

MINUTES OF THE RULES COMMITTEE
Monday, October 4, 2021
5:00 p.m.
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center
Jay C. Lytle City Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Daniel Biss, Councilmembers Peter Braithwaite, Bobby Burns Cicely Fleming, Clare Kelly, Jonathan Nieuwsma, Devon Reid, and Eleanor Revelle

Absent: Councilmembers Melissa Wynne and Thomas Suffredin

Presiding: Councilmember Devon Reid

Staff Present: Kelley A. Gandurski, Interim City Manager Alexandra Ruggie, Assistant City Attorney

(I) **DECLARATION OF QUORUM: COUNCILMEMBER DEVON REID:**
Chair Reid declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm. Roll Call: 7-0

(II) **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
None

(III) **RULES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

R1. **Approval of the June 21, 2021 Rules Committee Meeting Minutes**
Councilmember Nieuwsma moved for approval. Councilmember Fleming seconded. Roll call: Vote 7-0. Minutes approved.

(IV) **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

R2. **Approval of the 2022 City Council Meeting Schedule**
Councilmember Fleming moved for approval. Councilmember Revelle seconded. Roll Call: 7-0
Motion passed.

R3. **Revised Proposed Standing Committee Chair Schedule for 2021-2025**
Councilmember Nieuwsma moved to approve the revised Standing Committee Chair Schedule for 2021-2025. Councilmember Revelle seconded.

Councilmember Fleming moved to amend the chart as presented to have the chairmanships end at the end of the month and the next chair start at the beginning of the next month. Councilmember Burns seconded. Motion passed 8-0.

Chair Reid said they now need to vote on the main motion that was moved by Councilmember Nieuwsma; seconded by Councilmember Revelle. Roll Call: 8-0.

(V) **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

R4. **Review of City Council Rule 9.7 Further Clarifying the Authority of the Referrals Committee**

Councilmember Fleming moved for discussion R4 which is City Council Rule 9.7 providing some clarity around the authority of the Referrals Committee. Councilmember Nieuwsma seconded.

Once committee members had an opportunity to ask questions and provide additional comments as it relates to the language update, Councilmember Fleming stated she agreed with the direction of Ms. Gandurski's for committee members to provide feedback to staff in an email to be incorporated for language that will be for action at the October 18 Rules Committee meeting. No further discussion or vote taken.

R5. **Discussion Regarding the Potential Conflict between City Council Rules 5.6.2 and 5.6.5**

Councilmember Braithwaite moved for discussion. Mayor Biss seconded.

Chair Reid explain the conflict created with the formation of the Finance and Budget Committee as a special committee of the City Council as it relates to chairmanship. Per his review of Council Rules and Robert's Rules, the newly formed committee should be standing committee and not a special committee as originally formed.

With little discussion, committee members were agreeable to direct staff to create an ordinance making the Finance and Budget Committee a standing committee. The ordinance will return to the next Rules Committee for action.

R6. **Discussion of Section 1.8.1 of the City Code Concerning Removal of the City Manager**

Councilmember Kelly moved for discussion; Mayor Biss seconded.

Chair Reid said this is a referral that he made months ago regarding what was the threshold for removal of the City Manager, which would be a vote of six members of the City Council including Mayor who would have to vote to remove a City Manager.

Councilmembers Braithwaite and Nieuwsma express concern in reducing the number of votes to remove the City Manager as they begin the recruitment of a new City Manager. Mayor Biss expressed support of the changing from a super majority and simple majority, however expressed concern of voting on this tonight as it was meant to be a discussion not a binding vote.

Chair Reid stated the purpose of tonight's vote was to gage the support of the Rules Committee members to continue this discussion and prepare for a vote for Council action at the next Rules Committee meeting.

After further discussion, Councilmember Fleming recommended the Chair reach out separately to the members to poll if there is the support to bring this item back on the agenda for formal action. No vote was taken.

(VI) ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

(VII) **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

A video of this meeting is available at <https://www.cityofevanston.org/rules>.