



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved AD HOC TASK FORCE ON THE STRUCTURE OF CITY GOVERNMENT (TFOGS) FINAL REPORT IMPLEMENTATION WORK GROUP

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Friday, July 24, 2020

3:15 PM

Via virtual meeting

Note: Quorum of the Common Council may be present at this meeting

A recording of this meeting is available here:

<https://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Showcase/madison-city-channel/Presentation/6f96161e160544749e5102a48ad94d601d>

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Others present: Deputy Mayor Katie Crawley, Alder Paul Skidmore, Alder Arvina Martin, and Assistant City Attorney Strange.

The meeting was called to order at 3:17 PM

Present: 5 - Syed Abbas; Grant Foster; Michael J. Tierney; Rebecca Kemble and Keith Furman

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Kemble, seconded by Foster, to Approve the Minutes for the 7/10/2020 meeting. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

4. [61467](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT for 7/24/2020 meeting of TFOGS Final Report Implementation Workgroup

No registrants for general public comment.

The committee voted to suspend the rules and stand informal and allow for public discussion and engagement for discussion on items # 5, 6, and 7. Kemble moved, Furman seconded. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. [61464](#) Review TFOGS recommendation spreadsheet, prioritize recommendations, and develop work plan

The committee discussed the recommendations from the TFOGS final report. The committee requested that staff receive an update on the status of the 311/CRM system implementation project, as well as the status of the plan to update the Legistar legislative system. They went on to discuss recommendation #15 on the combined recommendation spreadsheet: form an administrative support staff team through a resolution, including the Mayor's Office, the Common Council Chief of Staff, the Clerk's Office, and IT to rationalized the processes for BCCs: support, training, public participation, standardizing systems, and BCC self-audit. Common Council Chief of Staff to organize that process. The committee directed ACA Strange to draft a resolution creating the administrative support staff team to be introduced at the 8/4/2020 Common Council meeting. Alder Foster moved to directed ACA Strange to prepare a draft resolution. Alder Furman seconded and added a friendly amendment to allow Alder Kemble to approve the draft. Alders Foster and Abbas asked to be listed as co-sponsors. The vote passed unanimously.

The committee directed staff to invite Finance Department Director Dave Schmiedicke to the 8/5/2020 meeting to discuss the financial considerations related to the development of an Office of Resident Engagement and Neighborhood Support (ORENS). Alder Furman moved to invite the Finance Director to the 8/5/2020 meeting and put an item on the agenda to discuss ORENS from a financial perspective, Alder Kemble seconded. Passed unanimously.

The committee invited the Common Council Chief of Staff to the 8/5/2020 meeting to discuss the administrative support staff team in more detail.

The committee directed staff to create a spreadsheet of ORENS models in other cities for the 8/5/2020 meeting.

6. [61465](#) Discussion of referendum process (ACA Strange presenting)

ACA Strange presented his memo on timelines and considerations for bringing questions for referendum. Changes in the number of alders and the alders' terms were created by charter ordinance and approved by the electorate. ACA Strange presented two alternatives: 1) The Council takes a formal position on the changes, with a 2/3rds vote, or 2) The Council votes with a simple majority on a resolution taking the questions to referendum. Referendum questions need to be submitted to the Clerk 70 days before the next election. August 25th would be the deadline for November, January would be the deadline for the spring election. If the voters approve a referendum, it is not subject to mayoral veto and goes into effect 10 days after the election.

The committee discussed the need for extensive public education if questions will be put to referendum, as well as the question of what the content of the question would be. Additionally, the committee raised the question of whether and how to bundle the changes related to the Common Council in a resolution, as well as the question of how to time the possible referendum in the context of redistricting and incorporation of the Town of Madison. ACA Strange offered to check with Brian Grady in Planning about the details of redistricting. Alder Kemble proposed a timeline where the question is on the ballot in April of 2021. Alder Furman suggested that the issue could be taken up at a special Council meeting.

The committee requested that this item be placed on the 8/21/2020 meeting agenda in order to continue discussion with information from the legislative calendar, timelines for introduction, and possibility of special meetings.

7. [61466](#) Discussion on creating potential resolution requesting direction from the Common Council on whether to create a plan for possible transition to full-time Council

A motion was made by Kemble, seconded by Furman, to refer item to the 8/21/2020 meeting for further discussion. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8/5/2020 meeting:

- Further discussion of the administrative support staff team
- Discussion of the financial considerations of ORENS
- Update on the status of the 311 project and Legistar updates
- Continued discussion of the TFOGS final report recommendations

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kemble, seconded by Foster, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other. The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM.