



Subject to Approval

- Approved as corrected
 Approved as submitted

Bluso Rogers

Charter Review Commission Meeting Minutes February 23, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Prior to the call to order, Mayor Wheeler swore in each member of the commission. The meeting was called to **order** at 7:22 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Ellen Daniels, Stephanie Landry, Ed Luther, Jim Smith and John Evans.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Michael Wheeler and Debbie Bluso Rogers, Assistant to the Mayor, Alejandro “Alex” Cortes, Village Law Director

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mrs. Bluso Rogers requested nominations for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. The following actions were taken.

▪ **Chair**

Motion made by Mr. Evans to nominate Jim Smith as Chair and seconded by Ms. Landry.

Motion passed unanimously.

▪ **Vice-Chair**

Motion made by Ms. Daniels to nominate Mr. Evans as Vice-Chair and seconded by Mr. Luther.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was turned over to the Chair, Mr. Smith.

WELCOME BY MAYOR MICHAEL WHEELER:

Mayor Wheeler expressed his appreciation to the commission members for their commitment and thanked the members in advance for their efforts. Mayor described the intensity of the weekly schedule in order to accomplish a recommendation to council by May. Mayor noted that he was grateful for their sacrifice of their personal time.

Mayor Wheeler opened up the discussion regarding the secretary position for the commission and requested opinion from the members regarding this position.

Ms. Landry stated that in 2010 she served as the Secretary and Assistant to the Mayor and opined that it was helpful for the organization of the interviews, scheduling meetings and interviews. Further, she added that follow-up research on behalf of the Commission was very helpful.

Mr. Smith requested a motion to appoint a commission secretary.

▪ **Charter Commission Secretary**

Motion made by Ms. Landry to appoint Debbie Bluso Rogers as Charter Commission Secretary and seconded by Mr. Evans.

Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS:

Welcome and Introductions:

Stephanie Landry: Ms. Landry worked for 37 years for the Village in a variety of capacities: Fire Department, Administration, Council Clerk and served as the Charter Commission Secretary in 2010. Ms. Landry looks forward to working with everyone on this important task.

Ellen Daniels: Ms. Daniels is a 32-year resident and has served on the Parks and Recreation Board for 25 years. Ms. Daniels is Dean **on the faculty** at the Kent State University College of Business and looks forward to serving.

John Evans: Mr. Evans is a life-long resident and served and was a commission member in 2010. He looks forward to sharing his experience from the last review and working with his fellow members

Ed Luther: Mr. Luther is a lifelong resident and is currently a government teach at Buckeye Schools. He is happy to be part of the commission and serving the community.

Jim Smith: Mr. Smith is a third-generation resident and local business man. The Smith family has a long history of working and serving for the Village of Richfield. This is the third time that Mr. Smith has served on the Charter Review Commission.

Plans:

Chairman Smith stated that the commission's recommendation to Council is required to be completed by May. In the past, the charter was reviewed in its entirety and then each department **director, police and fire** chiefs, board members and members of council were interviewed. **were asked to attend and provide input.** Comments from the public were submitted in writing and became part of the records.

In 2010, meetings were held every Monday at 7:30 p.m. A brief discussion followed regarding the meeting schedule and the Chair requested a motion.

Motion made by Ms. Daniels that the Charter Review Commission meet every Monday from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and seconded by Mr. Evans.

Motion passed unanimously.

Charter Review:

Ms. Daniels read the Charter Preamble and Article I, Names and Boundaries, followed by Ms. Landry **who read** reading Article II, Powers of the Municipality and Article III, Mayor from Section 3.01 to 3.03A. Mr. Luther read Article III, Mayor from B. Legislative Powers to Section 3.05 Removal.

The Commission members discussed the absence of part-time to full-time designation of the Mayor's position. The **Commission members'** consensus was that the definition was left intentionally vague in order for **the Mayor's to determine the necessary time commitment to perform the required duties and responsibilities of the position.** ~~elected officers to define their time at their own discretion.~~

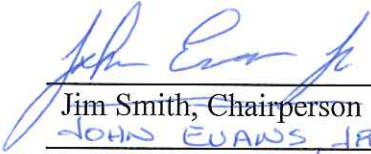
Regarding term limits **for the Mayor**, the Commission was satisfied that two (2) terms was adequate but acknowledged the public's "hot topic" was to have outgoing Mayors **ineligible to serve in any governmental position for two years after leaving office.** ~~sit out for all elected positions.~~ The members will continue to obtain additional public comment to consider this a mandate and inclusion as a recommendation to council.

There were no other comments or issues on Article III.

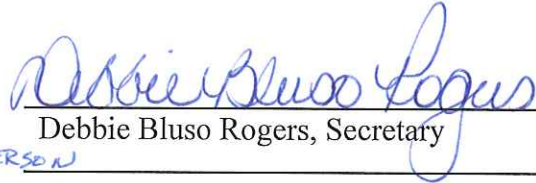
The members requested that the Law Director provide a definition for purchasing agent for the next meeting. **"Purchasing Agent" as the term applies to the Mayor's position, as it was determined that the Commission needed further explanation.**

Adjournment:

Motion Mr. Evans made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. and it was seconded by Mr. Luther. Hearing all "ayes" motion passed unanimously.



Jim Smith, Chairperson
JOHN EVANS, JR., VICE-CHAIRPERSON



Debbie Bluso Rogers, Secretary

Date:
3-2-2020
