

City of Lansing Charter Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes for July 2, 2024

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

Staff Present: Deputy Clerks Lemaster, Drever

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Deputy Clerk Lemaster called the roll of the commission. A quorum was present.

Adopt the Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Washington to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Randy Dykhuis spoke about strategies for public engagement.

Norma Bauer spoke about the National Civic League recommendation for a city manager and the makeup of wards.

Valentina Hoskins spoke about receiving help for an ordinance violation.

Frederick McLoughlin spoke about the role of the City in economic development.

Don Dean spoke about listening to the public.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Bauer to approve the minutes.

Motion Carried.

Officer Reports

Chair

No report

Vice-Chair

Adams Simon spoke about strategies to revise the charter.

Clerk

Deputy Clerk Lemaster provided the budget update: The Commission has spent \$94,308.09 as of June 30th.

Unfinished Business

Community Meetings

The Commission discussed the update on Community Meetings.

Postcard

Moved by Vice-Chair Adams Simon to take the postcard design off the table.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Qawwee to amend the postcard to include the proposed language from Vice Chair Adams Simon.

Moved by Commissioner Anderson to amend the motion to clarify the placement of the proposed from Vice-Chair Adams Simon to before the sentence “We want to hear from you!”

Motion Carried.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Qawwee to spend \$20,000 on saturation mailing for the postcard.

Motion Carried 8-1.

Moved by Commissioner Lopez to approve the Comment Submission Form for publication.

Motion Carried.

Facebook Page

Moved by Commissioner Boyd to spend the cost to stream to Facebook, \$1200 for equipment and \$500/6 months for a subscription.

Motion Carried.

Returned Legal Counsel RFP

Moved by Commissioner Qawwee to set a special meeting at 5pm July 23rd to interview the legal counsel.

Motion Carried.

New Business

Rules Amendment for Public Comment

Moved by Commissioner Boyd to adopt the amendment.

Moved by Commissioner Anderson to amend the proposed rule amendment to increase the second Public Comment period from 2 minutes to 3 minutes.

Motion Carried

Motion Carried.

Commissioners Anderson and Dowd requested research into configuring virtual public participation.

Rules Amendment for Attendance Expectations

Moved by Commissioner Anderson to adopt the rules amendment.

Moved by Vice-Chair Adams Simon to table until Charter Commission legal counsel can review the amendment.

Motion Carried.

Article I Overview and Priorities

The Commissioners discussed sections of Article I of the City Charter that will need detailed review and revisions.

Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Dowd spoke about interest in having a virtual public participation option.

Public Comment

Paula Simon spoke about public engagement.

Nicklas Zande spoke about updates to the City Charter regarding the makeup of City Council and elected positions.

Don Dean spoke re-addressed earlier comments about public comment times.

Fred McLaughlin spoke about zoning and development.

Mike Lynn spoke about experiences around the City.

Erica Lynn spoke about accessibility and strategies for public engagement.

Ryan Kost addressed a letter to the Commission about public engagement and expanding public comment to five minutes.

Norma Bauer spoke about the Commission's website.

Jay West spoke about the importance of diverse and qualified City leaders and the upcoming Community Meeting on August 20th.

Adjournment

Chair Jeffries adjourned the meeting at 8:13 PM