



LEE'S SUMMIT MISSOURI

ACTION LETTER

CITY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM

6:00 p.m., January 12, 2026

Dana Arth

Mark Schaufler

Mike Sharp

Melanie Adkins

Michael VanBuskirk

Yvonne Ventimiglia

Donna Gordon

Andrew Felker

Hannah Boudreau

Jennifer Miller

Brandon Lawson

Molly Pesce

Staff Liaisons

Brian Head

Christal Weber

Trisha Fowler Arcuri

Ed Rucker

- 1. Call to Order:** The January 12, 2026, City Charter Review Commission was called to order at 6:17 p.m.
- 2. Swearing in of Commissioner:** All commissioners present were sworn into their position as Charter Review Commission Commissioners.
- 3. Roll Call:** Dana Arth, Melanie Adkins, Donna Gordon, Jennifer Miller, Mark Schaufler, Michael VanBuskirk, Andrew Felker, Mike Sharp, Yvonne Ventimiglia, Hannah Boudreau, Molly Pesce

Absent: Brandon Lawson

Staff present: Brian Head, Christal Weber, Ed Rucker

4. Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson:

Nominations for Chairperson:

Mark Schaufler nominated Andrew Felker. Melanie Adkins nominated Michael VanBuskirk.

The Commission voted unanimously (Commissioner Lawson absent) that Mr. Andrew Felker would be the Chairperson for the 2026 Charter Review Commission.

Nominations for Vice Chairperson:

Yvonne Ventimiglia nominated Michael VanBuskirk.

The Commission voted unanimously (Commissioner Lawson absent) that Mr. Michael VanBuskirk would be the vice Chairperson for the 2026 Charter Review Commission.

5. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Schaufler to approve the January 12, 2026 Charter Review Commission agenda as published. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. Adopt Regular Meeting Schedule

After discussion it was determined the 2026 Charter Review Commission would be regularly on the third Monday of each month at 6:00pm at City Hall. The first meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 due to the President's Day holiday on Monday, February 16, 2026. They also determined they would agree to meet virtually if needed due to inclement weather.

7. Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

8. Overview of Charter

Mr. Brian Head, City Attorney, provided an overview of the Charter and duties of the Commissioners during the review process.

9. Brief Overview of Previous Ballots

The Commission discussed previous ballot measure and asked for additional documentation for certain changes made with the 2016-2017 ballot measures.

10. Discussion

The Commission had brief discussion on moving forward and what areas they would like to review. This will be discussed in more detail at the February meeting.

11. Next Steps: Charter Review by sections

Next steps were discussed and the process of reviewing the entire Charter. This will be discussed further at the February meeting and action steps will be outlined at that time.

The January 12, 2026 Charter Review Commission meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

January 2026 – Brainstorm

Articles in Charter Attached to Ideas

- Transparency
 - publishing notices Sunshine Law – Not Charter

- Elected Official Compensation
 - Including Judicial Article III – City Council
Section 3.3
Section 3.10 (g)
Article IV - Mayor
Section 4.3
Article VII – Municipal Court
Section 7.2 (i)

- Possible Efficiencies N/A

- Term Limit Changes
 - Consider removing “set out period”/no limits Article III – City Council
Section 3.2 (c)
 - Consider limiting term of Mayor Pro Tempore Article IV – Mayor
Section 4.2 (b)
Article V – City Manager
Section 5.1
Article VII – Municipal Court
Section 7.2 (a)
Article VIII – Parks Board
Section. 8.1 (a)

- Required Training for Elected Officials N/A

- Mayor Pro Tempore Appointment
 - Learn and discuss how appointed Article III – City Council
Section 3.4
 - Consider limiting term

- Rules for Council Voting
 - Learn about current requirements Article III – City Council
Section 3.13 (c)

January 2026 – Brainstorm

Articles in Charter Attached to Ideas

- Employee Feedback N/A
 - What items do staff think need reviewed and addressed

- Council Districts Article IX
 - Number of Districts Section 9.4
 - How elected, at-large vs. in district N/A

- Reflect Modern Needs & Mechanism N/A

- Council Accountability for Decision Making N/A

- Ensure Charter Guides, but Does Not Limit Too Strictly N/A
 - Make sure can address changes in community

- Make Sure Language is Not Dated N/A
 - Meet legal needs, but modern, easy to read

- Link Charter to References/Annotated Codes N/A