

**VILLAGE OF DEXTER
CITY CHARTER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2013**

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Prior to the meeting the following Charter Commissioners were sworn in by Carol Jones, Village Clerk

Philip Arbour, Jack Donaldson, John Hansen, Matt Kowalski, Phillip Mekas,
Mary-Ellen Miller, Thom Phillips, Michael Raatz, James Smith

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm at the Dexter Senior Center located at 7720 Ann Arbor Street in Dexter, Michigan.

Commissioners present: Philip Arbour, Jack Donaldson, John Hansen, Matt Kowalski, Phillip Mekas, Mary-Ellen Miller, Thom Phillips, Michael Raatz, and James Smith

Also present: Courtney Nicholls, Assistant Village Manager; Carol Jones, Village Clerk; Tom Ryan, Village City Attorney, Trustee Jim Carson, Trustee Joe Semifero, residents and media.

The Commission determined that a discussion of schedule was necessary before the selection of a Chair and Vice Chair.

Wednesday evenings worked the best for all Commissioners. The meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. Confirmed dates are December 4, 11, 18 and January 8, 15, 22, 29.

SELECTION OF COMMISSION SECRETARY

Motion by Arbour, seconded by Smith to appoint Carol Jones as the Commission Secretary.

Motion carried unanimously

SELECTION OF CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

Commissioner Smith nominated John Hansen as Chair.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Arbour to close the nominations.

Motion carried unanimously

Commissioner Mekas nominated Phil Arbour as Vice Chair.

Motion by Donaldson, seconded by Smith to close the nominations.

Motion carried unanimously

Motion by Smith, seconded by Mekas to appoint John Hansen as Chair and Phil Arbour as Vice Chair.

Motion carried unanimously

DISCUSSION

The Commissioners introduced themselves to each other and provided basic personal details.

Cityhood Attorney Tom Ryan introduced himself and spoke about his experience with the City of the Village of Clarkston, Village of Oxford and a Charter Revision in Big Rapids. He explained that because the Village has been functioning so much like a City the process will involve converting the current structure into the draft Charter. Decisions will also need to be made regarding what should go into the Charter and what should be adopted as an Ordinance. Ordinances are easier to modify when necessary so are better for certain operational matters.

Chair Hansen suggested having a meet and greet with the Village Council prior to their next meeting on November 25, 2013.

Items for the next agenda will include a calendar setting out deadlines based on a November 2014 vote, draft by-laws and a review of the templates provided in the Model Charter to determine whether the Commission wants to utilize them.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Smith, seconded by Arbour to adjourn at 7:55 pm.
Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Nicholls
Assistant Village Manager, Village of Dexter

Approved for Filing: December 4, 2013