

Emogene Bummering

June 28, 1979

The Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Seabrook
Seabrook, Texas 77586

Gentlemen:

The Charter Commission of the City of Seabrook, Texas, respectfully requests that the Home Rule City Charter for Seabrook, Texas be submitted to the registered voters for approval.

In accordance with the applicable laws of the State of Texas, an election is requested for August 11, 1979. In order for the Home Rule City Charter to work for the people of the City and function in a beneficial manner, the Charter should be approved in its entirety. Therefore, the Charter Commission suggests that the Home Rule City Charter for Seabrook, Texas be voted on as a whole by a "yes" or "no" vote for the adoption.

Not less than thirty (30) days prior to such election, the Council should direct the City Secretary to mail a copy of this Charter to each registered voter of the City of Seabrook, as appears on the latest certified list of registered voters. Within five (5) days after such election, the City Council is to canvass the votes and, if the Charter is adopted by a majority of the registered voters in said election, the Council should enter upon the records of the City an official order declaring the Charter adopted and this Charter shall take effect immediately.

The City Secretary shall file an official copy of the Charter with the records of the City and furnish a copy of said Charter to the Mayor to be authenticated by his signature and the seal of the City. Thereafter the Charter should be forwarded to the Secretary of the State of Texas to be filed of record.

Below are ascribed the signatures of the duly empowered members of the Charter Commission of the City of Seabrook certifying that the Charter, of which this instrument is a part, has been recommended for adoption. This proposed Charter incorporates the best provisions of prior Home Rule Charters and our present general law form of government to permit the City to operate more effectively for the benefit of the citizens of the City of Seabrook, Texas.

This Charter is humbly submitted as our contribution to the future of this community.

Norman L. Weed
Norman L. Weed

Ronald M. Holbrook
Ronald M. Holbrook

Barbara D. Lobley
Barbara D. Lobley

David K. Mains
David K. Mains

David L. Holly
David L. Holly

Mary A. Taber
Mary A. Taber

F. G. "Jack" Abernethy
F. G. "Jack" Abernethy

Helmut A. Kuehnelt
Helmut A. Kuehnelt

Robbye Waldron
Robbye Waldron

Mary G. Goeckler
Mary G. Goeckler

Barney H. Leach
Barney H. Leach

Nancy Wood
Nancy Wood

Bill Young
Bill Young

ARTICLE II

SECTION 2.01 THE COUNCIL

There shall be a Council composed of a Mayor and six (6) Councilmen, all of whom are elected by the qualified voters of the City at large. The term of office for Councilmembers shall be a period of two (2) years. (No member of the Council shall be elected for more than three (3) consecutive terms.)

SECTION 2.02 QUALIFICATIONS

A member of the Council shall be a citizen of the United States of America and a qualified voter of the State of Texas. He shall be a resident within the corporate limits of the City, and shall have been for a period of six (6) months prior to the election. A member of the Council ceasing to possess any of the qualifications specified in this Charter or who is convicted of a felony while in office shall immediately forfeit his office.

SECTION 2.03 COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

Members of the Council shall serve without pay or compensation: provided, however, that they shall be entitled to necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties. The method of reimbursement shall be determined by the Council.

SECTION 2.04 MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO-TEM

The Mayor shall be the official head of the City government. He shall preside at all meetings of the Council, shall have a vote on all Council actions, and shall, when authorized by the Council, sign all official documents such as ordinances, resolutions, conveyances, grant agreements, official plats, contracts, and bonds. He shall perform such other duties consistent with this Charter or as may be imposed upon him by Council. He shall not have the power of veto.

The Mayor Pro-Tem shall be a Councilman and be elected by the Council at the first regular Council meeting following each regular City election. The Mayor Pro-Tem shall act as Mayor during the disability or absence of the Mayor or if the office is vacated and in this capacity shall have the rights conferred upon the Mayor.

Should the Mayor refuse to perform in his official capacity, the Council may designate another member to act in his stead for that specific case.

SECTION 12.01 SCHEDULE

- (a) This Charter shall take effect on the first day following adoption by the voters of the City and shall be fully operative within one (1) year after such adoption.
- (b) At the first regular meeting of the Council following adoption of this Charter the members of Council elected or re-elected to office at the last regular election for that position shall retain the designation Mayor's Position and Positions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- (c) It is provided that on the ballot of the regular election scheduled for the first Saturday in April 1980; that the ballot will provide for the election, at large, of four (4) candidates to positions on the Council, of whom three (3) candidates (Mayor, Positions 2 and 4) will be elected to succeed those members of Council whose terms expire at the time, and the fourth (4th) of whom (Position 6) will be elected to the Council position created by adoption of this Charter.
- (d) The members of Council at the time of adoption of this Charter shall have all the powers and duties granted in this Charter.
- (e) The limitations prescribed in Article II of this Charter, shall apply to all persons elected to office in 1980 and thereafter but will not include terms of office which began prior to the adoption of this Charter.
- (f) All Boards, Commission, and Committees in existence on the effective date of this Charter, and not in conflict with the provisions thereof, may continue in existence. Any Board, Commission, or Committee in existence on the effective date of this Charter which is in conflict with the provisions thereof is abolished, with such abolition to take effect on the 120th day after the effective date of the Charter.

SECTION 12.02 APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

- (a) Nothing in this Charter, except as may be specifically provided otherwise, shall affect or impair the rights or privileges of persons who are appointive officials or employees of the City at the time of its adoption.
- (b) An employee holding a City position at the time this Charter becomes fully operative, who was serving in that same or a comparable position at the time of its adoption, shall not be subject to competitive tests as a condition of continuance in that same position but in all other respects shall be subject to the personnel system provided for in this Charter.