



City of Edgewater

104 N. Riverside Drive
Edgewater, FL 32132

Meeting Minutes Charter Review Committee

Thursday, December 18, 2025

4:00 PM

Council Chambers

We respectfully request that all electronic devices are set for no audible notification.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Chairman Conroy called to order at 4:00 PM on Thursday, December 18, 2025, by Chairman Conroy.

Present 5 - Chairman Gary Conroy, Board Member Donna McDavid, Board Member Mandi Bullard, Board Member Patrick Fisher and Board Member Linda Mojer

Also Present 4 - City Clerk Sara Geiger, Assistant to the City Clerk Monique Toupin, City Manager Joe Mahoney and City Attorney Aaron Wolfe

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting - December 10, 2025

A motion was made by Board Member McDavid, second by Board Member Bullard, to accept meeting minutes for December 10, 2025 as written and provided. The MOTION was APPROVED by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Gary Conroy, Donna McDavid, Mandi Bullard, Patrick Fisher and Linda Mojer

3. CHARTER REVIEW

Mr. Conroy suggested adding citizen comments to future agendas to allow the public to provide input. The committee agreed this would be beneficial.

Mr. Fisher raised the issue of obtaining input from other entities within the City, including Council and staff. He suggested that City Manager Mahoney could query department heads for input. Mr. Fisher noted that staff might be reluctant to speak directly in meetings, so an anonymous feedback mechanism might be beneficial. The committee agreed that soliciting input from staff would be valuable.

The committee discussed planning for public input beyond the already scheduled January 17, 2026 meeting specifically for residents. Ms. Bullard suggested considering a meeting prior to the City Council Meeting. City Manager Mahoney advised of a possible agenda item to solicit information from citizens.

Mr. Fisher also expressed that the committee should consider all suggestions, even those potentially restricted by Senate Bill 180, since the bill has an end date and the committee only convenes every five years. He noted it would be helpful to at least document ideas for future consideration.

The committee then began a section-by-section review of the charter:

Section 1.01 General Powers: The committee discussed the 35-foot height restriction east of U.S 1

Section 1.02 Construction: No changes were noted or discussed

Section 2.01 Corporate Limits: The committee briefly reviewed the description of the corporate limits.

Section 3.01 Composition: No changes were noted or discussed

Section 3.02 Districts: The committee discussed the makeup of council districts and the potential future need for redistricting, particularly as new developments like Deering Park grow. Ms. Mojer asked when redistricting was last done and questioned the adequacy of using the decennial census for redistricting timing.

Section 3.03 Qualifications: No changes were noted or discussed

Section 3.04 Elections and Terms: The committee discussed the canvassing board and asked for clarification on who serves on the canvassing board.

Section 3.05 Compensation: The committee had an extensive discussion regarding compensation for the mayor and council members. Chairman Conroy shared his personal experience that the current compensation is insufficient given the time commitment and expenses involved in representing the City at various meetings and organizations. He suggested giving council members the option to take monetary compensation in lieu of health care benefits if they don't need the City's insurance. The committee also discussed the need for comparative data on compensation from similar-sized cities. Additionally, the committee discussed council being entitled to per diem when traveling or attending events.

Section 3.06: No changes were noted or discussed

Section 3.07 General Powers and Duties; Municipal Government Training: The committee suggested shortening the two-year time frame for completing required training, recommending either 6 months or one year instead. Mr. Conroy suggested consulting with current council members about their experiences with the training timeline.

Section 3.08 Prohibitions: The committee raised concerns about potential loopholes regarding elected officials taking jobs with other cities after leaving office. The committee requested City Attorney Wolfe research this issue. The committee also mentioned consulting with the Finance Director regarding the percentages for the net taxable value of debt as well as maintaining a percentage of all operating funds.

Meeting went into Recess at 4:57 PM

Meeting Reconvened at 5:05 PM

Section 3.09 Vacancies: The committee discussed adding specific reference to Florida Statute 112 in the City Charter to ensure clarity.

Section 3.10: No changes were noted or discussed

Section 3.11: Procedure - Rules and Journal: The committee discussed the citizens' comments portion of Council meetings. Mr. Conroy expressed support for maintaining both the beginning and end comment periods, and some members discussed whether three minutes was sufficient time for speakers. Ms. McDavid suggested allowing citizens to request additional time if needed.

Section 3.11 Procedure - Voting: City Attorney Wolfe noted that Edgewater's requirement for three votes to pass an Ordinance or Resolution is somewhat unusual. Ms. McDavid inquired about making certain topics require a super majority vote, particularly for significant zoning changes or environmental impacts. Attorney Wolf agreed to research the legality of such a provision.

Section 3.12 Ordinances and Resolutions: No changes were noted or discussed

Section 3.13 Initiative and Referendum: No changes were noted or discussed

The committee continued through Sections 4.01-4.06 regarding the City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk. The committee suggested adding requirements for annual performance evaluations for these positions, and requiring all Council members to participate in these evaluations.

Concerns were raised about the vulnerability of having all three Charter Officers (City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk) under direct council supervision, noting that a council could potentially remove all three simultaneously, severely disrupting city operations. Suggestions were made to potentially move the City Clerk position under the city manager's supervision to provide more stability and employment protections.

At this point, the committee agreed to stop at Section 4.07 and continue the review at the next meeting.

4. ADJOURN

With no other official business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:05 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Sara Geiger, City Clerk

Pursuant to Chapter 286, F.S., if an individual decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, that individual will need a record of the proceedings and will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made. The City does not prepare or provide such record.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact City Clerk Sara Geiger, 104 N. Riverside Drive, Edgewater, Florida, telephone number 386-424-2400 x 1101, 5 days prior to the meeting date. If you are hearing or voice impaired, contact the relay operator at 1-800-955-8771

One or more members of City Council or other advisory boards may be present.