

Charter Review Commission Recommendations adopted May 16, 2011

Section 3.15(d): Ordinances in General - Effective date.

Every ordinance shall be effective upon adoption, or at any later times specified in the ordinance; however, no ordinance imposing a penalty, fine, or forfeiture shall become effective until the caption of the ordinance, which shall summarize the purpose of the ordinance and the penalty for violating the ordinance has been published one time on the city's official website or other electronic media that is readily accessible to the public. An ordinance passed on first reading by at least three affirmative votes may become effective after first reading provided the motion so specifies, but the ordinance shall be posted and adopted at a subsequent meeting as required by section 3.15(b).

Section 4.05(d): Personnel Appeal Board.

All commissioned peace officers that are regular, full-time employees or regular, part-time employees of the City (excluding the Police Chief and any other commissioned peace officers that do not report to the Police Chief or any contract employees) who have completed their initial probationary period, may appeal a disciplinary action resulting in a placement on suspension greater than 15 calendar days, a demotion to a lower rank or classification, or a termination of employment to a three-member Personnel Appeal Board panel. The following procedures apply to the Personnel Appeal Board:

Section 5.01(c): Registered voter list.

A list of registered voters within the city for Travis County voters is available through the Travis County tax assessor-collector. A list of registered voters within the city for Williamson County voters is available through the Williamson County elections administrator.

Section 5.04: Canvassing. The city council shall canvass the returns and declare the results in accordance with state election law. The returns of every municipal election shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the vote is canvassed by totals for each candidate or “for” and “against” each issue submitted.

Section 7.06(c) Publication of proposed or referred ordinance:

The city secretary shall publish the proposed or referred ordinance on the city's official website or other electronic media that is readily accessible to the public for the fifteen days preceding the election. The caption of the proposed or referred ordinance shall also be posted at city hall for at least fifteen days preceding the election, and copies shall be available at city hall upon request.

Section 8.07(d): Texas Open Meetings Act.

The City of Pflugerville shall conduct all its meetings in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

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Section 9.03(a): Annual Budget - Content.

The budget shall provide a complete financial plan of all city funds and activities and, except as required by law or this charter, shall be in a form that the manager deems desirable or that the council may require. A budget message explaining the budget both in fiscal terms and in terms of city programs shall be submitted with the budget. The budget message shall (1) outline the proposed financial policies of the city for the coming fiscal year, (2) describe the important features of the budget, (3) indicate any major changes from the current year in financial policies, expenditures, and revenues, with reasons for such changes, (4) summarize the city's debt position, and (5) include other material as the manager deems necessary or desirable.

The budget shall begin with a clear general summary of its contents and shall show in detail all estimated income, based on the proposed property tax levy and all proposed expenditures, including debt service, for the coming fiscal year. The proposed budget expenditures shall not exceed the total of estimated income and any fund balances available from prior years. For every budget adopted after the 1997-1998 fiscal year budget, except in the event of an emergency under 9.04 (b), the adopted budget must include an unencumbered general fund balance that is at least sufficient to cover three months of the city's budgeted general fund operation and maintenance expenses.

Section 9.03 (c) Public notice and hearing.

The council shall post in the city hall and on the city's official website or other electronic media that is readily accessible to the public a general summary of the proposed budget and a notice stating the times and places where copies of the message and budget are available for inspection by the public and the time and place for a public hearing on the budget. The public hearing must be held not fewer than ten or more than thirty days after publication of the notice.

Section 9.04(b): Amendments After Adoption – Emergency Appropriations.

To meet a public emergency created by a natural disaster or man-made calamity affecting life, health, property, or the public peace, the council may make emergency appropriations by emergency ordinance in accordance with the provisions of this charter. If there are no available unappropriated revenues or general fund balances to meet such appropriations, the council may by emergency ordinance authorize the issuance of renewable emergency notes sufficient to fund the appropriation. The three-month general fund operating reserve requirement may be suspended by a resolution approved by Council. The resolution should reference the extenuating/emergency situation that created the expending of reserves below the three-month level; and, should also provide a proposed process and timeline for rebuilding the three-month reserve.

Section 10.03: Enacting Franchise Ordinances:

An ordinance granting, renewing, extending, or amending a public utility franchise shall be read at three consecutive regular city council meetings. Final action shall not occur until at least twenty-eight days after first reading. Within ten days after first reading of the ordinance, the caption of the ordinance and a statement indicating where and how to obtain copies of the full

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ordinance shall be published on the city's official website or other electronic media that is readily accessible to the public.

Section 11.02: Official Notice.

All ordinances, notices, and other matters required to be published by this charter, city ordinances, or the State constitution or laws shall be published on the city's official website or other electronic media that is readily accessible to the public.