

What a Manatee County Charter Might Affect

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The Board of County Commissioners

- Number of commissioners
- How commissioners are elected (by District, At Large, or both)
- Partisan election (Yes or No)
- Length of term (number of years)
- Term limits (number of consecutive terms)
- Adjustments to salary (by statute, ordinance, or charter)
- Separate legislative & executive functions (Yes or No)
- Specifies non-interference clause (Yes or No)
- Administrative code required (Yes or No)
- Recall (Yes or No on option remove a commissioner from office)

The County Administrator

- Selection of county administrator (Appointed or Elected)
- Method of appointed (Majority or Super-Majority by Board)
- Method of termination (various)
- Reason for termination (With or Without Cause)
- Terms/Conditions of Employment (Contract, Ordinance, or Other)
- Powers and Duties (Charter, BoCC, or Other)
- Appointment of Department Heads (Admin./Board Approval, Other)
- Termination of Dept. Heads (Admin./Board)
- Reason for termination of Dept. Heads (With or Without Cause)

The County Attorney

- Method of appointment (BoCC Majority, Admin./Board Approval)
- Method of termination (Majority, Meetings, Other)
- Reason for termination (With or Without Cause)
- Appointment of Asst. County Attorneys (County Attorney, BoCC, Other)

Elected Constitutional Officers

- Affects status (Yes or No)
- Possible changes (Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Other)
- Does Charter call for recall of Elected Officials (Yes or No)
- School Board (Election Procedures, Other)

Initiative to Enact, Amend, or Repeal County Ordinances

- % of Registered Electors Required on Petition (5, 8, 10, Other)
- Time Limitation to Gather Signatures (6 months, 1 year, Other)
- Time Limitation to Take Action (30 days, 60 days other)
- If referendum is required it will be scheduled at (General Elec. or Special)
- Limitation on subject Matter for Initiative Petitions (Specified I Charter)
- Approval as to Form (Yes or No)

Method to Amend Charter Amendment by Petition

- Subject Matter Exclusions (Yes or No)
- % of Registered Electors Required on Petition (5, 8, 10, Other)
- Time Limitation to Gather Signatures (6 months, 1 year, Other)
- Referendum Will be Scheduled (General Elec. or Special Elec.)
- Voting Requirements (Majority, 60%, or Other)

Amendment by Charter Review Commission

- Appointment of Charter Review Committee Specified in Charter (Y or N)
- When Appointed (Every 10 years, 6 years, other)
- Size of Commission (5, 9, 15, other members)
- Election Scheduled (General Elec. or Special Elec.)
- Voting Requirements of Commission (majority, 2/3, or other)
- Financial Impact Statements (Yes or No)

Charter Amendment by County Commission

- Amendment Proposed by Ordinance Approved By (Majority, Maj. + 1, Other)
- Referendum Will be Scheduled (General Election, Special Ele., Other)
- Voting Requirements (Majority, 60%, other)

Intergovernmental Relations

Relationships to Municipal Ordinance (Example: Sarasota - Generally, municipal ordinances prevail except with respect to comprehensive planning and future land use designations in areas outside the urban service area which are not designated in a municipality's comp plan. In those areas, absent agreement, county's, rather than city's, future land use map designation ordinances control.)

Ethics and Elections

- Campaign Finance Regulation (Yes or No)
- County Ethics Commission (Yes or No)
- Local Code of Ethics (Yes or No)
- Local Elections Criteria/Procedures (Yes or No)