

Meeting Minutes
CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS 2014 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Monday, March 2, 2015
Council Chambers, Willoughby Hills City Hall

Call to order by Vice Chairman Jim Walsh at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Dr. Stephen Atkins, Mrs. Joyce Grady, Mrs. Jennifer Greer, Mrs. Judy Shrefler, Mrs. Sandy Taddeo, Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper (arrived at 7:07 p.m. after Roll Call), Vice Chairman W. James Walsh and Mr. Jerry Wolanin

Members Absent: Chairman Andy Gardner

Vice Chairman Jim Walsh will act as Chairman Pro Tem for tonight's meeting with the absence of Chairman Andy Gardner.

Appointment of Vice Chairman Pro Tem:

Motion was made by Joyce Grady to nominate Judy Shrefler as Vice Chairman Pro Tem for tonight's meeting.

Seconded by Jerry Wolanin.

VOTE: 7 AYES/0 NAYS/1 ABSTENTION (Shrefler); MOTION PASSES.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Charter Review Commission minutes from 02/17/15:

Motion to approve the minutes by Jerry Wolanin.

Seconded by Judy Shrefler.

Vote: 8 AYES/0 NAYES; MOTION PASSES

Public Portion #1:

Section 107.08 – Public Meetings of Municipal Bodies of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby Hills: (a) All meetings of any municipal body are declared to be public meetings open to the public at all times. All meetings shall provide a reasonable opportunity to hear public opinion. Pursuant to a Resolution of the Commission adopted on February 17, 2015, Public Portion is limited to 3 minutes per speaker and will occur at the Beginning and End of Commission meetings.

Public Portion opened at 7:08 p.m.

The following resident spoke:

- 1) Cheryl Ota, 2960 Marcum Blvd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44092
Questioned 7.3 Bonds and Notes and City's borrowing of funds

Public Portion closed at 7:10 p.m.

Chairman Pro Tem Jim Walsh advised Ms. Ota that we will research her question and get back to her at a future meeting.

Public Hearings:

Chairman Pro Tem Jim Walsh outlined guidelines for Public Hearing. This was provided in a written format and made available to CRC members and all present in the public.

Public Hearing – Round 1 opened at 7:11 p.m.

The following residents spoke:

- 1) Councilman John Plecnik, 2890 Bishop Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44092
John had concerns about “holding us to a higher standard” with regard to Article IX. The changes he recommends in Article IX are:
 - a) 9.22 – “For Officers. No member of the immediate family of any office of the Municipality may be employed by the Municipality in any noncivil service employment.”
He suggests changing the word “noncivil service” to “unclassified” as he believes it refers to the “unclassified” classification of Civil Service as outlined in Section 9.44 of our Charter.
 - b) 9.21 – “No officer or employee shall have any financial interest, either directly or indirectly...”
He recommends keeping the word “indirectly” because he believes it keeps us to “higher standards.”
- 2) Frank Cihula, 35060 Dixon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
9.1 – Mr. Cihula recommends eliminating “members of all Council or Charter-established Committees, Bureaus, or Commissions or Agencies”. If CRC decides to keep this line, he would recommend to add “Boards”.

Public Hearing – Round 1 closed at 7:17 p.m.

Public Hearing – Round 2 opened at 7:17 p.m. No one spoke.

Public Hearing – Round 2 closed at 7:18 p.m.

Public Hearing – Round 3 opened at 7:18 p.m. No one spoke.

Public Hearing – Round 3 closed at 7:18 p.m.

Old Business:

Request to City officials for Public Hearing input was made via email by CRC member Jerry Wolanin. The following City officials brought forth requests:

- 1) Police Chief Christopher Collins
Recommends changes to 9.4 Civil Service Section, as noted on the handout he provided to CRC.

- 2) Economic Development Director Steve Roszczyk Recommends changes to Section 5.15 – “Mandatory Public Vote on Land Use Changes” as per the handout he provided to CRC. He indicated his reasons for wanting to make these changes as a way to assist in his capacity as Economic Development Director.

Public Portion #2:

Frank Cihula, 35060 Dixon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
Mr. Cihula commented on the use variance issue, as outlined by Econ. Dev. Director Steve Roszczyk can be an extremely lengthy process. Further, he offered to provide details about the history of zoning changes and/or permitting a use that was not thought of when the it was written. Later, he mentioned that the rules now make it so that a developer must go to Court, rather than to the Electors.

Cheryl Ota, 2960 Marcum Blvd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44092
Cheryl 's concern was that she thought it was Steve Roszczyk's job to keep businesses, yet some are gone. It was her feeling that we do not need more land to be zoned commercial, but instead “fill the ones that are empty now.”

Public Portion #2 closed at 7:32 p.m.

New Business:

Tanya Taylor-Draper asked if it would be permissible for CRC members to contact the City officials who submitted input to clarify some points. Chairman Pro Tem Walsh agreed that it would be fine to contact those individuals for clarification, but to keep the Sunshine Law in mind. Also, it was agreed that whatever question(s) an individual CRC member may have and gets answered by the City official, that they will email that to the entire group, bearing in mind Sunshine Law requirements about decision making with the group.

For the Good of the Order

Joyce Grady – City's Pancake Breakfasts 3/8 and 3/15

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Joyce Grady.
Seconded by Jerry Wolanin.
Vote: 8 AYES/0 NAYES; MOTION PASSES.
Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
W. James Walsh, Chairman Pro Tem

Date

ATTEST: _____
Gloria Majeski

DRAFT