

Meeting Minutes
CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS 2014 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Monday, October 20, 2014
O’Ryan Room, Willoughby Hills Community Center

Call to order by Chairman Andy Gardner at 7:11 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Chairman Mr. Andy Gardner, Dr. Stephen Atkins, Mrs. Joyce Grady, Mr. C.J. Latsa, and Mrs. Sandy Taddeo

Members Absent:

Mr. Jim Walsh, Mrs. Judy Shrefler, Mrs. Tanya Taylor-Draper, Jerry Wolanin

Five of nine are present at Roll Call- recognized as quorum.

Approval of Charter Review minutes from 10/6/14:

There were no corrections or additions to the 10/6/14 minutes.

Minutes approved: Gardner, Latsa, Taddeo, Grady

Abstained: Atkins

Public Portion: No public present at this time.

Old Business:

Review and discussion of Article IX Proposed Revisions:

ARTICLE IX, Section 9.1 to 9.3: Chairman Andy Gardner handed out: “WILLOUGHBY HILLS CHARTER/Section 9.1-9.3 (as currently in effect)” and “WILLOUGHBY HILLS CHARTER/Section 9.1-9.3 (as proposed revisions marked)***”

Chairman Gardner reviewed the proposed changes, as summarized by input from committee members throughout our meetings and deliberations.

7:18 p.m. Mr. Jim Walsh arrived.

Chairman Gardner reviewed and summarized our discussion prior to Mr. Walsh’s arrival. (see *handout*** for complete proposed revisions*)

-**9.1** : “Bureaus or Agencies” has been deleted since the city has none.

-**9.21** : Single line through text represents the recommendations of text to be deleted. Double underline represents text recommended to be added. It is felt this section allows for progressive punishment.

-**9.22** : Nepotism clause removed.

-**9.32** : It is recommended that the following be deleted: "The council shall remove immediately any councilman and any other officer to whom it may appoint a successor who fails," and replaced with: "The Council shall be judge of the election and qualifications of its own members and those employees and officers to whom the Council may appoint a successor. It may punish, suspend or remove from office any member of Council or any employee or officer to whom Council may appoint a successor for:"

7:31 p.m. Tanya Taylor-Draper arrived. Chairman Andy Gardner passed out handout*** and reviewed the proposed revisions to section 9.1 to 9.3.

Handout text in italics noted for comparison/discussion by the full charter review committee. No further corrections or additions were made at this time without the full committee present.

Article IX, section 5.6 & 10.4 - Mr. Jim Walsh

Mr. Jim Walsh passed out handout entitled, "10/20/2014- Section 5.6 proposed changes-additions in *italics* omissions in ~~strikeout~~"

Some of the suggestions discussed but waiting for further action until full committee deliberations include:

- **5.61**: suggest changing : "not less than once every eight (8) years" to "at least once every eight (8) years" for clarity.
- **5.62** : a suggestion was discussed for changing when revisions could be submitted to council, striking 'not sooner than July 15 nor' and changing final deadline for submissions of approved revisions to council to August 1. It was pointed out that the two dates provided revisions would not be on special election ballots.
- **10.4** : there was debate over whether 2/3 council vote should be able to submit charter revisions to the electorate as provided in current charter. The debate favored not striking this provision.
- **10.4** : Proposed Amendments by the Charter Review Commission to be submitted only to the electorate on general elections, eliminating primary elections. Also discussion to expand this requirement for council and citizen petition proposed amendments.

Without the full committee present, no further action was taken other other than reviewing and discussing proposed revisions.

Due to time restrictions and in absence of committee members, discussions of Article IX, sections 9.4 and 5.15 would be rescheduled for another meeting.

New Business

Mr. Jim Walsh expressed his concern that he may not be able to attend the next meeting due to his 30th wedding anniversary.

Chairman Andy Gardner reminded those in attendance that the next meeting will be downstairs on Monday, November 3, 2014, 7:00 p.m. in the Schaefer Room, Lower Level WH Community Center. The room is all the way down at the end of the hall on the left.

Public Portion #2

1) Mrs. Cheryl Ota, 2960 Marcum Blvd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44092

Pointed out grammatical correction in handout***. Also noted for clarity and cohesive purposes the order of council member, officer, or employee.

2) Ms. Linda Fulton, 2990 Marcum Blvd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44092

Regarding section IX, she questioned the line of succession and procedure for president of council to assume mayor and how vacated council president position is filled (2.4). What happens when mayor returns? Should there be a doctors excuse required?

3) Mr. Frank Cihula, 35060 Dixon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

As someone who has served on previous charter review committees, if you want to do a thorough job, you really need to start in January. As for modifications to 10.4, definitely 2/3 members of council vote to put an amendment on the ballot and pointed out that it still needs to be approved by voters.

For the Good of the Order:

Both Jim Walsh and Andy Gardner reminded those in attendance what a wonderful asset the Willoughby Hills Community Center for citizens reserving rooms for private functions. Full kitchen, lots of seating and very inexpensive when compared to other venues.

Also Andy Gardner once again, reminded those in attendance this room will be locked for election the next day and that we will be meeting downstairs, all the way down the hall to the left in the in the Schaefer Room, at 7:00 p.m. for members and 6:30 p.m. for Jim Walsh.

No objections to "Motion to Adjourn".
Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephen D. Atkins, D.D.S. in Mrs. Gloria Majeski's absence.


Chairman 11/3/14


Secretary pro-tem 11/3/14