Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Charter Review Committee Agenda

1. Opening Remarks by Chair Baarsma

2. Presentations by the Chairs of the Charter Review Subcommittees
   a. Form of Government – Ken Miller
   b. Article II Legislative – Justin Leighton
   c. Article III Administrative – Eric Hahn
   d. Article IV Public Utilities – Mark Martinez
   e. Human Resources – Terri Baker

3. Questions and comments from the public addressed by the panel of Subcommittee Chairs
   Citizens can participate in several ways:
   a. Approximately 7500 citizens will receive a random invitation call to listen to the telephone town hall on their phone and a prompt will be provided to ask a question or leave a comment
   b. Call City Hall at 253-591-5505 to speak to a live attendant
   c. Email: Charterreview@ciyoftacoma.org
   d. Post on Facebook: facebook.com/cityoftacoma
   e. Twitter @cityoftacoma
   f. Attend in person at Council Chambers at 747 Market Street, Tacoma

4. Closing Remarks

5. Adjournment
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City of Tacoma
Charter Review Subcommittee Chairs

Telephone Town Hall
April 17, 2014
Form of Government

Chair Ken Miller

- Emergence of “Type 3” cities across America

- Growing acknowledgement neither pure “strong Mayor” nor “Council/Manager” works completely
  - City government needs professional management
  - Cities have diverse, and sometimes conflicting, needs
  - Cities succeed through relationships with other governments and the private sector
Form of Government

- A hybrid called Mayor/Council/CAO is spreading rapidly
  - Truly democratic, “letting” voters choose all their leaders
  - Combines a professional “inside” person to manage government with an energetic “political” leader for the City
  - Has checks and balances to guard against the old style boss
- Why here and now?
  - We’re not nearly as good as we can be
Article II Legislative Branch
Chair Justin Leighton

- Overview
  - Term limits
  - Council composition and number of districts
  - Council compensation
  - Powers and responsibility of the people
  - Council and Mayor
Article II Legislative Branch

Substantive Amendments:

- Section 2.3 – Council Compensation
  - Deleting current language and replacing with a Citizen Commission on Compensation

- Section 2.13 – Emergency Moratoriums
  - Deleting “after publication” and inserting upon passage

- New Section – Adding Neighborhood Councils
Article II Legislative Branch

Housekeeping Amendments:

- Section 2.4 – Mayor Vacancies
  - Keeping consistent with state law
- Section 2.7 – Council Vacancies
  - Keeping consistent with state law
- Section 2.8 – Council meeting frequency
  - Providing clearer language and consistent with current practices
- Sections 2.19 and 2.20 – Citizen Initiatives and Referendums
  - Keeping consistent with state law and Pierce County Auditor policies and practices
Article III
Administrative Branch
Chair Eric Hahn

- Overview
  - Section 3.2 – Staff support for Council
  - Section 3.4 – Exception to City Manager’s authority
  - Section 3.5 – Appointment of City Attorney
  - Section 3.7 – City Clerk
  - Section 3.13 – Landmark Preservation Commission
Article IV Public Utilities
Chair Mark Martinez

- Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU)
  - Reduce terms of office and increase number of terms for Utility Board members
  - Allow City Council to propose projects to the Utility Board
  - Require performance audit of TPU by the Utility Board every five years
Article IV Public Utilities

- Tacoma Public Utilities
  - Examination of all utility assets by management consultant every 10 years
  - Require annual Utility Director performance review and reconfirm appointment every two years
  - Require certain City employees and members of boards and commissions to file a Personal Financial Affairs Statement
Human Resources
Chair Terri Baker

- City residency requirement
- Discriminatory actions
- Neighborhood Councils
- Gender neutral language
- Housekeeping
  - Election law to match state law
  - Personnel to Human Resources
  - Article X Transition
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