



**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Organizational Meeting - January 31, 2018**

The organizational meeting of the Charter Review Commission was held on January 31, 2018 in Council Chambers. Mayor Barbish thanked the newly appointed members for their participation. He explained that the commission has a deadline of June 1, 2019 to submit recommendations to City Council; however, that deadline can be moved up per a decision of this commission.

The following commission members were present:

Daniel Ivancic, Chairperson – Ward 1
Linda Lipovec – Ward 2
Mark Ozanick – Ward 4
Thomas Thielman – Ward 3
Joseph Turi – Ward 4
Joseph Yesilosky – Ward 1
Donald Zimmerman, Vice-Chairperson – Ward 1

Members excused:

Scott Britton – Ward 3
Sheila Walsh-Manfredi – Ward 2

Law Director Zele explained that the primary purpose of this organizational meeting is to elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson and to decide on procedures for this commission. Under our Charter, every ten years the Charter (constitution) must be reviewed by a Charter Review Commission. The Charter differs from the Codified Ordinances (laws). This commission is not reviewing Codified Ordinances. The Charter may be amended as long as it does not conflict with Ohio law. There is no requirement that changes be made. The Law Director and the Mayor are not members of the commission. Mayor; Administrators; and Council members may be invited to attend any meeting that the commission feels necessary.

Mr. Zele reiterated that the deadline for the completion of the Charter Review is June 1, 2019; however, the project may be completed before then. Proposed changes are subject to 2/3 approval of the commission members before being presented to Council. With 2/3 approval of Council members, the changes can then be submitted to the electorate in the November General Election. If the commission would like to submit a change for the 2018 General Election, the deadline is June 1, 2018.

It was ascertained that the newly appointed commission members do not hold any other elected or appointed office or employment with the City of Wickliffe and that each ward of the City is represented.

The Charter Review Commission meetings are open to the public and subject to Ohio Sunshine Laws. The meetings will be audio recorded. All proceedings of the commission are subject to Ohio's Public Records Act. Audience participation may be permitted, based on this commission's determination. *Roberts Rules of Order* will be followed. Proceedings from the Charter Review of 1998 and 2008 are available for reference upon request from Sue Iafelice.

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Meetings may be scheduled as the commission determines; however, the meetings must be publicized according to legal requirements. Mr. Zele cautioned that discussions regarding the Charter need to take place during scheduled public meetings, not at casual gatherings.

The sequence of reviewing the various sections of the Charter is at the discretion of the commission.

It was suggested that members read charters from neighboring cities.

Any needed legal clarification may be submitted via email to Mr. Zele for his reply.

A point to keep in mind is that ballots may include only one issue, not multiple issues. It is very expensive to place items on the ballot.

Mayor Barbish stated that he would like to see zoning referendum on the ballot this year, even though other items may not develop until later in the review process. Mr. Zele clarified that only one recommendation may be presented to Council, not item-by-item presentations.

Mayor Barbish mentioned additional areas for possible consideration: frequency of Charter Reviews; staggered terms for elected officials; term limits for elected officials; number of council seats; and method of setting salaries for elected officials.

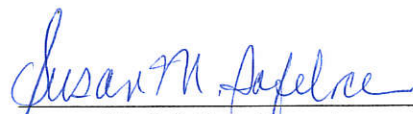
Daniel Ivancic was nominated and approved by the members to serve as Chairperson. Donald Zimmerman was nominated and approved by the members to serve as Vice-Chairperson.

After much discussion, the policy for audience participation (public comment) at future meetings was made. It was decided that audience participation (public comment) will be limited to two minutes per person. Mr. Zele suggested that those wishing to address the commission for public comment be asked to state their name and address for the record; however, not wishing to identify themselves is not a reason to be refused the opportunity to speak. It is noted that Mr. Ozanick was opposed to audience participation for two minutes.

The commission will meet twice monthly with the next meetings being scheduled for February 7, February 28, March 14, and March 28, 2018 beginning at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers. Going forward, meetings will be held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, subject to change. Agendas will reflect which sections of the Charter will be discussed at each respective meeting.

Chairman Ivancic asked that all members read Article I, II, and III of the Charter in preparation for discussion at the next meeting. He asked that all members notify him of any issues to be emphasized at ensuing meetings.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. By show of hands, all were in favor and none were opposed. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.



Susan M. Iafelice, Secretary

Approved:



Daniel Ivancic, Chairperson