

**CHARTER COMMITTEE FOR THE
CITY OF LA PINE MEETING AGENDA**
Wednesday September 29, 2010 - 6:00 PM
51340 Highway 97, La Pine, Oregon 97739
South County Building Meeting Room

1. Call to Order
2. Establish Quorum
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Added Agenda Items
Any matters added to the agenda at this time will be discussed during the “Other Matters” portion of this Agenda.
5. Charter Introduction and Work Session
6. Meeting Dates and Times
7. Public Comments
8. Other Matters
Only those matters properly added to this Agenda under line item No. 4
9. Adjourn

Pursuant to ORS 192.640, this notice includes a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered or discussed at the above-referenced meeting. This notice does not limit the ability of the Commission/Committee to consider or discuss additional subjects. The meeting is subject to cancellation without notice. The meeting is open to the public and interested citizens are invited to attend. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Luana K. Damerval at (541) 536-1432.

**CHARTER COMMITTEE FOR THE
CITY OF LA PINE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday September 29, 2010 - 6:00 PM
51340 Highway 97, La Pine, Oregon 97739
South County Building Meeting Room**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by City Manager Rick Allen.

2. Establish Quorum

Present:

Bob Steffens, Linda Johnston, Ken Mulenex, Linda Bauman, Laura Beebe and Mary Thorson.

Absent:

Sandra Jones, Patricia Mousseau and Patricia Johnson.

Also present were City Manager Rick Allen, Mayor Kitty Shields and Councilor Adele McAfee.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Ken Mulenex led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Added Agenda Items

Any matters added to the agenda at this time will be discussed during the "Other Matters" portion of this Agenda.

- Selection of a Chair and Vice Chair of the Charter Committee

A motion was made by Ken Mulenex and seconded by Linda Johnston to Nominate Bob Steffens as Chair of the Charter Committee.

<i>Vote as follows:</i>	<i>AYE</i>	<i>NAY</i>
<i>Bob Steffens</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Linda Johnston</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Ken Mulenex</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Laura Beebe</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Mary Thorson</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Linda Bauman</i>	<i>X</i>	

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ken Mulenex and seconded by Laura Bauman to nominate Linda Johnston as Vice Chair of the Charter Committee.

<i>Vote as follows:</i>	<i>AYE</i>	<i>NAY</i>
<i>Bob Steffens</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Linda Johnston</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Ken Mulenex</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Laura Beebe</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Mary Thorson</i>	<i>X</i>	
<i>Linda Bauman</i>	<i>X</i>	

Motion passed unanimously.

00:03:25

5. Charter Introduction and Work Session

City Manager Allen stated that the City Charter will need to be at the Clerk's office by late February or the first of March to be on the May 11, 2011 ballot. A Model Charter from the League of Oregon Cities was provided to the committee to work from. City Manager Allen said he also used sample Charters, for comparison purposes, from Prineville, Culver, Damascus and Sisters. He stated he would like the committee to finish up their work in about three meetings. City Manager Allen said the committee would wait to move the Charter forward to the Council for consideration until January 2011 since there may be new Councilors elected in November. He also said the committee will hold one or two Public Hearings before sending the Charter on to the City Council.

There was a discussion about the informal survey that was done at the 100th Year Celebration for the City of La Pine. According to the survey the majority of City residents polled were against a City Councilor being from outside the City. They also favored the Mayor being elected rather than appointed by the City Council. City Manager Allen said that Charters tend to get updated about every twenty years.

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City Manager Allen stated that an ordinance is the law of the land and must be approved unanimously or it has to come back to a second meeting. He also said the public must be able to view the ordinance for a certain period of time before it goes before the Council for a vote. City Manager Allen suggested to allow, in certain emergency circumstances, an ordinance to take effect as soon as adopted or other date less than 30 days after adoption when there is a valid and recognized emergency.

City Manager Allen said the Council appointing the committee members is pretty consistent in most City Charters. The decision was unanimous, from the committee, about electing the Mayor rather than appointing one. They felt that it makes the Mayor more accountable.

The committee decided to review the Mayor's voting rights at a later time. They also decided to wait on deciding to have 5 or 7 members on the Council. There was also a discussion on compelling other Councilors to attend a meeting if there are only two members present so there is a quorum. Staff was directed to obtain the Council Policies & Procedures and any related ordinances from the four sample cities regarding 'compelling councilors to attend a meeting.'

There was also a discussion of length of Councilor terms and also how allowing a Councilor out of the City limits might affect the staggering of terms. In addition, the term length of the Mayor will need to be decided. Mary Thorson and Laura Beebe were asked to bring some arguments for and against on the two or four term lengths.

01:00:00

All committee members favored a non partisan election for Councilors and in addition that Councilors could not be on the Council and also work for the City. Staff was asked to get rules on nominating from the sample four cities. All members agreed to have rules on nominating in the Charter.

There was also a discussion of length of absence for a Councilor in regard to being terminated from the Council. City Manager Allen advised that if someone was really sick they could easily miss a couple of months of meetings. All members agreed that moving out of the City limits would terminate a Councilor's position on the Council. The committee also agreed on 'absent from the City more then 30 days within a 60 day period without Council consent' regarding Councilor termination due to absenteeism.

01:11:36

The committee also had consensus that the City Manager can live outside the City limits in order to obtain the most qualified candidates.

All members agreed to strike the part in the Model Charter concerning the attorney being able to supervise and terminate City employees. The committee was unanimous to allow the Council to transfer some or all of the functions of a municipal court to a state court. The committee was also unanimously against having a merit system for City employees. All committee members agreed with a July 1, 2011 effective date for the City Charter.

City Manager Allen asked the committee to spend some time thinking about whether they wanted a Council member out of the City limits. The informal poll results of that question from City residents were against a non resident Councilor. He told them that the City residents will need to be convinced to vote for and approve the Charter if a non resident Councilor is included. Suggestions were made about Councilors from out of the City not being able to vote, Councilors having to own property within the City limits, and having one open seat that could be filled either by someone inside or outside the City. City Manager Allen said that several decisions will need to be made about term length, etc., if an outside City resident is allowed to be on the Council. He also said this situation could affect the Charter in many areas.

01:42:00

6. Meeting Dates and Times

The committee decided to schedule the second meeting for Tuesday, October 12th and the third meeting for Tuesday, November 9th, both meetings starting at 6 pm

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7. Public Comments

None

8. Other Matters

Only those matters properly added to this Agenda under line item No. 4

None

9. Adjourn

Chair Steffens adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.

Chair Bob Steffens

Attest:

City Recorder Luana Damerval