



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved TASK FORCE ON STRUCTURE OF CITY GOVERNMENT

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Tuesday, October 29, 2019

6:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 215, Madison Municipal Building

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### A POSSIBLE QUORUM OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MAY BE PRESENT

[50732](#)

Documents related to the Task Force on the Structure of City Government

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Present:** 6 - Ronald M. Trachtenberg; John E. Rothschild; Roger Goodwin; Justice M. Castañeda; Maggie Northrop and Eileen Harrington

**Absent:** 5 - Paul E. Skidmore; Keith Furman; Syed Abbas; Rebecca Kemble and Eric S. Upchurch

**Also present:** Karl Van Lith, Linnette Rhodes, Sue Hoffenberg

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Goodwin moved to approve minutes of 10-16-19, second by Castañeda. Motion approved by voice vote.

#### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this meeting.

#### 4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals at this meeting.

#### 5. DECISIONS REGARDING ANY REMAINING RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCLUDE IN THE FINAL REPORT ON ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE COMMON COUNCIL

Goodwin moved, seconded by Rothschild, to include in the Final Report the list of resident engagement strategies contained in Subsection VI of the Common Council Subcommittee Report. Castañeda offered a friendly amendment that the list be included in the Final Report as a range of possible actions that would improve resident engagement and city processes regardless of whether the City implements any of the other structural recommendations made by the Task Force. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**6. DECISIONS REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCLUDE IN THE FINAL REPORT PERTAINING TO RESIDENT PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

The Task Force discussed other items that should be included in the report and, specifically, discussed the importance of remembering, as was discussed at the Pinney Library meeting, how resident engagement and participation is also dependent on continuing to address the basic needs of residence, such as housing and transportation, so that they have the time and resources to participate in government.

**7. DECISION ON WHETHER THE MAYOR OR COMMON COUNCIL SHOULD MAKE ALDER APPOINTMENTS TO BCCs**

Motion by Trachtenberg, seconded by Rothschild, that if the Common Council moves to full-time, then the CCEC should appoint alder members to BCCs, subject to confirmation by the full Common Council. Motion passed unanimously on a 5-0 roll call vote.

At this point, the Task Force suspended Robert's Rules to allow for free flowing discussion on any agenda item and received comments from Sue Hoffenberg.

**8. DISCUSSION OF WHEN AND HOW ANY RECOMMENDED RELATED STRUCTURAL CHANGES SHOULD BE MADE**

None. The Task Force previously discussed timing of Structural Changes.

**9. DISCUSSION OF COMPLETION OF FINAL REPORT**

The Task Force discussed the process for completing the Final Report. City Staff will send a draft report to the full Task Force by the end of the week. Task Force members will then have seventy-two (72) hours to provide requested changes/edits to the Report. Next week, the Executive Committee will meet to review those requested edits and to instruct staff on what edits to make. This process will continue until the Task Force has been able to provide feedback on the entire report.

**10. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS, INCLUDING ANY REMAINING RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCLUDE IN THE FINAL REPORT**

Given the process outlined in item 9 above, the Task Force decided it would next meet on November 20, 2019 to discuss approval of the Final Report.

**11. SCHEDULE ADDITIONAL MEETINGS, IF NECESSARY**

See 10 above.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Goodwin, Second by Rothschild, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.