



## City of Atlantic Beach

# Agenda

## Charter Review Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 28, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

Commission Chamber

City Hall, 800 Seminole Road

Page(s)

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.A. Approve minutes of the May 24, 2023 Charter Review Committee meeting. 3 - 15  
[5-24-23 CRC Draft Minutes](#)

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### 3. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- 3.A. ARTICLE II. – THE COMMISSION Sec. 6. - Qualifications and disqualifications; Sec. 7. – Salary; Sec. 9. – Powers; Sec. 10. – Appointment of city manager; and other applicable sections of the Charter
- 3.B. July Meeting Topics
- 3.C. July meeting city staff attendance

#### 4. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be live-streamed and videotaped. The video recording will be posted within four business days on the City's website. To access live or recorded videos, visit [www.coab.us/live](http://www.coab.us/live).

Any person wishing to speak to the Charter Review Committee at this meeting should submit a request prior to public comment. For your convenience, forms for this purpose are available at the entrance to the Commission Chamber.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (904) 247-5821 at least three business days prior to the meeting.





**MINUTES**  
**Charter Review Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 24, 2023 - 6:00 PM**  
**Commission Chamber**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:**

Bruce Andrews, Member  
Debbie Buckland, Member  
Kelly Elmore, Member  
Ellen Golombek, Member  
William "Bill" Gulliford, Chair  
Kirk Hansen, Member  
Mitchell Reeves, Member  
Suzanne Shaughnessy, Vice Chair  
Jennifer Lagner, Secretary  
Dawn Scott, Member  
Steve Swann, Member  
Donald Young, Member

**Absent:**

Charles "Chip" Drysdale, Member

**Also Present:**

Donna Bartle, City Clerk (CC)

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Gulliford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Approve minutes of the April 26, 2023 Charter Review Committee meeting.**

**MOTION:** Approve minutes of the April 26, 2023 Charter Review Committee meeting with the change on page 7, where it states "Member Shaughnessy", should say "Vice Chair Suzanne Shaughnessy".

***Motion: Jennifer Lagner***

***Second: Kelly Elmore***

<b><i>Bruce Andrews</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>
<b><i>Debbie Buckland</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>
<b><i>Kelly Elmore (Seconded By)</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>
<b><i>Ellen Golombek</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>
<b><i>William "Bill" Gulliford</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>
<b><i>Kirk Hansen</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>
<b><i>Mitchell Reeves</i></b>	<b><i>For</i></b>

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

<i>Suzanne Shaughnessy</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Jennifer Lagner (Moved By)</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Dawn Scott</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Steve Swann</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Donald Young</i>	<i>For</i>

*Motion passed 12 to 0.*

Secretary Lagner called the roll.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Bill Gulliford explained the process for public comment and opened the Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors.

Secretary Jennifer Lagner called each speaker to the microphone.

**Ellen Glasser**, Atlantic Beach, stated she wanted to explain the three documents she sent the Charter Review Committee prior to the meeting in that they related to Sec. 5 and Sec. 8 of the City Charter. Regarding Sec. 5, Ms. Glasser referred to the referendum on the 2020 ballot that was put forth to voters to change the mayor term to four years, which was voted down. She stated she is supportive of a four-year term for the mayor; it is important for CRC to hear how this impacts the city. The pro for the two-year term in her opinion is limit of control, the complexion of the commission can flip every two years. The pro for the four-year term is the relationship with Jacksonville, the interlocal agreement, and other long-term concerns like resiliency. Strategic planning is critical and hard to advance if a two-year mayor, especially if serving one term; the city loses time. Ms. Glasser stated Atlantic Beach is the only local elected position in Duval County with the two-year term; the mayor is campaigning every other year, elections can be close, many are confused as to who the mayor is and can see more partisanship in a non-partisan governance. Longer term could lead to stronger relationships and confidence with less disruption. Regarding Sec. 7, she referred to the summary sent to CRC with what commissioners and mayors are paid throughout the state. Ms. Glasser continued elected officials aren't hesitant to recommend pay raises, many times to staff. Selfless work pays very little and while rewarding it is often thankless.

