

Charter Review Commission February 23, 2017 Summary Minutes

Charter Review Member Present: Ron Albier; Fran Barrett; Ronald Campbell; Sue Grodek; Dick Kistemaker; Jerry Hayes; Tim Hites

Absent: Denise Folger; Carl Ethridge

Also Present: Law Director Kevin Butler; Jill Ludwig

Members of the Public Present: Kathy Pucci – Councilperson; Bob Hennings

Oath of Office was signed by Sue Grodek

Minutes of the February 9, 2017 were approved

Letters regarding Charter suggestions from Kathy Pucci and Fran Barrett were handed out to the Commission at the start of the meeting

Chairman Albier began the meeting

There was discussion of Kathy Pucci's letter. Discussion regarding possibly putting a provision on the ballot regarding the 'cleaning up of language' in the Charter. Example North Royalton did this

Brief discussion of the council president current dilemma

Fran's handout suggested a possible correction for that dilemma – discussed council president being elected by the people – the president would not vote in meetings, just be the chairperson but would have all the powers of the council president

Discussion of Council Presidents in other cities

There was discussion of a council member receiving the most votes to be Council President; or if there was a tie then seniority would win or if there were a tie with seniority then the mayor or another person would appoint council president or relax the 4 vote requirement

Discussion of would a person who has the most seniority actually make a good leader?

These situations would also apply to the Council Pro-Tem position

Art. 11 Sec. 5 4 vote majority only vote – majority of the voting members – council conflicts might prohibit them from voting – need to permit less than 4 vote majority to win. Certain situations abstention is required. Possibility to relax the 4 member vote

Section 5 depending on Charter Section - # of votes required to reach a majority – specific sections do not need 4 votes. Example a 3-3-1 vote fails

It was mentioned that there is a Charter that addresses abstaining; also discussion of carry over for positions until organizational meeting

Running List of Suggestions:

- Election of Council President
- Number of votes required on all Council action Art 11. Sec 5
- Obligation Roll Call vote Art III Sec 8a
- Qualifications in General -issue of serving in other offices Art 3. Sec 2
- Term of Office Art 3 Sec 1
- What and who determines a justifiable excuse for missing a meeting Art 3 Sec 3
- Removal of Council Person Art 3 Sec 3
- General verses Run-off election
- Abstention regarding influencing vote total
- Cut-off of Council President term and the other elected positions, Planning Commission and Rec Board

Discussion of do we Require a vote of Council as well to fire a position that was appointed by the mayor and confirmed by council

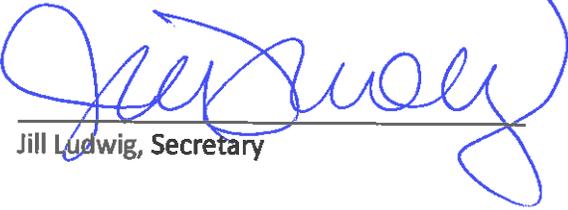
Director Butler will research Brooklyn charter where there is a more than majority vote required; other charters regarding tiebreaking situations; treatment of and reasons for abstention votes.

Public Comment – example of an Abstention means a “yes” vote and another instance if you Abstain you must state reason why

Members agreed to adjourn



Ron Balbier, Chairperson



Jill Ludwig, Secretary