

**THE VILLAGE OF DEXTER
CITY CHARTER COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Hansen at the Copeland Board Room located at 7714 Ann Arbor Street in Dexter, Michigan.

- B. ROLL CALL:** Phil Arbour, Jack Donaldson, John Hansen, Phillip Mekas, Mary- Ellen Miller, Thom Phillips, Michael Raatz, and James Smith. Absent – Matt Kowalski. (Arrived at 6:40 PM)

Also present: Courtney Nicholls, Assistant Village Manager; Carol Jones, Village Clerk; Shawn Keough, Village President; and Joe Semifero, Village Trustee.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion James Smith; support Phillip Mekas to approve the agenda for December 11, 2013.

Motion Jack Donaldson; support Jim Smith to amend the agenda to include Village President, Shawn Keough in the Prearranged Participation section of the agenda. Unanimous voice vote approval.

Original motion by James Smith; support Phillip Mekas to approve the agenda as amended for December 11, 2013. Unanimous voice vote approval.

D. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting – December 11, 2013

Motion James Smith; support Jack Donaldson to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2013 as presented. Unanimous voice vote approval.

E. PREARRANGED PARTICIPATION

Village President – Shawn Keough

Mr. Keough thanked all of the commissioners for serving on the Charter Commission. Mr. Keough mentioned that many residents have asked him what is going to change should Dexter become a city. He feels that we would like to maintain much of what

we currently have in place and put these items into the charter such as size of the council and the tax structure.

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

Motion Phil Arbour; support James Smith to make a change in the agenda and move Charter Construction -Second Readings ahead of Charter Construction – First Readings.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

G. CHARTER CONSTRUCTION – SECOND READINGS

1. Discussion of: Charter Preamble

Motion Phil Arbour; support Phillip Mekas to adopt the draft of the Charter Preamble with the capitalization of the words city and state in the second line.
Unanimous voice vote approval

2. Discussion of: Article I - Powers of the City

Discussion followed as what to include or limit as the powers of the city. Questions were raised regarding legal references, name of the city, listing of boundaries, and where to include wards/districts.

Motion Phil Arbour; support James Smith to table the approval of this section until next week with a review by the attorney.

Unanimous voice vote approval

H. CHARTER CONSTRUCTION – FIRST READINGS

1. Discussion of: Article II – City Council

Motion Phillip Mekas; support James Smith to approve for the first reading Section 2.01 - General Powers and Duties which reads as follows:
All powers of the city shall be vested in the city council, except as otherwise provided by law or this charter, and the council shall provide for the exercise thereof and for the performance of all duties and obligations imposed on the city by law.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Motion Phillip Mekas; support Phil Arbour to approve the first reading of Section 2.02(a) - Eligibility which reads as follows:

Only registered voters of the city by the date of filing of petition shall be eligible to hold the office of council member or mayor.

Unanimous voice vote approval

Motion by James Smith; support Phillip Mekas to approve the first reading of Section 2.02(b) - Terms which reads as follows:

The term of office of elected officials shall be four years elected in accordance with Article VI.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Motion James Smith; support Phillip Mekas to approve the first reading of Section 2.02(c) – Composition, Alternative I option B which reads as follows:

The council shall be composed of 6 members elected by the voters of the city at large in accordance with provisions of Article VI. The mayor shall be elected as provided in Section 2.03(b), Alternative II.

Unanimous voice vote approval.

Motion James Smith; support Phillip Mekas to approve the first reading of Section 2.03 (a) – Mayor – Powers and Duties to read as follows:

The mayor shall be a voting member of the city council and shall attend and preside at meetings of the council, represent the city in intergovernmental relationships, appoint with the advice and consent of the council the members of citizen advisory boards, committees, authorities and commissions, appoint the members and officers of council committees, assigns agenda items to committees subject to the consent of council, and perform other duties specified by the council. The mayor shall be recognized as head of the city government for all ceremonial purposes and by the governor for purposes of military law but shall have no administrative duties.

Unanimous voice vote approval

Motion James Smith; support Phil Arbour to approve the first reading of Section 2.03 (b) – Election, Alternative II – Mayor Elected At Large which reads as follows:

At a regular election the voters of the city shall elect a mayor at large for a term of 4 years. The council shall elect from among its members a mayor pro-tem who shall act as mayor during the temporary absence or disability of the mayor.

Unanimous voice vote approval

I. OTHER ITEMS AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONERS

1. Consideration of: Final Approval of the Rules of Procedure

Motion Jack Donaldson; support Matt Kowalski to approve the Rules of Procedure.

Unanimous voice vote approval

2. Consideration of: Commissioner Raatz – Proposed Press Release

Motion Mike Raatz; support James smith to authorize Mike and Ms. Nicholls to publish the prepared letter in the various resources used by the Village.

Unanimous voice vote approval

3. Consideration of: Draft Budget (if prepared)

No action at this time

J. AGENDA PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING

1. Move forward with Section 2.04
2. Consideration of: Draft Budget

K. NON-ARRANGED PARTICIPATION

None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion James Smith; support Phillip Mekas to adjourn at 8:32 PM.
Unanimous voice vote approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol J. Jones
Clerk, Village of Dexter

Approved for Filing: December 18, 2013