

CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA
City Charter Commission
City Hall, 5440 Fulton Industrial Blvd., South Fulton, GA 30336
September 20, 2022



Attendees: **Benny Crane (Arrived at 6:16 PM)**
 William “Bill” Edwards, Chair
 Doree Henry (Arrived at 6:06 PM)
 John Herring
 Judge Kenya Johnson, Vice Chair
 Daphne Jordan
 Cecily Cole Martin
 Marshall J. Taggart, Jr.

Staff: **Corey Adams, Sr., City Clerk**
 Reginald McClendon, Assistant City Attorney
 Katherine Vernet, Assistant City Attorney

Meeting Summary Minutes

Chairman Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Chairman Edwards asked for a moment of silence in observance of the passing of the mother of Suzanne Ockleberry.

The roll call was conducted. A quorum was present. Dedrain “Dee” Franklin and Suzanne Ockleberry were absent. Daphne Jordan was present via Zoom; however, technical difficulties prevented her from voting.

The pledge of allegiance was recited in unison.

Mr. Herring moved the approval of the meeting agenda as printed. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Judge Johnson moved the approval of the August 16, 2022 and September 6, 2022, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taggart. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Edwards requested that the clerk review the sections covered in the previous meeting including which sections were held for discussion and a vote when a quorum was present.

Section 4.13

Chairman Edwards recommended that the city clerk be placed back under direct supervision of the city council as opposed to the city manager. This structure was included in the original charter. Additionally, Chairman Edwards advised that the city council was also taking similar action at its next regular Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Herring and seconded by Ms. Henry that the

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Section 4.13 provide that the Mayor shall nominate the city clerk and the city council shall confirm the appointment. The motion was approved unanimously.

Section 4.14

A motion was made by Judge Johnson and seconded by Mr. Crane that Section 4.4 is amended to read, "The city council shall confirm the appointment of the finance director by the city manager and provide for the compensation of the finance director." The motion was approved unanimously.

Section 6-A.4

A motion was made by Mr. Crane and seconded by Ms. Henry that Section 6-A.4 is amended to add a paragraph as follows: "The ethics panel should consist of not less than nine no more than fifteen qualified individuals that may be an attorney or a private citizen. Each councilmember shall appoint two individuals, one shall be an attorney and one shall be a private citizen. The mayor shall appoint one individual who may be an attorney or a private citizen." The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made to reconsider the previously approved motion. Mr. Taggart seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Judge Johnson moved that the prior motion be amended to state that every councilmember would have two appointments, one of which shall be an attorney. Each ethics panel shall consist of three members and would have a minimum of one attorney on each ethics panel as selected randomly by the city clerk. The body agreed to permit the city clerk and law office to wordsmith the language regarding requirements for the ethics panel members- including attorneys and non-attorneys. The motion was approved unanimously.

Section 7.18

Ms. Henry moved that the language in Section 7.18 is amended as follows:

A review of the city charter shall occur every five years, or sooner as deemed necessary by the city council. The method of selection shall remain the same as the current selection process for the charter commission. The motion was approved unanimously.

The city clerk reminded the body about the prior discussion at the September 6, 2022 meeting in which a proposed remaining schedule consisted of a review of the revised charter at the October 4, 2022 meeting and a public hearing for the public on October 18, 2022.

A motion was made by Mr. Crane to have a public hearing on the revised charter on October 4, 2022 and have a potential final meeting on October 18, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taggart. The motion failed 2-5. Chair Edwards, Vice Chair Johnson, Mr. Herring, Ms. Henry and Ms. Martin voted in opposition.

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Judge Johnson moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Henry. The motion was approved by unanimous consent. The meeting concluded at 7:08 PM.

Note: Video of the meeting is available on Youtube and verbatim minutes are being developed.

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