

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW
STUDY COMISSION MINUTES FOR February 19, 2025

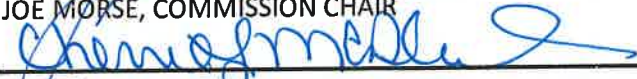
MEMBERS PRESENT	The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by commission chair Joe Morse. Others present were commissioners Mina Morse and Karen Redman, ex-officio Webb Mandeville and Secretary Cherrie McAlexander.
SIDELINE IN PERSON	Charlie Denison
PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS	NONE
MINUTES APPROVED	Mina Morse made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2025, meeting. Karen Redman seconded the motion. Joe Morse asked if there was any discussion, no discussion; all yea votes, motion passed.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	NONE
NEW BUSINESS	There were discussions on how to get the public involved in the Local Government Review process and get them informed. Charlie suggested doing a survey on Facebook. The city does not have a Facebook page, so Charlie suggested using the newspaper's Facebook page. Charlie asked if the city had a survey already available. Cherrie responded that the city has a survey ready, but it has not been published yet. There was discussion on what the survey includes for questions. Commissioners will review the survey and make any changes and send it to Cherrie. Once the survey is ready Cherrie will send to Charlie. There was discussion on emailing procedures and not creating a quorum. Karend asked if the survey would be in lieu of interviewing city employees and council. Mina stated that she thinks it would be separate. Charlie asked if the commission was thinking of pulling in the employees individually and interviewing them. Joe stated that he could see interviewing the council members too. Cherrie suggested creating a survey for employees and council members to fill out. Mina asked Charlie if the survey was put on their Facebook page and will only city residents be able to fill it out. Charlie stated no, anyone could. Mina said she likes the Facebook idea but also thinks that a mailer to all residents would be a good idea. Karen stated that people that are not city residents filling out the survey would not be a good thing. Mina asked what a mailer would cost to do. Webb responded \$1500.00. Webb and Mina both agreed to send the survey with a returned postage envelope. Charlie asked when the survey would be ready and when the mailer might go out. Cherrie stated that she can have the mailer ready to send out by the end of February. Cherrie suggested adding a cover letter for the survey and add the date of the first Public Hearing to the letter. The timeline for the Local Government Review was discussed and April 10 th at 7pm will be the first Public Hearing. Mina asked Charlie if he could write up an article that explains the Local Government Review in the paper. There was discussion on the final report that was created the last time there was a study commission 20 years ago. Webb stated that he was on the last study commission. Charlies asked if there was more momentum back then or was it the same as today with a lack of community involvement. Webb stated that this is complicated, and the public doesn't understand the current form of government so to get them to understand what the other options are is hard. Without dedicating hours and hours comparing the different types of government it's almost impossible. Webb stated that even after doing all the training modules he was still just on the cusp of understating everything. Webb doesn't blame the public for not participating or being excited about a change.

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	<p>Webb stated that it is a monumental expenditure of time and money to decided on two options. Self-governing or general-governing. What he has seen and heard is that when a government changes to self-governing it is to give the council more control over property rights of others and he is not for that. Webb feels that after all this we will all have a better understanding of our local government and all the other options. Charlie asked at this point what do you want the readers to know. The people that have shown interest are not the ones you are trying to reach. Joe stated that we should let people know that we are working on it and if they have any concerns to contact one of them. Mina stated that if she went around and asked people they would have no clue what kind of government the city has. Maybe put something in the paper that explains the structure of our current government. Webb mentioned that it might be good to explain that the review process isn't to change any council members or change any department heads, its about reviewing the current structure of the government. Charlie asked what the easiest way is to explain the current form of government. Webb explained it to Charlie. Cherrie stated the game plan – commission will decide on the survey and get it to her. Cherrie will get it in the mail to all owners and residents. The public hearing will be set for April 10th at 7pm. Cherrie stated that she will get the survey out as soon as she gets it back from them and will add a cover letter to the survey. Mina asked if we need posters or anything put up around town. Cherrie stated it was up to them but sending out a mailer to everyone in town is pretty good. Joe asked if we needed to memorialize what we were doing into a motion. Cherrie responded she didn't think so.</p>
<p>COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA</p>	<p>NONE</p>
<p>ANNOUCEMENTS</p>	<p>Cherrie McAlexander stated that the next meeting would be March 26, 2025, at 4pm.</p>
<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p>Mina Morse made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 pm, seconded by Karen, all yeah votes. Meeting adjourned.</p>



 JOE MORSE, COMMISSION CHAIR



 CHERRIE L MCALEXANDER, SECRETARY