**Michael Hoffmann**, Atlantic Beach, shared he sent the CRC an email with some documents and referred to the OpEd he sent and what vote dilution is. He continued if anyone had any questions, they were welcome to email him to arrange a time to speak or provide correction. He stated he wanted to correct a citation he made regarding the two-page document sent which was a history of Atlantic Beach government. He was attempting to puncture the myth that having one seat for 1312 is depriving the east side from serving government. Paul Parson did not serve as mayor and is correcting that. Mr. Hoffmann recounted some history with the flyover, the noise from 70 feet up 24/7 and turned the neighborhood into an urban neighborhood. He continued that his point is there is no reason why a seat should not be reserved for the west side of town.

Chairman Bill Gulliford opined he had not heard of the flyover when he was in office and concurred with Mr. Hoffmann.

**Jack Rowan**, Jacksonville, said his interest in Sec. 6 was only the time talking about removal is for wrongdoing when charged with felony and suggested might be useful but an option to remove a

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

member for a misdemeanor due to the serious types of misdemeanors. He shared regarding Sec. 8, he considers an appropriate place to discuss more about the mayor pro tem, it is discussed at end of Sec. 8 and near the end of Sec. 9, subpart 13; he felt it useful if moved to have one section that discussed mayor and mayor pro tem so it flows better. Mr. Rowan further stated he wanted to include, in part of Sec. 9, about commission being able to set rules of procedures. He noticed there is already a section in Sec.16 and for the sake of the reader, moving it to Sec. 9 makes more sense, allows Sec. 16 to be more so focused on minutes being open to the public and not having two things shoved together.

**Stephen Fouraker**, Atlantic Beach, was inquiring about the closing out of Sec. 5 and most people he spoke with are fine with the two-year term for mayor and four-year term for commissioners. He opined it's a good thing to flip the government, we have a good thing going.

**Carolyn Zisser**, Atlantic Beach, stated the mayor term is not on the agenda, and she did not see them in the minutes of the last meeting and should be a closed issue. She requested the CRC bring up and notice the mayor term because she feels it will be an issue where there are a lot of opinions in support of keeping the two-year term. The agenda is to give everyone notice that an issue is coming up and if it had been on agenda, she thought there would be a packed audience.

Chairman Bill Gulliford communicated the CRC would notice the recommended Charter changes to be presented to the Commission so that public comment could be heard prior to recommendation submission.

### 3. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

#### A. **ARTICLE II. - THE COMMISSION, Sec. 6. - Qualifications and disqualifications; Sec. 7. - Salary; Sec. 8. - Presiding officer: Mayor; and other applicable sections of the Charter.**

##### **Sec. 6. – Qualifications and disqualifications**

Member Mitch Reeves spoke of residency requirement of two years to run for office and questioned if the commission has the right to set an ordinance as to what the guidelines are and how it can be investigated. He shared a situation during his term when a former commissioner did not meet the residency requirement; the city has no function of enforcing the residence requirement. He continued the charter is only as good as the enforcement of it and questioned how to enforce, and questioned if additional proof such as a tax record or water bill could suffice. Member Debbie Buckland asked for clarification as to how it was not enforceable. Member Mitch Reeves stated during the incident he spoke of, no one knew how to enforce.

Member Ellen Golombek asked what the legal definition was of “principal place of abode.” One can own property but not live in Atlantic Beach; it seems ambiguous. Secretary Jennifer Lagner to ask City Attorney Jason Gabriel to provide an answer and attend the June meeting.

Member Suzanne Shaughnessy provided an example that someone could own a property, pay the property tax, rent it out, pay the water bills and it could look like they resided there. Supported requesting City Attorney to opine on the “principal place of abode” and offer a solution.

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

Page 3 of 13

Member Kelly Elmore stated he thought a two-year residency was not sufficient and would support a change to three- or four-year residency which would be beneficial before being put in a position of voting on city budget and other commission responsibilities.

**MOTION:** To extend residency requirement (from two years) to three years, minimum, in order to run for City Commission.

***Motion:*** *Kelly Elmore*

***Second:*** *Suzanne Shaughnessy*

Member Steve Swann said he supports a four-year residency; Member Kelly Elmore was supportive of three or four. Member Kelly Elmore amended his motion to extend residence from two years to four years.

