CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES

September 11, 2024 — Organizational Meeting

1. The Organizational meeting of the Charter Review Committee was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Lower Level of City Hall, 4035 Broadway. Roll call was called and the following were present:

   Karen Evans, David Frea, Wayne Kintz, Mike Linder, Brian Parks, Jeff Ritchie, Chris Roach, Cindy Sgalla, Judith Zimomra.

   Ex-Officio members: Ted Berry, Randy Holt, Christine Houk. Support Staff: Stephen Smith and Tami Kelly. Also present: Chuck Boso, City Admin.

2. Ms. Kelly, Clerk of Council, welcomed and thanked everyone for accepting the appointment to this Committee. She opened the floor for comments from the Council Members.

   Ms. Houk shared the reasons for the Committee, as outlined in the Resolution. She said the 2017 Charter committee did not recommend a change in government, but at the Council Retreat looking at this question was one of the priorities for a majority of the Members. So, this Committee was formed to get input from a small group of citizens. She said there no right or wrong answers. We are a unique community and Council wants to see if they feel there is a need to make any changes.

3. Members introduced themselves.

4. Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, reviewed the Open Meetings Act and the Open Records Act with the group. He provided an overview of the City's current Charter; how it gets changed; and the duties of the Council & Mayor under our present system. He explained that a Strong Mayor form has an elected Mayor who serves as the full-time Administrator for the municipality; a City Manager form has elected Council Members who hire a full-time City Manager to runs the daily operations and reports directly to Council; our current form is a hybrid of the two, with an elected Mayor, elected Council Members and a City Administrator who runs the daily executive operations and is appointed by the Mayor. He said there are no limits to what form of government is suggested. The Ohio Revised Code gives the local authority full discretion. So, the Committee is free to explore all options.

   Committee members asked a few questions and discussion took place with Mr. Smith.

5. The Committee then organized themselves.

   Mr. David Frea was appointed Chair by unanimous consent.

   Ms. Zimomra was appointed Vice Chair by unanimous consent.

   Discussion took place about scheduling regular meetings. It was decided to set the following dates for meetings beginning at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall: 09/25, 10/09, and 10/30.

   Mr Frea suggested that everyone familiarize themselves with the Charter; the terminology; best practices; etc. before the next meeting. He asked the group to share any concerns they may have. Many members commented that they like having a Mayor and the check & balances system in place, but are open-minded to looking at options for the future of the growing community.

6. For the next meeting, Mr. Smith will have a slideshow provided to further explain the different forms of government and the Committee will review the comments from Council's retreat, as well as general discussion.

7. The Committee adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent.

Adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Tami K. Kelly

Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Secretary

David Frea

David Frea
Chairman