

To: City Council
From: Councilor Gerson
Re: Charter Review Committee
Date: May 25, 2021

The City Charter review committee began deliberations on September 22, 2020. We met monthly from that date until April 27, 2021. During that time, we reviewed charters from other cities comparable to Sweet Home, and perused the sample charter from the League of Oregon Cities.

Each section of the existing charter was discussed and changes were proposed for several areas:

1. The addition of a preamble
2. The election of the mayor by the citizens rather than the council
3. Term limits for the mayor and president pro tem
4. The reading of ordinances
5. Addressing annexation
6. The lengthy description of the City Manager's responsibilities
7. The format of the charter itself
8. The cost of an election for the public to vote on changes

The recommendation of the committee is to leave the charter in its current form with no changes. The consensus of the committee to forego any changes centered on the cost of the election outweighing the few changes which might be agreed upon.

Respectfully submitted



Diane Gerson
Councilor and chair of the Charter Committee