*No vote taken on this motion.*

**MOTION:** Amended Motion: To extend residency requirement (from two years) to four years.

***Motion:*** *Kelly Elmore*

***Second:*** *Suzanne Shaughnessy*

Member Bruce Andrews concurred with four years for residency. Member Donald Young explained he was countering the four years for a few reasons. One was “group think”; if someone has been in Atlantic Beach for 20 to 30 years, they may think a certain way and not have new ideas or be open to new ideas. The other is if someone can figure out a way to get onto the commission with only two years, that is good. When you come from different cities, you see things done differently, you have new ideas; he would support two years.

Member Debbie Buckland agreed with Member Donald Young, and continued she agreed in context with what Ellen Glasser stated regarding the amount the city gets back from the interlocal agreement, and strategic planning. She continued limiting the pool of leadership is not a good thing and is inclined to agree with the four-year residency.

Further discussion ensued in support of the four-year residency, with support from Member Steve Swann and Member Ellen Golombek.

Ellen Glasser was permitted to speak. She shared Sec. 5 is silent on residency within the district; is there any mechanism to confirm district residency, and who does that due to past concerns.

Carolyn Zisser was permitted to speak. She implored the CRC to not make a change because the language says, “at least two years”; you would eliminate the pool and “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it”.

Jack Rowan was permitted to speak. He shared there was a case of residency lawsuit filed in Jacksonville, but the candidate lost so the case was mooted. There are ways to determine residency. COJ residency is 183 days in the district, so he felt two years was safe and not supportive of four years.

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

Page 4 of 13

Member Kirk Hansen supported more stability due to his experience on the Community Development Board. Member Mitch Reeves was in agreement with Member Kelly Elmore that residency requirement should be four years. Member Kelly Elmore stated the application should be clear with where one's true residence. Member Bruce Andrews clarified the motion was for four years. Secretary Lagner stated she is supportive of four years. Vice Chair Suzanne Shaughnessy felt more years in the city was appropriate. Chair Bill Gulliford shared during his time appointing people to committees, those who did well were those with more institutional knowledge and the four years were appropriate.

<i>Bruce Andrews</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Debbie Buckland</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Kelly Elmore (Moved By)</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Ellen Golombek</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>William "Bill" Gulliford</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Kirk Hansen</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Mitchell Reeves</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Suzanne Shaughnessy (Seconded By)</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Jennifer Lagner</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Dawn Scott</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Steve Swann</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Donald Young</i>	<i>For</i>

*Motion passed unanimously 12 to 0.*

Member Bruce Andrews asked what is the definition of "full-time residency". Secretary Jennifer Lagner to ask City Attorney Jason Gabriel to answer. Member Bruce Andrews stated it is not okay if someone is convicted; Member Kirk Hansen stated if one is found guilty, then they are to be removed from the position.

Jack Rowan was permitted to speak. He stated he felt it was okay to temporarily suspend if charged; it had happened in Jacksonville.

Member Ellen Golombek shared she would vote for four years and continuous residency. Member Donald Young concurred. Member Dawn Scott stated Ellen Glasser made a good point regarding continuous residency and amended the motion to include "continuous".

**MOTION:** Amend Motion to include "continuous" years. (To extend residency requirement from two years to four continuous years.)

***Motion:*** *Dawn Scott*  
***Second:*** *Mitchell Reeves*

City Clerk Donna Bartle, who is also the filing officer, read the 1st line of the section which states "Members of the city commission shall have been full-time residents of the city for at least two years immediately prior to qualifying" and as the one who qualifies the electors, she has always interpreted it as continuous before qualifying.

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

Page 5 of 13

Carolyn Zisser referred to the residency requirement in the Florida divorce code, being a resident of Florida for six months next. This is synonymous with continuous.

Discussion ensued about whether the word "continuous" is needed.

Member Dawn Scott withdrew her motion; Member Mitch Reeves seconded the withdrawal.

***Motion withdrawn.***

Secretary Jennifer Lagner would send question regarding "continuous" to City Attorney Jason Gabriel.

