



**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
AGENDA
MONDAY MARCH 2, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1225 MAIN STREET, SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. February 2, 2026 Minutes
- 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. Article II City Council Sec. 2.02 Eligibility
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Article III Administration and Legal Departments Sec. 3.01-Sec 3.08
 - B. Article IV Elections Sec. 4.01-Sec 4.14
- 7. STAFF MATTERS**
- 8. COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS**
- 9. ITEMS FOR MONDAY MARCH 9, 2026 AGENDA**
- 10. ADJOURN**

NOTICE: NO STENOGRAPHIC RECORD BY A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER WILL BE MADE OF THE FOREGOING MEETING. ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING OR HEARING, THEY WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE HEARD. (F.S.286.0105)

NOTICE: IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) OF 1990, ANYONE WHO NEEDS A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY'S SEATING ADA COORDINATOR (772) 388-8222 – ADA@CITYOFSEBASTIAN.ORG AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING.

HEARING ASSISTANCE HEADPHONES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS FOR ALL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS.

**CITY OF SEBASTIAN
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1225 MAIN STREET, SEBASTIAN, FLORIDA**

1. Call to Order – Chair Vicki Drumheller called the Charter Review Committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

3. ROLL CALL

Present:

Chair Vicki Drumheller
Vice Chair Grace Reed
Jeanne Hill
Bill Fynn
Scott Liberatore
Charles Stadelman (Zoom, then arrived at 7:19pm)
Richard Gillmor
Tim Borden
Sharon Herman
Susan Lorusso
Felicia Hollorman
Wanda Simmons
David Moore
Nicholas Scheskowsky
Tegpreet Singh (Zoom)

Also Present:

Council Member Matthews
Brian Benton, City Manager
Jim Stokes, Interim City Attorney
Cathy Testa, Acting City Clerk
Bridget Eakins, Recording Secretary

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review Article 2: City Council

During the discussion of elected official compensation, Chair Drumheller introduced the item and referenced the memorandum and comparative compensation document presented by City Attorney Stokes. Attorney Stokes clarified that any proposed change to elected official compensation would require voter approval through a charter amendment and emphasized the importance of clear ballot language to avoid voter confusion.

Mr. Borden stated that he believed an increase was justified, given that compensation had remained unchanged for approximately twenty years. However, he expressed concern with adopting a formula-based approach, particularly one tied to population or growth metrics, noting that such a structure could create negative public perception or appear overly complex. He advocated instead for a flat monthly rate that would be simple, transparent, and easily understood by voters.

Mr. Flynn agreed that the compensation should be straightforward and transparent. He stated that clarity in ballot language would be critical and that the public should clearly understand both the proposed increase and the historical context. Additional discussion among members centered on whether future increases should be automatic or require voter approval. Members generally agreed that any immediate adjustment would require voter approval, and there was discussion about tying future annual increases to the same percentage increases granted to general city employees to avoid another prolonged period without adjustment. The committee also clarified that the existing \$300 monthly expense allowance would remain unchanged and separate from base compensation. There was consensus among members that elected officials should not receive employee-style benefits such as retirement or health insurance, as the position is part-time and structured differently from staff employment.

Following the discussion, Mr. Borden made a formal motion to recommend increasing the Mayor's compensation to \$750 per month and the Vice Mayor's and Council Members' compensation to \$600 per month, subject to voter approval. The motion further specified that the existing \$300 monthly expense allowance would remain in place and that future annual increases would mirror the same percentage increases approved for general city employees. Mr. Flynn seconded the motion. Upon the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The committee then proceeded to review Charter Section 2.06 concerning the selection of the Mayor and Vice Mayor. Chair Drumheller summarized public inquiries regarding the current practice of selecting the Mayor annually from among the Council Members rather than electing the Mayor directly. Attorney Stokes clarified that while the existing charter provides for council selection, a direct election model could be implemented through a charter amendment while maintaining the council-manager form of government. Mr. Borden stated that the current system promotes experience and continuity, as the Mayor must first serve as a Council Member. Mr. Flynn expressed concern that directly electing the Mayor could alter council dynamics and create confusion regarding voting authority within the council-manager framework. After discussion, no motion was made to amend the charter, and the committee reached consensus to retain the current selection method.

The committee also reviewed additional charter provisions regarding temporary presiding officer selection in the event of a deadlock, the general duties of the Mayor, and succession procedures in the event of a vacancy. No changes were proposed to those sections.

5. STAFF MATTERS

No staff matters were raised.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS

7. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Continue review of Article 2.

8. Being no further business, Chair Drumheller adjourned the Charter Review Committee meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Chair Drumheller

Date _____