

CITY OF TWINSBURG, OHIO
CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES

April 12, 2018

Mr. Scaffide called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Mr. Scaffide welcomes members and audience. Asks that members introduce themselves.

INTRODUCTIONS: (IN PLACE OF ROLL CALL) Kathi Procop, David Post, Dan Sypen, Dean Martin, Susan Johnson, James Shafer, Dwayne Smith, Adam Gockowski, Brian Davis

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Sam Scaffide and David Maistros

SWEARING IN OF CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mr. Scaffide swore in Charter Review Commission members.

NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Procop nominated Dean Martin, it was seconded by David Post. Mr. Martin stated he would like to let someone else chair since he was a co-chairman in the past therefore he respectfully declined the nomination.

Mr. Scaffide asked for other nominations. Mr. Martin nominated David Post, seconded by Mr. Sypen. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Scaffide turned the meeting over to Mr. Post.

Mr. Post asked for nominations for a Vice-Chairman. Mr. Martin was nominated for Vice-Chairman by _____, seconded by Mr. Post. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING PROCEDURES

Mr. Maistros states that the Charter Review Commission meets every five years. Any changes that the commission recommends will be sent on to council and they will read on three separate occasions then vote and if they pass will be sent on to the Board of Elections.

Mr. Maistros also stated that each item that commission recommends (if approved by council) will need to be a separate ballot issue. While it may be nice to clean up some sections grammatically, the commission may want to reserve changes for more specific changes. All

recommendations need to be to the clerk no later than June 4^h to keep in line with Council and Board of Elections timelines.

Mrs. Procop asked if the city has any suggestions from the department heads or mayor that they would like the commission to look at. Mr. Maistros stated there are some recommendations that he would like to propose as the commission gets to those particular sections.

Mr. Post asked the commission how they would like to proceed with the process. Mr. Post also asked if it would be beneficial to have the recommended changes from the city sooner so that they commission can review. Mr. Maistros stated he could get something to the commission. Mr. Maistros stated that the charter has some out of date procedures. Mr. Maistros stated he will would like to bring up the subjects as the commission gets to that section as not to disrupt the process.

Mr. Martin stated that the last time they met they decided to read through the entire charter as a group and then stopped at the end of each section and reviewed and asked questions.

Mr. Post stated meeting once a week from now until the end of May should allow for enough time to review and also meet the deadlines. The group decided to meet every Thursday at 6:00 pm from now until May 31st.

REVIEW OF SECTIONS I & II

Mr. Post stated that they will start the Charter this evening. Mr. Davis asked Mr. Maistros if he had the list of 'hot topics'. Mr. Maistros stated he did not have any changes for the first two sections. Mr. Post asked the commission if they felt the need to read Sections I and II as they are pretty straightforward.

REVIEW OF SECTION III

The commission elected to start with Section III which Mr. Post read out loud.

Mr. Post asked about swearing in of elected officials. He asked if it would make more sense to swear in at the first council meeting. Mr. Maistros stated that is how it used to be but the Board of Elections needed a definitive date that a term would start, therefore in 2014 it was put on the ballot to make the term start date December 1st.

Mr. Maistros spoke about the Districting Commission. He stated that the last time the city did this there was some pushback from the Board of Elections and ultimately the state rejected our revisions. The Board of Elections determines precincts on the same route that is used for the census which uses the back lot lines when dividing and the city typically uses the center of the street or something discernable like a creek. Mr. Maistros stated that this can be a difficult task

at times. He does not have any recommended language changes but wanted to make sure the commission was aware of this.

Mr. Maistros stated that the outdated part of Section 3.07 is the part regarding delivering paper copies to council members in the event of a special meeting. With today's technology an email would cover this option without adding to the cost on an employee driving around delivering notices.

After Section 3.10 was read Mr. Maistros stated he had some items for the commission to consider with this section. He stated that he would like to discuss changing the word 'involving' as stated in the second paragraph, first sentence to 'or specifically authorizing'. The reason for this is you can make an argument that apply for a grant involves money but shouldn't necessarily need to be read on three separate occasions.

Section 3.12 was read to the group. There was no comments or suggestions on this section. Mr. Maistros stated that he had something that he was asked to bring up that is not covered in Section 3. The way the charter is written right now a council person who is elected on an opposite term of the mayor could possibly run for mayor without having to give up his or her council seat and even if they lost the mayor election they could continue to be on council for the remainder of their current term. This creates an unfairness with those whose terms run the same as the mayor. Mr. Maistros asked if the commission saw this as a concern and if they did, how do they want to handle it.

The commission thought this should be addressed. Options were discussed and it was concluded that Mr. Maistros would provide some language proposals for a person moving from council seat to council seat and options for moving from council to mayor. Moving the primary from May to August or September would help with someone testing the waters in a May Primary and then running for council in the fall.

Mr. Gockowski brought up that a council person has to live in their ward for one year to run and the mayor has to live in the city for two years. He thought this seemed like a short amount of time. The members discussed different scenarios and decided the way it is written may be the best time frame option. It was mentioned maybe change to how long they were city residents instead of living in specific ward.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting unanimously adjourned at 7:25 PM