

## COMMITTEE ON CHARTER REVISIONS

Wednesday, March 11, 2020  
John & Christina Markey Senior Community Center

Present: Ron Hogan, Maria Luise, Councillors DeMaria and O'Malley. Councillor Camell was absent.

Also present: Karen Anderson

Mr. Hogan called the meeting to order at 5:37 P.M meeting.

Councillor DeMaria made a motion that the minutes of the meetings of May 30, 2019 and March 4, 2020 be approved. Councillor O'Malley seconded the motion.

**ON COUNCILLOR DEMARIA'S MOTION TO APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF MAY 30, 2019 AND MARCH 4, 2020 BE APPROVED. (4)Y-(0)N.**

Mr. Hogan reminded members that they had been provided with an editable link to the charter and the powerpoint presentation. He said that the goal was to have committee members suggest edits via google docs. But, he said, that it did not appear that had happened.

Councillor O'Malley said that he preferred to make the edits on hard copy and was prepared to discuss his suggestions at the meeting. Councillor DeMaria said that, she, too, had made comment and suggestions on her hard copy and, in addition, had spent a considerable amount of time on the phone yesterday discussing issues with Ms. Anderson. She said that some issues had been clarified for her that way and that there were others she was prepared to discuss this evening.

Mr. Hogan said that was fine. He noted that he had been in touch with Councillor Camell to obtain his input and would provide it to the committee. He suggested that they review the proposal section by section and discuss comments and suggestions as warranted.

Ms. Anderson noted that Councillor O'Malley had requested during the last meeting that section titles be added after internal references to section numbers and that the words "majority" or "two-thirds" be added after references to votes of the city council. She noted that had been done and that the current document reflected those changes.

Committee members agreed to that approach. During the course of this discussion, a series of technical and clerical corrections were made and suggestions for rewording for clarification of intent were adopted by the committee.

Additionally, Councillor O'Malley asked that a new provision be added that would restrict the ability of the mayor to sign contracts that extended for more than five years without council

approval. The committee agreed to this addition. He also asked that a section be added to prevent the Mayor from issuing orders to Council appointees, other than those requiring that information be provided to him. The committee also agreed to these provisions.

At the completion of this review, Councillor DeMaria made a motion that the proposed charter, as revised by the Committee, be forwarded to the Council for discussion and action.

**ON COUNCILLOR DEMARIA'S MOTION TO MOVE THE PROPOSED CHARTER, AS REVISED BY THE COMMITTEE, FORWARD TO THE COUNCIL FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION. (4)Y-(0)N.**

Discussion then focused on the timing and method of transmitting it to council. Mr. Hogan reminded members that, when he and Ms. Anderson met with individual Councillors, there were many helpful comments and suggestions that had been incorporated in the final document. He said that, based on that, he believed that all councillor should be given the opportunity to sponsor. Councillors O'Malley and DeMaria agreed. Councillor DeMaria said that she would recommend that the final document be transmitted to all councillor members as hard copy to enable them to review it prior to it being docketed. She said that she thought that the powerpoint presentation should also be provided to them, as that is an excellent way to focus on what the project involved; she said that it would answer many questions before they began to actually read the revised charter. She also suggested that the documents be transmitted with a cover letter describing the process. Mr. Hogan said that he agreed. He said that he would be willing to draft a letter and share it with Councillor DeMaria prior to transmission.

Ms. Anderson said that, in discussions with Mr. Hogan, they had tentatively planned to try to docket the charter revision for the meeting of March 17. She said that, given the work that remained to be done, it appeared that this should be delayed for a week. That would give the committee sufficient time to prepare final documents, draft the cover letter and allow councillors time to review the package before determining whether or not they would co-sponsor. Mr. Hogan agreed. He said that he thought that the committee should meet one final time next Wednesday to regroup on the activities that would take place at the end of the week and to share information on co-sponsorships.

**ON COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY'S MOTION TO ADJOURN (5)Y-(0)N**

**MEETING ADJOURNED            7:45 P.M.**