**Sec. 7. - Salary**

Member Mitch Reeves stated the salary should be left alone and have it changed by ordinance. Member Dawn Scott stated to show respect for what the commissioners do, they need a pay raise to bring in a better pool of candidates with fresh ideas who have families, children and this could be an economic issue. The increase in pay could help them do things they may not be able to do. Member Mitch Reeves countered the point that any dollar increase would not change their cost of living; most run to serve community.

Chairman Bill Gulliford opined the state sets the pay for county commissioners and that the salary could be tied to that. Member Donald Young shared he is empathetic to what Member Dawn Scott stated, but he is not in favor of creating career politicians. Member Dawn Scott replied that even if current salary was doubled, it would not make a significant difference.

Member Debbie Buckland asked for point of clarification if pay is set by ordinance, is this an irrelevant discussion or to set definitions. Vice Chair Suzanne Shaughnessy spoke in favor of leaving this section the way it is, noting it is not about having the financial motivation to serve. Member Dawn Scott countered this could be the freedom to have people run and referenced a current commissioner who has to hire a babysitter for each meeting and the salary is eaten up accordingly.

Ellen Glasser was permitted to speak. She shared she felt the section was fine the way it is but an acknowledgement about the Commission being underpaid would be good.

Member Mitch Reeves shared that people should speak with commission regarding salary increases and how they feel and he thought Jacksonville Beach provided health care to their commissioners and a spending allowance.

Michael Hoffmann was permitted to speak. He stated he agreed with Member Dawn Scott. Those with modest means may want to serve but cannot. We should give a broader group of people the opportunity to serve.

Carolyn Zisser was permitted to speak. She agreed with Member Dawn Scott but by leaving by ordinance it puts the commission in a more difficult position voting themselves a pay raise. Likes the idea of an objective measure as to what county commissioners are paid and section amended.



Chairman Gulliford stated Sec. 6 would remain open because we need information from City Attorney Jason Gabriel and shared with Member Dawn Scott that if she wanted to pursue this, we would need a motion and formula.

Member Steve Swann noted the opportunity for the Commission to raise the salary for the next commission. Member Kelly Elmore stated it would be beneficial to have some language and mechanism in place. Member Bruce Andrews stated the information Ellen Glasser sent was helpful, we are low for our city. Chair Bill Gulliford spoke about the reality and challenges that come with elected officials voting on raises for themselves. Member Donald Young stated he could support a change as long as not creating career politicians.

Chairman Gulliford noted Secs. 6 & 7 will be left open. There was a brief discussion about the process for recommending changes for the ballot.

Jack Rowan was permitted to speak. He shared at the Jacksonville City Council, he believes they are offered an increase each year and they elect to take it.

Chairman Bill Gulliford stated Member Dawn Scott would propose something at the next CRC meeting and it is permissible to have a public meeting. He shared Member Dawn Scott would have access to the City Attorney as a resource.

Member Debbie Buckland stated the final lens for the body of work should be for us to move ahead as a city; some things are really important such as inclusivity and opportunity to participate. We have other places where we are talking about salaries, maybe we address at that point.

With no further discussion regarding Sec. 7, Member Donald Young distributed and spoke about a handout he prepared relating to Sec. 5 (which is attached hereto and made part of this Official Record as **ATTACHMENT A**).

Carolyn Zisser was permitted to speak. She stated she formally objecting to any discussion regarding term of the mayor until it is publicly noticed.

[05-24-23 CRC ATTACHMENT A](#)

**MOTION: Move the term from two-years to four-years for mayor.**

***Motion:* Donald Young**

***Motion died due to lack of a second.***

Member Donald Young requested that his handout be added to the minutes.

With no further discussion regarding Sec. 6 or Sec. 7, discussion on Sec. 8 commenced.

**Sec. 8. – Presiding Officer: Mayor**

Member Bruce Andrews wanted clarity regarding administrative duties, part of the job.

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

Page 7 of 13

Chairman Bill Gulliford communicated Interim City Manager Joe Gerrity was unable to attend this evening's meeting but would be at the June meeting and could share information regarding city manager form of government. There was a brief discussion about the interlocal agreement.

