

Minutes for the City of Lansing Charter Commission

Regular Meeting | Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 6:30 PM

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Dowd (excused)

Staff Present: City Clerk Swope, Deputy Clerk Drever

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 Qawwee to adopt the agenda.

Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Qawwee to approve the July 30, 2024, meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Marshall Clabeaux spoke about establishing a sustainability department in the City in Article 4. He suggested ways for sustainability to guide the Charter revision.

Officer Reports

Chair

Chair Jeffries reminded the community of the upcoming listening sessions.

Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair Adams Simon informed the public of the Commission's partnership with CATA for free rides to the upcoming listening sessions. She yielded to Chioma Lewis, Service Information Marketing Manager for CATA, who explained how to use the Transit phone app.

Clerk

Clerk Swope acknowledged written communications in the packet and provided a budget update noting the Commission has \$384,020.17 remaining in their account. He also reminded the community of the translated community meetings postcard, which is available on the Commission's website.

Old Business

Legal Counsel Deliberation and Selection

Moved by Vice-Chair Adams Simon to adopt the resolution to hire an attorney for the Charter Commission.

Moved by Vice-Chair Adams Simon to amend the resolution to select Cummings, McClorey, Davis, and Acho (CMDA) as the firm to hire.

Motion Carried.

Motion Carried.

Community Meetings Update

Moved by Commissioner Boyd to approve the expense of \$175 for space rental for the Community Meeting.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Commissioner Boyd to adopt the Community Meetings agenda.

Motion Carried.

New Business

Article 4 Overview

The Commissioners discussed Article 4 of the City Charter

Authorization for Chair to Sign Contracts

Moved by Vice-Chair Adams Simon to adopt the resolution for the chair to sign contracts.

Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Bruce Scott spoke about employment access with misdemeanors on record.

Reza Beha spoke about hiring requirements for the Mayor's staff.

Fred McLaughlin spoke about expanding the Charter for clarity and understanding, including definitions and references.

Farhan Sheikh-Omar spoke about listening to the community.

Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Washington spoke about future community meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jeffries at 7:39 PM.