

Minutes for the City of Lansing Charter Commission

Special Meeting | Tuesday, August 28, 2024, 6:30 PM

Letts Community Center, Community Room

1220 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing MI 48915

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

Absent: None

Staff Present: Clerk Swope, Deputy Clerk Drever

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeffries at 6:32 PM.

Roll Call

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

Overview of the Lansing City Charter

Chair Jeffries gave a summary of the Commission's work so far.

Vice Chair Adams Simon introduced Donna Mullins from the League of Women Voters.

Donna Mullins of the League of Women Voters gave an overview of the City Charter.

Public Comment

W. Thomas Hamlin spoke about trusting governmental processes.

Bruce Scott spoke about corporate social responsibility and amending Article 2-103 to align with the State Constitution.

Nicklas Zande spoke about completely overhauling the charter including the city attorney, increasing the number of wards to 9, and eliminating at-large positions on City Council.

Heath Lowry spoke about amending the Charter through the lens of increasing civic engagement.

Jill Chenault spoke about Planning and the lack of transparency in City construction decisions. Then she spoke about amending Article 2-103 to align with state statute.

Ronald Pedersen spoke about changing Article 5-201:207 regarding Board of Water and Light rate increases to implement justification, transparency, and accountability.

Heidi Frei spoke about integrating sustainability and protection of green space into the Charter.

Mark Ledebuhr spoke about addressing and attracting homeowners and business owners in the Charter. Then, he addressed increasing training for police and improving the building inspection, permitting, and code enforcement processes.

Commissioner Remarks

Commissioner Boyd committed to addressing Article 2-103.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jeffries at 7:28 PM.