MINUTES
Elected Officers Compensation Commission
Wednesday, February 24, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86378011727; ID: 863 7801 1727; or Dial in: (646) 876 9923
Held virtually in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public & to mitigate the spread of COVID 19

ROLL CALL
Commission Chairperson Liisa Speaker, remotely from Lansing, Michigan
Commission Vice Chairperson Derek Melot, remotely from Lansing, Michigan
Commission Member Gillian Dawson, excused
Commission Member Brian Huggler, remotely from Punta Gorda, Florida
Commission Member Jeff McAlvey, remotely from Lansing, Michigan
Commission Member Cassie Alley, Member, remotely from Lansing, Michigan

OTHERS PRESENT
Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Jim Smiertka, Chief Deputy Attorney
Robert Widigan, Finance Director
Jake Brower, Budget Director

CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
MOTION BY MEMBER HUGGLER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2021, SUPPORTED BY MEMBER MCALVEY. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

BUSINESS
Reports, Communications, Presentations, Commission Questions and Discussion
City Financial Forecast; City Income Taxes; State/Federal Stimulus Impact, Etc.
Mr. Widigan provided introductions and work experience for both himself and Mr. Brower. Mr. Brower presented the 2nd Quarter report that was recently presented to City Council on February 22, 2021. During the presentation Mr. Brower also provided a brief explanation on the ACA penalties to the State for non-filing in 2017, 2018 and 2019. The City worked with the State, OCA and the Federal government to restore the fines and were successful in the appeal. This was done after the FY2020 budget, so it will be reflected in the FY 2021 Budget in July. The next note was the grant that was awarded for public safety payroll reimbursement and funds to local governments, along with the work share program City employees have been participating in, along with participating in the summer of 2020. Based on the reporting, Chairperson Speaker asked about the balance of the General Fund and the Fund Balance. Mr. Brower confirmed the GF reflects an increase in 2021, however the FB will not hit their goal. It should be $16.4 million, but will fall under that. Member Melot asked if the City revenue budget will be tight over the next 2-5 years, and it was confirmed. He asked what percentage of retiree fixed cost is in the GF, and was informed it is 30%. Lastly it was asked if the budget will see small increases for services, and that was also confirmed. Mr. Widigan noted the revenue increases should be close to 5.2% but are at 3.8%. Mr. Brower presented on the revenue year to date, noting BWL will continue to be the set amount of $25,000,000 through 2026, and Mr. Widigan overall revenue was less than expected.

Mr. Smiertka informed the Commission of the recent give back donation of salary from some Council Members.

Member Melot suggested revisiting the meeting schedule based on the financial information they have received.

MOTION BY MEMBER MCALVEY, SUPPORTED BY MEMBER HUGGLAR TO PROPOSE NO INCREASES IN COMPENSATION OR CHANGES IN BENEFITS. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Ms. Boak was asked to cancel the invitation to Human Resources for March 2nd and cancel that meeting, then cancel the invitation to elected officials for the March 10th meeting.

The Commission spoke briefly on the letter to the Clerk for Council and concurred the Chair could sign the letter, and the letter could be routed to the Commission prior.

Old Business

Future Meeting Subject(s) Confirmed

The March 2nd meeting was canceled and the March 10th meeting will address the Ordinance amendments listed below.

New Business

Proposed Amendment to Chapter 280; 280.03- Elected Officers Compensation Commission Meetings; Chairperson; Compensation

Member Melot referenced his proposed ordinance amendments in the packet, proposed it be addressed for approval at the March 10th meeting, however asked the OCA to review before that meeting to make changes so there is no conflict with the Charter, other ordinances of codes.

The Commission spoke briefly on the proposed changes which reflect the Commission meeting in even years (2022, 2024, 2026, etc.) removing their actions from election years, and asked the OCA for feedback on if they should meet in 2022 or wait until 2024 for their next meeting.

Other

No other topics of discussion.

Excused Absences

MOTION BY MEMBER MCALVEY, SUPPORTED BY MEMBER HUGGLER TO EXCUSE MEMBER DAWSON. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Ms. Boak stated she would reach out to the Clerk's office again to confirm Ms. Dawson's email address.

Commission Member Comments

The Commission made a statement in consensus, that the decision they made earlier in the meeting was not based on work performance of the elected officials, but that it was not financially the decision to make.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 12:38 p.m.
Respectively submitted by:
Sherrie Boak, City Council Office Manager
Approved by Committee on: March 10, 2021