



Village of
Lake Isabella

Charter Commission
November 29, 2018
Organizational Meeting Minutes
1010 Clubhouse Drive
Lake Isabella, MI 48893

M. Cross called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

Secretary L. Cross called the roll.

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

Members Absent: None

Agenda Approval:

The meeting agenda was accepted as presented without objection or modification.

Approval of Minutes:

The members reviewed the draft minutes of the November 20th meeting. After reviewing the submitted draft, the minutes were accepted as presented without objection.

Public Comment: None

Business:

The members continued their discussion regarding the millage cap in Section 10.02 and also the requirement to present the question of Charter Revision in Section 16.03 once every ten years.

Ochander asked if these two issues alone were significant enough to trigger going forward with the process of presenting these to the voters in the near future, or allowing them to be revisited during the next time a Charter Review Committee is called per Section 16.01.

M. Cross stated that she believes the millage issue is significant enough that need to be addressed for the good of the future of the community.

Clerk Grey suggested that wording could be considered that eliminated the 1 Mill cap, and replaced that section with wording that simply stated any levy over 1 Mill would be approved by the voters.

The history of street paving through special assessment was discussed, and whether or not a millage or special assessment would be the best way to address future street needs. The pros and cons of each option were discussed.

The Commission members discussed the wording of Section 10.02 to consider possible changes. Grey suggested moving the cap from 1 Mill to 2 Mills. Any

other project would need to be approved as a special millage or special assessment. In such, the change would give the Village Council the ability to levy 2 mills without being approved by the electorate.

The Commission members discussed wording to Section 10.02 and what option was the best to pursue as a Charter Amendment.

A motion was made by Torgerson, which was seconded by L. Cross, to submit a proposed amendment to the Village Attorney for review and to then be submitted to the State of Michigan as required by the Home Rule Village to Section 10.02 worded as follows:

Section 10.02. Limit of Direct Property Taxation.

Upon approval of this Charter, the annual general ad valorem tax levy for Village general operating purposes shall not exceed 1 mill of the assessed value of real and personal property in the Village. This tax limitation may be increased ~~for a period of not to exceed three years at any one time to not more than 2 mills of the assessed valuation of such real and personal property~~ only by a majority vote of those electors voting thereon at any regular village election or special election called for that purpose. At any time, the total of all additional millages being levied by the Village Council which are approved by the electorate under this section shall not exceed ten mills. Any such millage approved by the electorate shall not be levied for a period greater than twelve years.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas: L. Cross, M. Cross, Ochander, Preuss, and Torgerson;
Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED 5-0-0.

A motion was made by Ochander, which was seconded by Torgerson, to submit a proposed amendment to the Village Attorney for review and to then be submitted to the State of Michigan as required by the Home Rule Village to Section 16.03 worded as follows:

Section 16.03 Charter Revision.

The question of revision of this Charter shall be placed before the electors of the Village at the general election in the year ~~2007~~ 2040, and at least every ~~10~~ 20 years thereafter. A proposal for revision may be presented at other times in the manner provided by statute.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas: L. Cross, M. Cross, Ochander, Preuss, and Torgerson;
Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED 5-0-0.

M. Cross asked if there were any other areas of the Charter that members of the Commission wished to discuss or seek amendment to. Seeing none, it was agreed that the work of the Charter Commission required under MCL 78.11 to frame a document within 60 days was satisfied as there were no other areas that the members wished to amend, delete, or add.

M. Cross thanked the members of the Charter Commission for their time, she also thanked Village Clerk Grey and Village Manager Wolff for their input and

assistance in addressing the needs of the members of the Charter Commission.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ochander, seconded by L. Cross, to adjourn at 6:18 pm. VOICE VOTE: 4-0-0.

Jeffrey P. Grey
Village Clerk