



Islamorada, Village of Islands

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

January 26, 2026 - 5:30 PM
Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Highway
Islamorada, FL 33036

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Village Manager Ron Saunders called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Richard Black, Ty Harris, Lorie LaLonde, Craig McBay, Susan Rafanello, Joe Roth, Roger Young

Members Absent: None

INTRODUCTION BY VILLAGE MANAGER

Village Manager Ron Saunders reviewed the purpose of the Charter Review Committee and outlined procedural requirements.

SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

ACTION: Motion by Roger Young and seconded by Joe Roth to appoint Ty Harris as Chair, passed unanimously (7-0).

ACTION: Motion by Craig McBay and seconded by Roger Young to appoint Susan Rafanello as Vice Chair, passed unanimously (7-0).

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Village Charter and Resolution Establishing the Committee

Staff summarized the resolution establishing the Committee, including the seven-member structure, residency requirement, Sunshine Law compliance, attendance expectations, sunset provision, and the May 31, 2026, deadline to submit Charter amendments for ballot consideration. It was noted that each proposed amendment would be voted on individually and forwarded to the Village Council prior to voter consideration.

Committee members discussed which Charter sections warranted review. Topics raised included Council qualifications, terms and compensation, at-large seats, height restrictions, budget and appropriations, elections, voting thresholds, Charter officers, outsourcing of the Village Attorney, mayoral authority, public records, referendum procedures, and enhanced public notice and engagement requirements.

Following discussion, consensus emerged to begin detailed review with Section 5 and Section 8.

ACTION: Motion by Lorie LaLonde and seconded by Joe Roth to prioritize **Charter Sections 5 and 8** for discussion at the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee agreed to meet on **Monday, February 9, 2026, at 5:30 PM**, with discussion focused on Charter Sections 5 and 8.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.



Marne McGrath, Village Clerk