



Village of
Lake Isabella

Charter Commission
November 13, 2018
Organizational Meeting Minutes
1010 Clubhouse Drive
Lake Isabella, MI 48893

Village Clerk Grey called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Members Present: L. Cross, M. Cross, Ochander, and Preuss

Members Absent: Torgerson

Grey administered the Oath of Office to the members in attendance.

Preuss made a motion, which was seconded by M. Cross, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0.

The members discussed the roles which need to be filled by the Commission's officers. After considering the various requirements, the following slate of officers was agreed to without objection:

Chair:	Mary Cross
Vice-Chair:	Bill Preuss
Secretary:	Larry Cross

The Commission decided, without objection, to use Robert's Rules of Order for their procedures.

Public Comment: None

Business:

The members of the Commission discussed how many meetings they felt might be needed, and what sections of the Village Charter should be focused on for possible changes.

Ochander suggested that the discussion focus on the areas of the Village Charter that members feel may need to be amended. That would then guide the Commission on how many meetings would be required.

Ochander also discussed the need for public engagement and participation. He stated that without having the public involved, he has doubts about any significant changes being able to be approved by the electorate.

The Commission members discussed the Village Charter's requirements in Section 16.01 for a "Charter Review Committee" and Section 16.03 for the question of "Charter Revision" to be placed before the voters every ten years. Village Manager Wolff discussed the history of the 2007 and 2016 Charter Review Committees. He also discussed the results of the question of Charter

Revision when placed before the voters in 2016. He stated that the "Yes" vote on that question triggered the election of a Charter Commission, which is different from a Charter Review Committee, as part of this election cycle. He noted that the Charter Commission is an independent body whereas the Charter Review Committee is a recommending body to the Village Council.

There was discussion regarding if the 10-year requirement in Section 16.01 and Section 16.03 were needed.

M. Cross discussed the need to examine Article IV of the Charter since the Village no longer conducts elections. She stated that if the Village is no longer able to perform these duties, they would be useful items to consider removing from the Charter.

The members discussed that as Michigan law has been amended, sections of the Charter which regulate matters elections have been nullified by the state.

Preuss discussed his view that the tax limitation in Section 10.02 should be addressed. He stated that he would support a small increase to support additional services.

M. Cross suggested that everyone take some time to review the Charter again and come back with thoughts and ideas on sections which may need to be addressed.

The Commission set the following two future meeting dates:

Tuesday, November 20th at 5 PM.

Thursday, November 29th at 5 PM.

Preuss made a motion, which was seconded by L. Cross, to adjourn at 6:10 PM.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED 4-0-0.

Jeffrey P. Grey
Village Clerk