

Minutes for the City of Lansing Charter Commission

Thursday, September 11, 2025, 6:30 PM

Tony Benavides City Council Chambers,
Lansing City Hall, 10th floor, 124 W. Michigan Ave.

Present: Commissioners Adams Simon, Anderson, Boyd, Dowd, Jeffries, Qawwee, Washington

Absent: Commissioners Bauer (excused), Lopez (excused),

Staff Present: City Clerk Swope, Deputy Clerk Smith-Zande

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeffries at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call

Clerk Swope called the roll of the Commission. A quorum was present.

Adopt the Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Boyd to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

Approval the Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Simon to approve the corrected minutes of the September 3, 2025 meeting.

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Simon to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025 meeting.

Motion carried.

Public Comment

Stan Shuck spoke in support of switching to a Council-Manager form of government.

Nicklas Zande spoke in support of having 8 wards and 1 at-large Council position.

Officer Reports

Chair

Chair Jeffries reminded everyone of the upcoming Informational Community Meetings.

Vice-Chair

No report.

Clerk

Clerk Swope acknowledged written communications in the packet and provided a budget update: the Commission has spent \$274,446.41 with a remaining balance of \$225,553.59.

New Business

A. Educational Plan for Proposed City Charter

The Commission reviewed the cost estimates provided by City Clerk Swope.

Moved by Commissioner Boyd to approve the proposed Educational Plan including expenses of \$31,060.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yeas: Commissioners Adams Simon, Boyd, Dowd, Jeffries, Qawwee

Nays: Commissioners Anderson, Washington

Public Comment

Nicklas Zande spoke in favor of having more wards than in the proposed Charter.

Erik Almquist spoke about the strong Mayor system vs the Council-Manager form of government.

Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Jeffries spoke about the rationale behind keeping the strong Mayor form of government.

Commissioner Washington spoke about the rationale behind keeping the strong Mayor form of government.

Commissioner Boyd spoke about the rationale behind keeping the strong Mayor form of government.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jeffries at 7:05 PM.