

**GEORGETOWN CHARTER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES (Amended)
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020, 7:00 PM
Georgetown Elementary School Library**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mark Anderson, Brian Faught, Andrew Dunn, Kelly Heslar, Michelle Hopkins, Greg Housh, Patrick Hornschemeier, Gary Potter, Matt Staggs, Zach Triplett, Jeremy Varner, Barb Virost

Members Absent: Amber Becraft-Johnan, John Paul Durham, Arthur Owens

Guests Present: Marybeth Guenther, Dave Guenther, Nancy Montgomery, Tyler Thompson

I. Approval of previous meeting minutes

Mark Anderson asked when we would discuss one council member per immediate family member and referenced Article 5.05. It was determined this would be discussed in Article 3.08.

The minutes stand approved as emailed.

Approval of text discussed at previous meeting

The Preamble and Article XIII were discussed at the previous meeting. Article XIII will be maintained as such, not as Article III, with a footnote indicating this is how we are considering these. All text and preamble considered approved as previously emailed and will now be promulgated the cumulative text to the public as product to date.

II. Discussion of “Legislative” (Article III)

Article 3.01 Composition and Terms

Discussion regarding how many council members and length of terms.

The Council shall consist of six (6)...remove (6)

Change 1997 to 2021

Change 1999 to 2023

Discussion regarding transition arrangement to changing seat terms (Article 14.02) of 3/3 council or 4/2 + Mayor. Brian Faught made a motion of 4 in the upcoming election and 2 + Mayor in the next election; Mark Anderson seconded it. Motion failed with eight against and four in favor. Motion then made by Gary Potter for 3/3 council. Barb Virost seconded. Motion passed with eight in favor and four against.

Mark Anderson indicated he wants only one family member per council citing Article 5.05 for his reasoning of 2/3 vote to remove a mayor. It was determined this should probably be discussed in Article 3.08, and will be discussed when we get to that article.

No other changes made to Article 3.01.

Article 3.02 Quorum

Add sentence: A majority of the members elected to Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Council but a lesser number may adjourn the meeting from time to time and compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by the rules, regulations and bylaws of the Council.

No other changes made.

Article 3.03 Organization

No changes made.

Article 3.04 President of Council

No changes made.

Article 3.05 Powers and Duties

Section G

...the charter... Changed to ...this charter

Section E

Discussion held to regarding audits. Motion made by Zach Triplett to remove it, seconded by Matt Staggs. All in favor. This section eliminated.

Section F (new Section E)

The language in new Section E covers issues in former Section F. No changes.

Discussion held regarding the power of the mayor regarding investigations. This is noted in Article 4.02; any changes will be determined when we get to that section.

Section G (new Section F)

As noted above from previous discussion.

Section H (new Section G)

No changes made.

Section I (new Section H)

No changes made.

Section J (new Section I)

No changes made.

Discussion held regarding Mason's Charter Article 3.07(G) regarding powers over zoning classifications, building codes, housing codes, etc.; should we adopt Mason's language or continue with our Article 3.05 Section I (new I). Determined to continue with ours.

No other changes made to Article 3.05.

Article 3.06 Removal

By two-thirds (2/3) vote... Changed to: By two-thirds vote...

...Mayor and Council to consider the charges shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Municipality. Changed to: ...Mayor and Council to consider the charges shall be provided by public notice, [which will be defined in a later article – 13.07?] once each week for two consecutive weeks.

No other changes made to Article 3.06.

Article 3.07 Vacancies

Discussion held regarding the process of interviewing for vacancy. In the past it has been accomplished in differing ways: in public with everyone; privately with council; and in public with everyone except the other applicants. Opinions were asked of two guests (a current council member and a former council member).

Tyler Thompson suggested talking with Joe Braun about the specific language regarding interviewing for an unexpired term; proposing that other applicants be sequestered while one being interviewed by council with public present. It was decided to leave language as it is, but proceed further upon input from Joe Braun.

In further discussion, Barb Virost indicated if more than half of a term is left, the person filling the vacancy must run in the next immediate municipal election to continue through the final term of that seat. After discussion, the following was added to the end of Article 3.07: If more than two and a half years remain in the term, the appointee is required to run in the next Municipal election for the remainder of the unexpired term.

No other changes to Article 3.07.

III. PARTICIPATION BY PUBLIC

A. Topics discussed at tonight's meeting

In regards to Article 3.06 (public notice), Nancy Montgomery indicated we should be more consistent and specific about forms of public notice, media, i.e., prominent/major social media site, newspaper, posted on window of Administration Building's front door – more than one place and preferably three. Zach Triplett suggested creating a section specifically regarding what is considered public notice. Determined public notice will be added to Article 13 (General Provisions) and defined in Article 13.07.

B. In general

No other discussion held.

IV. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:42