

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO. C-6989

COUNCIL SPONSOR: LAUGHLIN/IMPASTATO

PROVIDED BY: CIVIL DA/COUNCIL OFFICE

ON THE 1ST DAY OF AUGUST, 2024

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A HOME RULE CHARTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO DESIGNATE MEMBERS THERETO, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS.

WHEREAS, St. Tammany Parish is governed by a Home Rule Charter which was adopted by the electors of this Parish on October 3, 1998, and which has been amended by a majority vote of the electors in November 2015 and March 2016; and,

WHEREAS, due to the continuing growth of St. Tammany Parish and the evolving nature of government, it is necessary and proper to make periodic review of the Home Rule Charter to ensure that it is best serving the residents of St. Tammany Parish; and,

WHEREAS, Sec. 8-05 of the Home Rule Charter authorizes the Parish Council to appoint advisory committees to provide advice regarding the operations of the parish government; and,

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Charter advisory committee will have no administrative or legislative authority. Its role will be to review the Parish's Home Rule Charter and to prepare a report to the St. Tammany Parish Council to advise whether any revisions or amendments to the Home Rule Charter are warranted, and to provide a justification for same; and,

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Charter advisory committee will be made up of four (4) members of the St. Tammany Parish Council to be named by the Council Chairman; the Parish President, or his designee; a member of the St. Tammany Parish Administration to be named by the Parish President; the District Attorney for St. Tammany Parish; and four (4) members of the public to be nominated and appointed by the Parish Council; and,

WHEREAS, any recommendations made by the Home Rule Charter advisory committee to amend the Charter must receive the approval of a two-thirds majority of the full membership of the Parish Council to be placed on a ballot and must be approved by a majority vote of the electors in St. Tammany Parish voting on any particular proposal to become adopted; and,

WHEREAS, it is the express intent of the Parish Council that the Home Rule Charter advisory committee created herein shall not be construed as a Charter Commission pursuant to Louisiana Constitution of 1971, Article VI, § 5; and,

WHEREAS, the following provisions shall govern the structure, procedures, and timeline of the Home Rule Charter advisory committee.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES to establish an advisory committee, pursuant to Sec. 8-05 of the Charter, to review the St. Tammany Parish Home Rule Charter and issue a report to the St. Tammany Parish Council making recommendations for any revisions or amendments thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Home Rule Charter advisory committee shall consist of eleven (11) members appointed as follows:

Four (4) members of the Parish Council to be named by the Chairman of the Parish Council

The Parish President, or his designee

One (1) member of the St. Tammany Parish Administration to be named by the Parish President

The District Attorney for St. Tammany Parish

Four (4) members of the public to be nominated and appointed by the Parish Council

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Home Rule Charter advisory committee shall select a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at their first meeting to preside over meetings of the committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first meeting of the Home Rule Charter advisory committee shall be convened in January 2025, that the committee shall meet twice a month at the St. Tammany Parish Council Chambers, and that Parish staff and the Civil Division of the District Attorney’s Office be available to assist the committee as needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that meetings of the Home Rule Charter advisory committee shall comply with Louisiana Open Meetings Law in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes § 42:11, et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after the St. Tammany Parish Home Rule Charter, the advisory committee shall submit a written report of its findings, including any recommended revisions or amendments to the Charter, to the Parish Council no later than May 1, 2025.

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____ SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 1ST DAY OF AUGUST, 2024 AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

ARTHUR A. LAUGHLIN, COUNCIL CHAIR

ATTEST:

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK