 5)

All Department Heads and Directors, who are not listed above, are required to live within ten (10) miles of the Tarpon Springs City Hall. Established City employees who are promoted to Department Head or Director do not have to meet this residency requirement unless they change their residency during their employment as a Department Head or Director. If the Department Heads or Directors change their residency they must reside within ten (10) miles of the Tarpon Springs City Hall.

Remove

Section 23. – General

The city manager shall not be authorized to transfer funds between departments nor borrow from one fund to benefit another fund, without the prior consent of the board of commissioners. Except as provided in Section 24, the City Manager is authorized to expend up to ~~\$25,000.00~~ \$50,000.00 for budgeted goods or services without competitive bidding. All purchases of ~~\$25,000.00~~ \$50,000.00 or more, ~~for which bids are required according to state statute,~~ shall be awarded upon an open, competitive, and sealed bid basis, by advertising on at least one occasion in a newspaper of general circulation, with at least ten days between publication and bid opening or other means of advertising as deemed appropriate by the board of commissioners. The most responsible bid shall be accepted by the board of commissioners, and signed by the mayor or city manager and attested by the city clerk and collector. Any such instrument otherwise executed shall be void and of no legal effect. If no bids are received, the board of commissioners may award the contract without bid.

BOC Okay with (Question 6)

~~Monthly financial statements shall be made available in the office of the city clerk and collector, and quarterly financial statements shall be made available in the public library~~

BOC Okay – Combine with question 6

Section 10. Proposed amendment to Section 26 of the City Charter to provide for the adoption of a sidewalk improvement plan and increase the budgeted funds

~~The street and sidewalk improvement investment fund shall be renamed the sidewalk improvement fund.~~ The balance and interest in such a fund shall be used solely for sidewalk improvements, repairs or extensions within existing roadways of the City, in accordance with the provisions of this Section. Such funds shall only be invested in compliance with Chapter 218, Florida Statutes. The City shall adopt a sidewalk improvement plan by 2029. Remove, already a policy and priority done through a rating system

The board of commissioners, by resolution, may direct the withdrawal and use of the balance of the fund provided that:

~~The amount withdrawn from the fund is less than or equal to the amount appropriated in the City's Capital Improvement Program Budget for sidewalk improvements;~~ The city shall appropriate a minimum of \$300,000.00, per year to be expended on sidewalk improvement during the year the funds are budgeted; BOC Okay with (Question 7)

The amount withdrawn does not exceed \$4300,000.00, per fiscal year;

Section 30. Initiative and referendum

The electorate shall have the power of initiative to propose ordinances to the board of commissioners and the power of referendum to require the reconsideration by the electorate of any adopted ordinance. Such powers shall be commenced by the petition addressed to the board of commissioners which contains the verified signatures of at least 45-10 percent of the qualified electors registered to vote at the last regular municipal election. All petitions shall be filed with the city clerk, along with the affidavit of five qualified voters supporting such petitions, which voters shall constitute the petitioners' committee. If the city clerk finds the petitions do not comply with the above requirements, the city clerk shall notify such committee within 48 hours of the particulars of such deficiency. Maybe List

Section 32. Amendments

Such referendum election shall be held 90 days from the date of filing thereof, or as soon thereafter as the supervisor of elections shall permit. **at the next city or county election.** If conflicting ordinances are approved at the same election, that ordinance receiving the greater number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict. **BOC Okay with (Question 8)**

Such commission shall be composed of seven members, and the affirmative vote of four such members shall be required to propose any change to this Charter. Such commission shall receive comments from the board of commissioners, Charter officials, and the public, and shall then transmit proposed Charter amendments, in ordinance form, to the board of commissioners, for further comment. The board of commissioners shall, within 30 days, return the proposed amendments to the charter revision commission, with its recommended proposals. After review thereof, the charter revision commission shall make its own final report to the board of commissioners, in ordinance form, which shall be adopted verbatim by the board of commissioners. The board of commissioners shall, within 120 days from of such final report, hold an election on the recommended proposals **proposed Charter revisions.** In the same election, the board of commissioners may sponsor its own proposals, and also including **include** public initiative proposals. The referendum summary shall advise the public as to whether the proposal is sponsored by the charter revision commission, by the board of commissioners, or by public initiative. In the event of any conflict among proposals, that proposal receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict. **BOC Okay with (combine with question 8)**

Section 14. Proposed amendment to Section 33 of the City Charter to update the name of the **Leasee** of the City hospital to **Tarpon Springs Hospital Foundation, Inc.** and to clarify that future leases and amendments to leases or articles of incorporation shall only involve city owned property:

Section 33. - City hospital.

The board of commissioners shall require in all leases of the city owned **hospital** property **leased by Tarpon Springs Hospital Foundation, Inc.** that: ~~now known as Advent Health North Pinellas,~~

(a) ~~Advent Health North Pinellas~~ **Tarpon Springs Hospital Foundation, Inc.,** and all its successors and assigns, may not unilaterally amend its articles of incorporation without the ratification of the electorate of the City, and

(b) This Section shall be required to be referenced in any lease or agreement between ~~Advent Health North Pinellas~~ **Tarpon Springs Hospital Foundation, Inc.,** and all its successors and assigns, of that **city owned** property and any third party.

BOC Okay with (Question 9)