Ellen Glasser was permitted to speak. She stated that Sec. 8 has archaic language with references to what the mayor-commissioner is authorized to do related to emergency management. The position should have a more expanded role for the mayor which would be specifically remedied with a clause that talks about other purposes under Florida Statutes 252 and Code of Ordinances related to emergency management. The interlocal agreement is legislative and would be handled accordingly.

Chairman Bill Gulliford stated the day to day is left to the city manager, limited by the structure of government.

Member Debbie Buckland spoke regarding general mayor authority and appointment of committees.

General discussion ensued that commission may be better suited to seat committees and boards due to their knowledge of area and committees.

**B. June meeting topics**

ARTICLE II. – THE COMMISSION Sec. 6. - Qualifications and disqualifications; Sec. 7. – Salary; Sec. 9. – Powers; Sec. 10. – Appointment of city manager; and other applicable sections of the Charter.

**C. June meeting city staff attendance requests**

Interim City Manager Joe Gerrity and City Attorney Jason Gabriel to be in attendance.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Chair Gulliford declared the meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Lagner, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Gulliford, Chair

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Charter Review Committee  
May 24, 2023

**ATTACHMENT A  
to 5-24-23 CRC Minutes**

Fellow Charter Review Committee Members,

I hope I am not overstepping my boundaries by forwarding this letter. I also do not want to violate the sunshine law, so I have asked Donna to share this with the whole committee. Unfortunately, I was unable to make it back from overseas last month for the meeting on Section 5. but I did dial into the meeting to listen-in live. Lots of discussion on Section 5, but most of the discussion was around equal representation throughout our city with the (5) district commissioners. I agree with the final decision from the committee. But one area that was not discussed in detail during the meeting was term limits. I would just like to add these comments to the record and encourage the committee to consider raising the question of adjusting the term limits.

**FIRST:**

When Chat GPT 4.0 (AI) was asked what are the pros and cons of a 4-year term versus a 2-year term this is what it produced:

**Position Paper: Enhancing Municipal Governance through Extended Mayoral Terms of 4-years versus 2-year.**

**Introduction:** The cornerstone of effective governance is the ability to establish and implement long-term strategies that reflect the needs and aspirations of the community. The current two-year term for the mayor's office, while traditional, may not provide the necessary time frame for such strategic visioning and execution. This paper proposes the extension of the mayor's term to four years, outlining the potential benefits this change could bring in terms of policy development, continuity, major initiatives, and community development.

**1. Policy Development:** A four-year term will provide a more conducive environment for comprehensive policy development. Two years is often insufficient to develop, implement, and evaluate significant policies, particularly those involving complex issues such as economic development, infrastructure, or environmental sustainability.

A longer term allows for:

a) **In-depth Research and Planning:** Policies require substantial research, community consultation, and planning. A four-year term offers ample time for these processes,

**ATTACHMENT A  
to 5-24-23 CRC Minutes**

thereby ensuring more robust, evidence-based policies.

b) **Policy Implementation:** Many policies require several years to fully implement and generate visible results. A longer term provides the stability necessary to see these initiatives through.

c) **Policy Evaluation:** A longer term facilitates meaningful evaluation of policy effectiveness, with adjustments made as necessary to ensure optimal outcomes.

**2. Continuity:** Continuity is critical in leadership roles, and a four-year term will significantly enhance this aspect.

a) **Consistent Leadership:** A longer term mitigates the risk of frequent leadership changes, which can lead to strategic discontinuity, staff turnover, and community uncertainty.

b) **Stable Partnerships:** Relationships with external partners, such as regional, state, and federal governments, and private stakeholders often take time to establish and bear fruit. A four-year term ensures these partnerships are given the necessary time to mature and deliver mutual benefits.

**3. Major Initiatives:** Progressive change often requires bold, significant initiatives that can take several years to plan and execute.

a) **Long-term Vision:** A four-year term allows for a more ambitious vision, giving the mayor the confidence to embark on transformative projects that require a longer horizon for completion.

b) **Initiative Completion:** Major initiatives, such as infrastructure projects, economic development programs, or social reform, often extend beyond a two-year timeframe. A four-year term ensures the mayor who began the initiative will be in office to see it through to completion.

