

**GEORGETOWN CHARTER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020, 7:00 PM
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Mark Anderson, Amber Becraft-Johnan, John Paul Durham, Brian Faught, Kelly Heslar, Michelle Hopkins, Greg Housh, Patrick Hornschemeier, Arthur Owens, Gary Potter, Zach Triplett, Jeremy Varner, Barb Virost

Members Absent: Andrew Dunn, Matt Staggs

Guests Present: Joe Braun, Kelly Cornette, Nancy Montgomery, Tyler Thompson

I. Participation by the Public:

A. Topics discussed by commission so far – No comments or discussion.

B. In general – No comments or discussion.

II. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were approved and can be promulgated to the public.

Approval of text discussed at previous meeting, including final revisions to Article IX Administrative Departments

Text was approved and can be promulgated to the public.

III. Discussion of Finance and Nominations, Elections and Salaries

Article XI Finance

Art Owens created a draft of Article XI, and after lengthy discussion, the following was created for Article 11 Finance.

Article 11.01 General

The laws of the State of Ohio relating generally to budgets, appropriations, debts, bonds, assessments, deposits and investment of funds and other fiscal matters of the municipality shall be applicable except as otherwise provided by this Charter or by the Mayor and Council.

No other changes to Article 11.01.

Article 11.02 Contracting Procedures

Unless provided otherwise by the Council, the Administrator or the Mayor shall act as the purchasing agent and contracting officer for the Municipality with authority to award and execute contracts as provided by Council. Unless Council provides otherwise, contracting procedures shall be in accordance with the general laws of the State of Ohio. Council may establish contracting procedures which may provide for, but not be limited to, which contracts

must be let by competitive bidding, the amount of advertising required, when bidding may be rejected, and alterations and modifications in the contract. Competitive bid contracts may be awarded to the best bidder, as determined by Council in its absolute discretion. Contracts for professional or expert personal services may be excluded from competitive bidding.

No other changes to Article 11.02.

No other changes to Article XI.

Article XII Nominations, Elections, and Salaries

Zach Triplett created a draft of Article XII Municipal Elections, and after lengthy discussion, the following was created for Article XII.

Article 12.01 Municipal Elections

The regular election of officials for the Municipality shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in the odd-numbered years. The Mayor and Council may, at any time by resolution, order a special election, the purpose of which shall be set forth in the resolution.

A. All municipal elections shall be conducted by the Board of Elections. Such elections shall be held in conformity with the provisions of this Charter, and where this Charter is silent, the provisions of the laws of Ohio shall be followed.

B. The candidates, equal in number to the places to be filled, who received the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

No other changes to Article 12.01.

Article 12.02 Recall

Any elected official may be removed from office by a recall election before the expiration of that official's term by the qualified voters of the Municipality. The procedures for such recall shall be that as provided by the laws of Ohio.

No other changes to Article 12.02.

Article 12.03 Initiative and Referendum

During discussion, a motion was made by Mark Anderson that petitions must contain signatures of thirty percent of the electors; seconded by John Paul Durham. Motion failed (Yay-4, Nay-7, Abstain-2). Motion was then made by Art Owens that petitions must contain signatures of twenty percent of electors; seconded by Mark Anderson. Motion carries. (Yay-10, Abstain-3).

Article 12.03 now reads: Ordinances and resolutions may be proposed by initiative petition and adopted in the manner provided by the Constitution and laws of Ohio. Ordinances and resolutions adopted by Council shall be subject to referendum in accordance with procedures established by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Ohio. Petitions for initiative and referendum must contain the signature of qualified electors equal to at least twenty percent of the number of voters that voted in the last general municipal election.

No other changes to Article 12.03.

Article 12.04 Salary of Elected Officials

The salaries of members of Council and the Mayor shall be as set by ordinance in effect at the time this Charter becomes law. The Mayor and Council may increase or decrease salaries, by ordinance, for any elected official of the Municipality. This ordinance shall be adopted by a vote of not less than two thirds of the members of Council. Any ordinance changing the salary of any elected official shall be adopted at least ninety days prior to the next regular election of the Municipality, and shall be effective on the first day of January following such election.

No other changes to Article 12.04.

No other changes to Article XII.

IV. Next meeting scheduled for May 27th; shall we meet on May 20th?

Our next and final article for discussion is Article XIV Transitional Provisions. No drafts assigned, but feel free to make suggestions and submit if you'd like. Also review everything completed: 1) What are parts that can be removed; and 2) Maintain consistency of titles, wording, etc.

Our next meetings are currently scheduled for May 27th and June 10th. Discussion held regarding timing of presentation to Council. Council's June meetings are scheduled for the 11th and 25th. Nancy Montgomery indicated if the Council has nothing to discuss the meetings are canceled. In order to submit for their June 11 meeting, they must have a draft by June 8th or 9th at the latest. Thus, it was decided we will meet the next three weeks: May 20th, May 27th, and June 3rd.

V. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.