CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES

December 18, 2024 Regular Meeting

1. The regular meeting of the Charter Review Committee was called to order by Chair Frea at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Conference Room of City Hall, 4035 Broadway. Roll call was called and the following were present:

   David Frea, Brian Parks, Jeff Ritchie, Chris Roach, Cindy Sgalla, Judith Zimomra, Kathleen Welsh.

   Absent: Wayne Kintz, Mike Linder

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

2. Ms. Sgalla moved to approve the Minutes from 12/04/24; seconded by Ms. Zimomra. Approved unanimously.

3. Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, said someone in the group had asked if they could just ask the voters if they wanted to change forms of government and he wanted to make sure that the Committee knew that yes, they could "poll" the community on this question.

4. Mr. Frea reviewed the Council/Manager, Hybrid Mayor w/Council Confirmation/City Admin., and Strong Mayor/City Administrator proposals that were sent to the Committee Members.

   Mr. Parks voiced preference for the Council/Manager proposal with Option A for the Mayor.

   Mr. Ritchie voiced preference for Strong Mayor/City Administrator. He said he feels things are fine the way they are.

   Mr. Roach voiced preference for Strong Mayor/City Administrator, but is willing to entertain the Hybrid proposal.

   Ms. Sgalla voiced preference for Council/Manager with Option A for the Mayor, however would also entertain the Hybrid proposal.

   Ms. Welsh said she was leaning toward Strong Mayor/City Administrator proposal, but now would lean toward the Hybrid proposal.

   Ms. Zimomra voiced preference for Council/Manager proposal, but thinks they Hybrid proposal is a good option. She said she thought the most important priority was to get more citizen involvement by Council having more say and that is what Option 2 (Hybrid proposal) would do.

   Mr. Frea voiced preference for Council/Manager proposal with Option A for the Mayor.

   Mr. Parks commented that while he prefers Option A (no vote for a mayor) for the Mayor, he thinks Option B (vote for mayor) would be more palatable to the electorate. Mr. Frea agreed.

   Mr. Frea suggested that he and a couple of other members draft a written report for the members to review and approve at a later meeting. The members present agreed.

5. Ms. Houk explained that the Resolution provided specific dates for the report to be submitted to Council, however, there will be Council Members absent for the referenced 01/13/25 meeting, so she will ask that the Resolution be amended to have the report and meeting changed to a date that allows the Committee to complete their work.

6. Mr. Frea asked if there were any other areas of the Charter that they should recommend a change to. He said he found a discrepancy with two sections concerning the term of office for Boards and Commissions and believes this should be addressed. He said he would also like to see a provision that allows for remote meetings. Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, said we cannot be in conflict with the State, but has seen other Home Rule municipalities put something in their Charter to address this. He believes he could defend it if it were challenged.

7. The Committee agreed to meet on January 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to finalize their report.

8. The Committee adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent.

Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Tami K. Kelly

Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Secretary

David Frea 1/22/25

David Frea
Chairman