

City of Excelsior
Charter Commission

Minutes

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Crow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mary Jo Fulkerson resigned her position as Recording Secretary because of other personal commitments. Commissioner Harrod moved, Commissioner Mueller seconded, to appoint Jeannie Thompson as Recording Secretary. The vote on the motion was 12/0.

2. ROLL CALL

Charter Members Present: Vice Chair Crow, Bolles, Brokaw, Finch, Fulkerson, Harrod, Hartwich, Leafer, Mueller, Norman, Nuese-Marine, and Thompson.

Charter Members Absent: Chair Bratland, Caron, and Wilson.

Also Present: City Manager Kristi Luger.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Crow submitted a modified Agenda that included additional materials and items for Charter Commissioner's consideration, not included in Chair Bratland's Agenda proposed in December.

Commissioner Harrod moved, Leafer seconded to eliminate the following items: "Petition – Mark Bowers; Staff Data Review, Analysis – Crow; Possible Meet with City Council; Possible Meet with Other Two Cities", and amend the Agenda to include: "Finalizing Benchmarking Exercise; Schedule Next Meeting; and Go Over Issues, Questions to Ask".

Motion passed 7/5, with Commissioners Bolles, Crow, Fulkerson, Norman, and Nuese-Marine voting nay.

4. Approval of Minutes: December 15 2010

Commissioner Finch moved, Commissioner Harrod seconded, to continue approval of the December 15, 2010 Minutes pending the corrections listed below:

- Approval of 12/01/10 Meeting Minutes should reflect that Wilson abstained from voting.
- Approval of 12/01/10 Meeting Minutes should reflect that Neusse-Marine was present at 12/01/10 meeting.
- December 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes should reflect: Commissioner Harrod moved, Commissioner Mueller seconded, continuance and due diligence of benchmarking exercises of the other three cities – Fridley, Mounds View, and Lino Lakes. Motion carried 10/2, with Commissioners Crow and Fulkerson voting nay. Chair Bratland requested that the opposing Commissioners participate in the process.
- December 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes should reflect: Chair Bratland led the group in a benchmark discussion about Levy Limit provisions found in the charters of the other cities. A list of points to ask staff or charter members of other cities was generated.
- Dec. 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes should reflect: Commissioner Nuese-Marine moved, Commissioner Mueller seconded, to approve the December 1, 2010 Minutes as corrected, with the following additions/corrections being inserted into the body of the December 1, 2010 Minutes. Motion approved 11/0/1, with A. J. Wilson abstaining from the motion.
- December 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes should reflect: Chair Bratland led the group in a benchmark discussion about Levy Limit provisions found in the charters of the other cities. A list of points to ask staff or charter members of other cities was generated.

Motion to continue approval of the December 15, 2010 Minutes to the next meeting passed 12/0.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chair Crow described legal options for the Charter Commission regarding Mark Bowers Petition. There are two options: Commission support or denial of the Petition or secondly, to adopt the petition which would make it a Charter Commission issue, and it would then be under the design and development of the Commission including language, content, and timing. At any point, Mark Bowers can proceed with the existing petition to take it to a ballot.

There was a discussion to direct attention and focus of the benchmarking elements of the two city charters' direct relevance to the petition.

Commissioner Finch moved, seconded by Commissioner Harrod to look at the 5 Year Financial Plan of the other city's Charters as outlined in the spread-sheets. Vote on the motion was 11/1, with Fulkerson voting nay.

Direction to City Staff: By consensus, the Commission agreed to invite Excelsior City staff regarding budgeting elements, projections, planning processes, and how the budget is publicized. Further, staff is to consider elements of relevance in the Fridley and Mounds View Charters.

The Commission developed a list of issues to consider:

- The Pros and Cons of a '5 Year Rolling Budget Plan'
- Links of relevance to the Mounds View Charter Re. a '5 Year Rolling Budget'
- Briefing from Excelsior City Manager and Finance Director on specifics of the City's budgeting process
- How a 5 Year Financial Plan would be developed, what would be included, how approved, and how enforced
- What additional expenditures the City would incur to implement a 5 Year Rolling Budget.
- Staff to educate the Commission on how the City functions financially.

Mark Bowers is requested to attend the 2/09/11 meeting to answer the following questions:

- What does he mean in his Petition by 'budget'?
- How would he address item 7.05 in the Mounds View Charter?
- How would he address item 7.06 in the Mounds View Charter?
- What is his understanding and intent by a '5 Year Rolling Budget'?

6. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting scheduled for February 9, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Harrod moved, Brokaw seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Thompson
Secretary