

Meeting Minutes
New Prague Charter Commission
Wednesday, May 28, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Kay Wilcox with the following members present: Maggie Bass, Ben Bartusek, Brad Carlson, Paul Flick, Mary Klimp, Jim Kratochvil, Shawn Ryan and Pat Scripture.

Staff Present: City Administrator Johnson and City Attorney Scott Riggs

2. Minutes

It was moved by Scripture, seconded by Flick to approve the minutes from May 14, 2014.

Motion carried. (6-0)

* *Commission Member Carlson arrived at 6:31 p.m.*

3. Commission Rules and Procedures -

Chairperson Wilcox indicated that the next item of business was to review the revised Charter Commission Rules and Procedures that were developed at the May 14, 2014 meeting. The City Attorney's office provided the Commission with both a red-lined copy and a clean copy of the document. After brief discussion, it was moved by Bartusek, seconded by Bass to approve the Rules and Procedures having an effective date of May 28, 214. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Chairperson Wilcox introduced the next item for discussion on the Review of the City Charter. City Attorney Riggs provided the Commission with a summary of the comments received from Commission members and it was organized by Charter Chapter and Sections. As a starting point, it was the consensus of the Commission to have the City Attorney undertake Charter clean-up items with capitalization, definition of terms, etc. for the entire Charter.

The Commission began their review of Chapters 1, 2 and 3 of the Charter. The Commission had significant discussion on Section 2.03 regarding the future term for the Mayor. The question discussed was should the term remain at 2 year or should it be increased to 4 years like Councilmembers. All members present provided individual thoughts on changing the term, both pro and con. After significant discussion, it was the consensus of the group to recommend to the Council to change the term from 2 to 4 years. Those in favor of the change were Bartusek, Bass, Carlson, Flick, Scripture and Wilcox. Those against were Kratochvil.

* *Commission Member Klimp and Ryan arrived at 7:02 p.m.*

The Commission continued their discussion and possible changes to various other Sections -

- 2.04 - Strike last sentence
- 2.05 - City Attorney to check State Statutes and tweak language
- 2.06 - ok
- 2.07 - ok
- 2.08 - ok
- 2.09 - City Attorney to check
- 2.10 - City Attorney to work on revisions and clean-up

- 3.01 - City Attorney to revise and change last sentence
- 3.02 - City Attorney to tweak and number from 3 to 2
- 3.03 - ok
- 3.05 - City Attorney to review and make changes for further review
- 3.06 - Delete "a member of the Council"
- 3.07 - City Attorney to review 2nd sentence. Recommendation to Staff to have Council look at some type of meeting time limit for Board and Commissions.
- 3.08 - City Attorney to review and determine if definitions are needed.
- 3.10 - Delete "morals"; add at end - "of Councilmembers present"
- 3.11 - City Attorney to revise this paragraph
- 3.12 - City Attorney to revise this paragraph
- 3.13 - Significant discussion. City Attorney to change time to "upon publication"; publication by summary and determine other needed revisions.
- 3.14 - City Attorney will re-write this entire paragraph
- 3.15 - Add "electronic version" in 2nd sentence. City Attorney to review and determine if other changes are needed.

The Commission discussed setting dates for their meetings. Due to absences of City Attorney and City Administrator in June, the next dates are to be July 9th and 23rd with a starting time of 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

It was the consensus of the Commission to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Klimp
Secretary/Treasurer