

Record of Proceedings

VILLAGE OF MINERVA PARK CHARTER COMMISSION

Minutes of the

July 25th, 2019

Commission Meeting

Chairwoman Conger called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Roll: Chairwoman Conger, Members Townsend, Busick, Walsh, Silverman-Starr, Beeba, Wolf, Park-Curry, Lewis. Member Harker arrived at 6:48pm.

Attending: Councilmen Benedetti and Starr, Councilwoman Hughes. Councilmen Benedetti and Starr, and Councilwoman Hughes left at 7:37pm.

Meeting Minutes:

- ❖ Members Park-Curry and Lewis had some notes and corrections on the 5/9/19 meeting minutes.

Old Business:

- ❖ Chairwoman Conger related the e-mails from Counsel and Village Counsel Gene Holland regarding the changes made to the Charter at the 7/11 meeting. She had reviewed the updated draft with Bricker & Eckler and it was Counsel's advice that, as written, the change from a comma to a period would not substantively change the Charter language.
- ❖ The Commission reviewed Section 4.06 (B), reading for clarity of intent.
- ❖ Member Walsh referred the Commission to 4.03 (B) which refers to readings rather than effective date.
- ❖ Member Busick suggested that, rather than referencing a different section, that section 4.06(B) should specifically state the intent.
- ❖ Member Walsh suggested reformatting the section to clarify the reference.
- ❖ Member Wolf explained that Counsel's suggestion was to specifically state the reference.
- ❖ Member Park-Curry explained the difference between readings, passage, and effective date. And how the proposed suggested reworking would affect the specific section. She then asked if the intent that large Village purchases or substantive infrastructure changes be subject to referendum.
- ❖ Member Wolf replied that it was.
- ❖ Member Busick referred the Commission to his proposed changes, which specifically stated the conditions for when resolutions do not take place immediately.
- ❖ Member Walsh inquired as to the various types of resolutions and which were broken out by the updated language. Member Wolf explained that the intent was to allow large purchases and substantive changes to be subject to referendum, while not hamstringing Council from passing smaller, less-substantive resolutions.
- ❖ Member Harker asked if anyone was opposed to the change. No one was.
- ❖ The Commission discussed the wording of Member Busick's changes, reviewing them for clarity of grammar and punctuation.
- ❖ Chairwoman Conger asked the attending Council members as to whether it clears up their confusion. Councilwoman Benedetti, Hughes, and Starr said that it did--but made it clear they were speaking as citizens rather than Village Officials.

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Old Business:

- ❖ Member Park-Curry moved to accept Member Busick's changes to Section 4.06(B). Member Busick seconded. All in favor.
- ❖ Member Busick also stated that he would like to date the document so that everyone knows they are working with the most current version. The Commission agreed.

The Commission went into recess at 7:17pm. Chairwoman Conger called the Commission back to order at 7:29pm.

Outreach and Education:

- ❖ Member Wolf raised concerns that any amount of explication could be viewed as advocacy. He suggested asking counsel if it would be possible to disband the Charter Commission following Council's approval of the Charter. That way, members would be acting as private citizens, whose actions would not risk being seen as advocacy.
- ❖ Member Busick asked if there were going to be future informational sessions, then shouldn't the Commission be responsible for that.
- ❖ Councilman Benedetti asked if the Commission needed to be intact in order to deal with Charter review and amendment. Member Wolf explained that the Council could empanel a Charter Review commission, it would not be the Commission as currently construed.
- ❖ The Commission reviewed Member Park-Curry's explication of the section of the Charter dealing Council responsibilities, makeup, and powers.
- ❖ The Commission reviewed Member Walsh's explication of Section 4, which deals with the Form of Action by Council.
- ❖ The Commission reviewed Member Lewis' explication of the Administrator's role and powers.
- ❖ The Commission reviewed Member Bell's explication of the Mayor's roles and duties.

New Business:

- ❖ Member Park-Curry related that the Village should take over the printing responsibilities, as the timeline is specific with regards to how this is handled. Member Park-Curry volunteered to speak to Kim Pulley regarding the print responsibilities.
- ❖ Member Townsend asked where the explications would be posted. Chairwoman Conger replied that the intention was to post them to the website as well as the various MP Facebook groups.
- ❖ Member Wolf moved to adjourn. Member Walsh Seconded. All in favor.

The Commission adjourned at 8:30pm.