

***MINUTES***  
***CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION***  
**City Council Chambers, January 15, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**

1. The members of the Charter Review Commission, duly appointed by City Council, held their initial meeting with Dennis Blair, Lavone Bailey, Larry Jenkins, Megan Reamsnyder, John Bokros, Mary Johnston, Clerk of Council, Michael Heyeck, Council Chairman and Thomas Schmitt, Assistant Director of Law, present. Also present was Assistant Prosecutor Lauren Swihart.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS**

All members introduced themselves, relaying their professional responsibilities, involvement in community organizations, and interest in the Charter Review Commission.

5. **COMMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MICHAEL HEYECK**

Chairman Heyeck outlined the role of the Charter Review Commission. Chairman Heyeck asked the Commission to not rewrite the Charter but to make the changes that are necessary. Chairman Heyeck stated the Charter Review Commission meetings will be open to the public and held in City Council Chambers. Chairman Heyeck announced that the Commission will hold a joint meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers to allow City Council to give input. Chairman Heyeck asked the Commission to complete their task by mid-May to allow for Ordinance readings before Council recess in July, if necessary. Chairman Heyeck pointed out some sections of the Charter that might need review such as recall, change in organization date to January and to strengthen the non-partisan approach. Chairman Heyeck thanked everyone for serving on the Commission. A copy of the Council By-laws will be provided to the Commission.

6. **OVERVIEW OF CITY CHARTER, HOME RULE PROVISIONS OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION, MODEL CITY CHARTER, AND PRELIMINARY LIST OF CHARTER REVIEW CONSIDERATIONS**

Mr. Schmitt provided a presentation on the City Charter, Home Rule Provisions of the Ohio Constitution, the responsibility of the Commission, the City Organizational Chart, the history of the Charter Adoption and City Manager form of government.

7. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Mr. Bokros nominated Mr. Jenkins as Chairman. Ms. Reamsnyder seconded the nomination.

Mr. Bokros moved, Mr. Blair seconded to close the nominations. The motion carried.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Jenkins was duly elected Chair by acclamation.

8. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

Mr. Jenkins assumed the Chair and asked for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Mr. Blair nominated Mr. Bokros as Vice-Chair. Ms. Reamsnyder seconded the nomination.

Mr. Bokros nominated Ms. Bailey as Vice-Chair. Mr. Jenkins seconded the nomination.

Mr. Blair withdrew his nomination of Mr. Bokros as Vice Chair. Ms. Reamsnyder withdrew her second.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Bailey was duly elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.

**9. ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

Mr. Jenkins recommended that Mrs. Johnston be appointed the Secretary of the Charter Review Commission.

Mr. Blair moved, Mr. Bokros seconded to appoint Mrs. Johnston as Secretary.

The motion carried.

Mrs. Johnston was duly elected Secretary by acclamation.

**10. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE CHARTER REVIEW PROCESSES, METHODS TO GATHER COUNCIL/STAFF/PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Jenkins asked the Commission on how to gather comments on the Charter. Discussion was held on developing an online form on the City's website for Council/Staff/Public to provide comments on the Charter. Mr. Schmitt and Mrs. Johnston will work with the Information Systems Department and Community Affairs Division on the development of an online submittal form located on the City's website. The Commission would like to review the comment submittal form before it is released. All responses will be sent to the Commission, Mr. Schmitt and Mrs. Johnston. Mrs. Johnston will compile and manage all responses for the Commission. The deadline to submit public comments will be in March.

**11. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Jenkins, after discussion, announced the next meeting of the Charter Commission will be Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. The Commission will discuss future meetings at that meeting.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Reamsnyder moved, Mr. Bokros seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:30 p.m.