**4. Community Development:** Finally, a longer mayoral term can contribute to more effective community development.

a) **Community Engagement:** Building meaningful relationships with community members and groups takes time. A four-year term allows the mayor to better

**ATTACHMENT A  
to 5-24-23 CRC Minutes**

understand and respond to the diverse needs of the community.

b) **Trust Building:** Trust is crucial in local government. A longer term offers an extended period for the mayor to demonstrate their commitment to the community, thereby fostering increased trust and collaboration.

c) **Community Stability:** Frequent changes in leadership can lead to feelings of instability within the community. A longer term offers greater predictability and reassurance to residents.

**CAI Conclusion:** Extending the term of the mayor to four years has potential to significantly enhance the effectiveness of our municipal governance. It would allow for more thoughtful and comprehensive policy development, provide continuity in leadership, enable the implementation of major, transformative initiatives, and promote robust community development. This proposed change reflects a forward-looking, strategic approach to municipal governance, aligning with our community's goals for progressive and intentional advancement.

**SECOND:**

We face challenges in Atlantic Beach that we did not face 15-20-30 years ago. The major challenges effecting our city is infrastructure. Challenges like our drainage infrastructure, road repairs, intercoastal runoff, above ground power poles, etc.... These challenges require major funding and possible unpopular taxes to fund the repairs. Asking a mayor to address these challenges in a 2-year term is unreasonable and a surefire way to ensure any mayor who attempts it, to be easily defeated. This will inevitably lead to mayors only tackling projects like waterparks and palm trees in the median. This is the actions that sitting mayor will focus on to gain favor with the voters. Additionally, our elected mayor will be at a disadvantage when tackling ways to claw-back funds from Jacksonville to help fund our infrastructure needs. While our neighboring cities of Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach and Neptune Beach, all have 4-year terms in which to carry out these types of challenges.

**THIRD:**

Lastly, the National League of Cities (NLC) conducted a study of the cities in the U.S. and the terms of mayors. They found that:

**ATTACHMENT A  
to 5-24-23 CRC Minutes**

**Table 5/10 LENGTH OF TERM FOR CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL**

Length of term	Percentage reporting (n = 3,361)
1 year .....	14
2 years .....	35
3 years .....	6
4 years .....	45
Other .....	1

**Terms of Office** A four-year term was reported by the highest percentage of respondents, followed by a two-year term (Table 5/10). Four-year terms were generally reported by higher percentages of larger cities than smaller cities and by 87% of cities in the East South-Central division (not shown). Council-manager cities show the highest percentage reporting two-year terms (41%), and mayor-council cities show the highest percentage reporting four-year terms (68%). The town meeting and representative town meeting local governments show percentages way above the average reporting a one-year term (44% and 52%, respectively).

The vast majority (91%) of cities do not have legal limits on the number of terms allowed for the position of CEO (not shown); generally, those cities that do have term limits are larger. Where term limits are imposed, the majority (54%) of cities show a limit of two terms, followed by 28% reporting three terms.

Full report available at: <http://kcmayor.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Municipal-Form-of-Government-Trends-in-Structure.pdf>

As the data and comments above reflect from the NLC report, larger cities are the ones with 4-year terms as opposed to 2-year terms. With Atlantic Beach a part of a the much larger city of Jacksonville, we are putting our elected mayor and our citizens at a

**ATTACHMENT A  
to 5-24-23 CRC Minutes**

disadvantage in tackling major challenges. Challenges we share as an individual city and one we share as a member of Duval County and the city of Jacksonville.

We were forwarded an email earlier this year of past mayors standing in unity asking the voters of Atlantic Beach to vote "No" on a referendum to change our mayor's term from 2-year term to a 4-year term. Times have changed and so have our challenges in Atlantic Beach. I would ask this committee to consider the new challenges our city faces as it grows older. Put forward a recommendation that we ask the voters to consider granting our incoming mayor's 4-year term vice the 2-year terms to address our city's needs.

Thank You

Don Young