

Charter Review Committee
March 22, 2010
City Hall Conference Room
9:00 a.m.
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman McIntosh called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Edgewater Council Chambers.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present were, Pat Card, Ferd Heeb, and Robert McIntosh, Robert Lott and Scott Brown were absent. Also present were Assistant City Attorney Mike Ciocchetti and City Clerk Bonnie Wenzel.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. March 11, 2010

Mr. Heeb moved to approve the minutes of March 11, 2010, second by Mr. Card.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

b. March 15, 2010

Mr. Card moved to approve the minutes of March 15, 2010, second by Mr. Heeb

MOTION CARRIED

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Vice-Chairman McIntosh asked Assistant City Attorney Ciocchetti to discuss the proposed amendment draft Ordinances.

Assistant City Attorney Ciocchetti discussed the draft Ordinance relating to the height restriction. He asked the City Clerk Wenzel verify with the department of Elections whether or not the words "Shall the above-described Charter amendment be adopted" was included in the 75 word limitation on the ballot question. City Clerk agreed to do so prior to the next meeting. Mr. Heeb asked if the Code would be re-numbered. Assistant City Attorney Ciocchetti thought the Resolution adopted if the amendment was approved by the voters would allow for renumbering.

Mr. Card moved to approve the proposed ordinance for the height limit, second by Mr. Heeb.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0

Assistant City Attorney Ciocchetti then discussed the proposed Ordinance pertaining to the residency requirement of certain employees. He stated the ordinance removed the words "police and fire chief" from the language regarding the waiver exception. Discussion ensued regarding the wording of the ballot language.

Assistant City Attorney Ciocchetti suggested changing the question to read "Amendment of ~~Circumstances When City Council May Waive the Police and Fire Chief~~ Residency Requirements of Certain City Department Heads or Employees". Vice-Chairman McIntosh had issue with the term "certain employees".

Mr. Heeb moved to table this item, second by Mr. Card

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MOTION CARRIED 3-0

Mr. Card stated he spoke with most of the City Council members and there were a few items he would like to bring before the committee. It was suggested that term-limits be looked for removal from the Charter. It was also suggested that the Committee come up with issues to put on the ballot so the 35-foot height amendment was not the only question. Another issue brought up was Council compensation and possibly polling other cities. He stated this has already been discussed by the Committee.

Mr. Heeb stated, term limits they could look at if they suggested going to every two years. Vice-Chairman McIntosh suggested no proposed changes to term limits.

Mr. Card stated again that the Committee previously discussed compensation. Mr. Heeb stated the real issue was compensation and benefits. Mr. Card stated this has been discussed and did not feel it would move forward. Mr. Heeb stated he felt this should be left alone.

Vice-Chairman McIntosh spoke about the ACS regarding redistricting.

Vice-Chairman McIntosh called at 10-minute recess at 9:56 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:06 a.m.

Vice-Chairman McIntosh continued the discussion on the ACS. Mr. Card questioned whether or not is actual figures of statistically sound national figures. Vice-Chairman McIntosh stated the surveys were geared towards smaller communities; it was only a population estimate and the figures were used for Federal funding, not redistricting. Mr. Card felt it was not appropriate for the City to use those figures for redistricting. Assistant City Attorney Ciocchetti stated is these numbers were used and it was challenged and the City lost it would undermine every action taken by that Council. Vice-Chairman McIntosh stated that Congress goes by the Census, it is in the Constitution and that is what the Charter is based on. Assistant City Attorney suggested leaving that as it stands.

Mr. Card stated they will leave a message for the next committee via the City Clerk to review with concern the future growth of the City. Vice-Chairman McIntosh and Mr. Heeb both agreed.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

APPROVED:

Bonnie Wenzel, City Clerk

Robert Lott, Chairman