

# CARO CHARTER COMMISSION APPROVED MINUTES

Richard Ransford, Chair. Al Jones, Vice-Chair. Don Duggar, Clerk

Members Thomas Baird, Wm Bortel, Kerwood Crutchfield,  
Joe Greene, Debra Lung-Lipan, David Mattlin

The meeting of the Caro Charter Commission was called to order by Commission Chair Richard Ransford at 4:05 P.M. on January 28 2009 at the Caro Municipal Building 317 S State St Caro MI 48723.

In attendance were Richard Ransford, Joe Greene, David Mattlin, Don Duggar, Tom Baird and Debra Lung-Lipan. Also in attendance were Caro Clerk Karen Snider, Caro Councilman Mike Henry and Village Manager Don Beavers.

Excused absence: Wm Bortel, Al Jones and Kerwood Crutchfield (who arrived later).

Greene/Baird move to approve the minutes of the January 22 2008 meeting with the following changes: Motion carried.

Add Sec 14.9 Insert in front of the first paragraph of Sec 14.9 “Unless otherwise preempted by state or federal law,”...

Also Sec 15.12 (l) as stated in the minutes should be Sec 15.12 (j).

In Sec 16.5 (b), (c), (d), change the time from 11:29 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Sec 15.12 (h) change the entire definition of “estoppel” to “The word estoppel shall mean “as being estopped or prevented from denying or asserting something, on the ground that to do so contradicts what has already been admitted or denied, either explicitly in words or implicitly by actions”

Councilman Mike Henry expressed concern about the millage rate and whether it should be limited in the proposed charter. If charters have no stated limit, then state law imposes limits.

4:40 P.M. Commissioner Crutchfield took his seat.

Consultant Beach was called on the speaker phone and entered the discussion. He will report back on what limits are currently in force taking into account the limits imposed by the Headley Amendment and other tax roll backs.

Discussion followed on several sections with the following changes:

In section 4.11 insert the words “For More Than One Office” after the word “Nominations” in the title. Also add the word “in” as in “so in accordance” in the first line.

Sec 7.3 (c) delete the last sentence beginning with “He or she shall...”

Sec 7.10 (d) change the word “and” in the last line to “a” and in the first line change the text to “and/or” instead of “or”.

In sections 7.6, 7.7 and 7.8 add the word “city” in front of the subject i.e. “city clerk”. Also in the last line in sections 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9, change the number of council members from “five (5)” to remove the subject official to “four (4).”

Add the word “City” to the section titles in Sec 7.6, 7.7 and 7.8.

Sec 7.12 change the words “with and compensation...” in the next to the last line to “with a compensation...”

7.12 after the last line in the first paragraph add the words “the planning and zoning administrator.”

7.14 insert in the title “Department Head Dismissal: Right to Appeal

Sec 9.7 (d) delete the last sentence

Sec 6.7 (c) change the word “participation” in the middle of the paragraph to “participating”. Also Wm Beach is to check the MCL 15.324 cite in the last sentence that it is the proper cite.

Sec 16.5 (a) delete the date and add TBD (to be determined) and add “for a term of two (2) years. Sec 16.5 (c) delete the date and add TBD (to be determined) and add “for a term of four (4) years. Sec 16.5 (d) delete the date and add TBD (to be determined) and add “for a term of two (2) years.

The millage limits question was discussed again and after much discussion it was moved by Crutchfield, seconded by Mattlin to leave it as proposed in the draft where future city councils will determine the millage annually during the budget adoption process. Motion carried.

Several typographical and syntax changes were made throughout Chapters 1 through 16 including many capitalized words to lower case words. Also noted was the need to make sure the index matches the page numbers of the chapters and subchapters and that the headings begin correctly on the page.

Discussion followed on potential dates for the public hearing and to give the public ample time to study the proposed draft and present comments before it is voted on by the electorate. Wm Beach will be asked to provide guidance on this question.

Greene/Mattlin move to adjourn at 6:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the Charter Commission will be February 2, 2009 at 4 P.M. at the Caro Village Hall.

Respectively submitted

Don Duggar  
Clerk of the Charter Commission