



Village of Reminderville
Charter Review Commission
March 11, 2015

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Wiggins at 7:03pm

Roll Call

Ms. Basel, present
Ms. Jeromos-Blayney, present
Mr. Owcarz, excused
Mr. Phillips, present
Mr. Wiggins, present

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Phillips moved to approve minutes from February 25, 2015. Ms. Blayney seconded. All in favor.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Please state your name and address. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person, not to exceed thirty minutes for a total of all public comments.

There were letters from residents for the Commission to discuss and consider.

Anonymous Resident:

The letter included the suggestion of providing health insurance only to full-time employees and elected officials should not be classified as employees. It also suggested term limits of no more than three 4-year terms for Council and four 4-year terms for Mayor.

There was a discussion regarding whether or not elected officials are employees and whether health insurance limitations should be added to the Charter. There is no clear-cut answer as to whether or not elected officials are employees. Mr. Phillips stated compensation, which he feels includes benefits, for Council is covered in Section 4.14, stating Council shall fix the compensation of the Mayor, members of Council, and each officer and employee. It was discussed that any raise in compensation set by Council is to be for the following elected term; should they be re-elected they would receive it. It was agreed that if residents feel their elected Councilmen are not doing their job properly, they can see to it they are not re-elected and they would not receive the raise or benefits. Mr. Phillips believes there should be a committee, possibly the Finance Committee

that could recommend compensations. It was decided not to recommend a Charter amendment pertaining to Council's compensation or classification but the Commission does feel Council should not receive a better insurance package than anyone else. Ms. Basel commented that health insurance could lead to life insurance and vacation time and so on. Mr. Wiggins stated these are issues that can be covered by legislation that is viewed by the public who can then comment at meetings and not re-elect if they are not happy with how their Council is voting on legislation.

There was then a discussion on term limits that included points on what to do if no one runs for an expired seat or if a term ended in the middle of a critical project or event that would impact results for residents. It was decided there was no benefit to the Village having term limits.

Kirk Metzger 10810 Crossings Drive

The letter included the suggestion of adding wording that would provide a more detailed explanation of legislation during Committee of the Whole meetings rather than just stating the title from the agenda. The letter also stated that the Finance Committee is not following the duties that are in the Charter, particularly assisting in the budget preparation and recommendation to Council as well as the minutes pertaining to their recommendations.

Discussion began with Ms. Task (Clerk of Council) stating if residents would like a detailed explanation of legislation's title on an agenda, they can call Village Hall and request a copy of the whole resolution or ordinance, they can call a Councilman or Mayor Alonso for clarification, or they can attend a meeting and ask during Comments from the Public. It is understandable that someone may not comprehend everything written in the title so for further explanation, it is good to ask or attend a meeting. Legislation is always available at Village Hall for residents to look through. Mr. Phillips commented it may help if more detail is put on the agenda especially when crucial decisions such as the rec center are going to be discussed. Mr. Wiggins stated and it was agreed upon that the attempt is being made to be open and accessible to the public and there is no need for a wording change.

There was then discussion pertaining to the Finance Committee's role in budget preparation and recommendation. Mr. DiCarlo, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated the Finance Committee was included in the budget preparation through a series of three finance meetings that were announced on the agendas and open to the public and then gave their recommendation to Council. Mr. Phillips asked if more detail could be added to the agenda for the purpose of letting residents know it was "to prepare the 2015 budget" rather than just stating it was a "budget meeting" as well as having more detailed minutes pertaining to the budget discussion. It was decided there is no need for additional wording in the Charter.

Lee Barthelman 3455 Heron Court

Mr. DiCarlo commented that Mr. Barthelman wasn't offering suggestions so much as looking for definitions to be addressed. The letter included finding funding to provide clear and audible video recordings of Council and COW

meetings as well as Zoning and Planning meetings; Council and COW holding meetings twice per month even if they don't have a quorum; chartered committees vs unchartered committees that possibly should be chartered; and adding referendum protection to the Charter.

It was decided that the funding for video recording doesn't belong in the Charter but it was acknowledged that they are sometimes hard to hear on YouTube. Ms. Task added audio recordings and minutes are available.

It was discussed that the only time there is not two meetings per month is during summer session (June, July, August) and in December if the second meeting falls close to Christmas Eve. Mr. DiCarlo stated that they have, in many instances, had to still have two meetings during summer session and December if the circumstances called for it. It was decided there was no need for additional wording in the Charter.

It was discussed that Long-Term Community Development, even though it is not as active as it once was, needs to stay in the Charter to ensure it is always there for residents who want to discuss and work toward community ideas and goals. It was decided that it was not necessary to add Parks & Recreation Committee and Communications Committee to the Charter. It was acknowledged that those are great committees that serve a great purpose but they do not have to have chartered requirements to benefit the Village and can be made into ad-hoc committees if need be.

The last issue of the letter will be discussed at the next meeting.

The Commission reviewed the drafted proposal Mr. Carpenter wrote up regarding Section 10.03, Civil Service. Ms. Blayney stated the words "promotional openings" were supposed to be added to the classified service list. Ms. Task will have it added for review at the next meeting. Ms. Basel had requested Ms. Task to research other chartered cities to see if they included part-time, temporary, and seasonal employees in classified or unclassified service. Ms. Task reported that Aurora, Fairfield, Sylvania, Medina, Chagrin Falls, and Mayfield have them as unclassified.

Next meetings are scheduled for March 18 and 25.

Ms. Blayney moved to adjourn. Mr. Phillips seconded. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Task, Clerk of Council
Village of Reminderville

Rodney Wiggins, Chairman
Village of Reminderville

Date _____