

**TEXAS
HOME
RULE
CHARTERS**



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**“We seem constantly to be revising our
charters, experimenting with one form of
organization after another in an effort to
discover the magic charm which will
automatically bring us ideal administration.”**

H.W. Dodds, Esq. - 1924



Texas Local Government Code - Chapter 9

- § 9.002 - Charter Commission
- § 9.003 - Vote on the Charter
- § 9.004 - Charter Amendments
- § 9.005 - Adoption of Charter or Amendment
- § 9.006 - Concurrent Elections
- § 9.004 - Certification of Charter or Amendment
- § 9.004 – Registration of Charter or Amendment; Effect



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The municipal charter details the authority of the city, the structure of the government, and the processes by which the government exercises authority.

Policy Document

Legal Document



- ▲ **Form of Government**
- ▲ **Powers of the City**
- ▲ **Elections**
- ▲ **Departments**
- ▲ **Initiative, Referendum, Recall**
- ▲ **Franchises**
- ▲ **General Provisions**



Form of Government

▲ Chapter 26 LGC

- ✦ 26.021 – Form of Government
- ✦ 26.047 – Filling Vacancy in Office of Mayor



Form of Government

- ▲ Commission
- ▲ Council-Manager
- ▲ Council-Mayor
 - ✦ Strong Mayor
 - ✦ Weak Mayor



Form of Government

Greatest Focus is on

Who is our Chief Administrator and how should he or she be selected?

The decision about the nature and selection of the chief administrator is for the citizens to make, but they should know the consequences of how the chief executive is selected.



The “City Council” shall be composed of a “Mayor” and seven (7) “Council Members.”



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▲ Limitations on Initiative and Referendum



Petition Requirements

- ✦ **% of votes cast at the last general election**
- ✦ **% of votes cast at the most recent election**
- ✦ **% of registered voters**



**After we initiate how do
we amend or repeal?**



Disannexation

- ★ **LGC Section 43.142 – *A home-rule municipality may disannex an area in the municipality according to rules as may be provided by the charter of the municipality and not inconsistent with the procedural rules prescribed by this chapter.***



Disaster Clauses



Regulation of Alcohol



Consistency in Language

