

**CARO CHARTER COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES
4/14/09**

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 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday April 14 2009 at the Caro Municipal Building 317 S State St Caro MI 48723.

In attendance were Richard Ransford, Joe Greene, Wm Bortel, Al Jones, Don Duggar, Tom Baird, David Mattlin, Kerwood Crutchfield and Debra Lung-Lipan. Also in attendance were Caro Clerk Karen Snider.

The purpose of this meeting was to review the final draft and make any changes before submitting to the Governor and Attorney General. The following are the changes agreed to by consensus or by motion:

There is a conflict on when the first elected council would take office. Bortel/Crutchfield move to replace Sec 3.3 with the following; “The members of the council shall meet the eligibility requirements as set forth herein. The councilperson shall be a resident of the city and shall be a registered elector of the city on the last day for filing nominating petitions or appointment for such for which he or she is a candidate”.

Also replace Sec 3.4(d) with the following; “After the interim election cycle identified in section 16.5 is completed, all terms of office shall commence at the first regularly scheduled or special meeting of the council following the date of the election”;

Sec 14.9(f) at the end of the last line change “to the public” to “of the public”;

Replace entire Sec 16.5 with the following; “An election to elect the first city mayor and city council shall be held on the same date as the election at which the charter is submitted for adoption as provided in 16.2 of this charter.

- (a) Candidates for Mayor and for City Council who shall be duly registered electors of the territory comprising the proposed City of Caro and who shall have been residents of the territory comprising the proposed City of Caro for one (1) year immediately prior to the election shall file petitions signed by not less than fifteen (15) registered electors of the territory comprising the proposed City of Caro and filed with the Village Clerk in accordance with state statute. The Village Clerk shall publish notice of the last day and time of filing of petitions, which notice shall be published in the Tuscola County Advertiser. Such petitions shall be in the form designated by statute for the use in nominations for nonpartisan office. The manner of approval of nominating petitions and of those who qualify to sign shall be as outlined in this proposed Charter and shall be administered by the Village Clerk.

- (b) The mayoral candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall have a term beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the date this charter becomes effective and ending at the first regularly scheduled or special meeting of the council following the date of the city election in 2011.
- (c) The three (3) council candidates receiving the three (3) highest numbers of votes shall have terms beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the date this charter becomes effective and ending at the first regularly scheduled or special meeting of the council following the date of the city election in 2013.
- (d) The three (3) council candidates receiving the three (3) next highest numbers of votes shall have terms beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the date this charter becomes effective and ending at the first regularly scheduled or special meeting of the council following the date of the city election in 2011.

Motion Carried yes 9, no 0.

Discussion followed on the need to add the word “city” throughout the charter where needed so as to avoid future confusion and to carefully review to entire text for proper punctuation such as proper use of colons and semicolons. Commissioners Lipan and Jones carefully reviewed the text and made these changes.

Sec 10.21 Greene/Jones move to replace entire section with the following; “For the purpose of assessing and collecting taxes for state, county, and school purposes, the city shall be considered the same as a township, and all provisions of law relative to the collection of, and accounting for, such taxes and the penalties and interest thereon shall apply. For the purpose of collecting state, county, and school taxes, the city treasurer shall perform the same duties and have the same powers as township treasurers under law.

Council may by ordinance, establish up to two percent (2%) property tax administration fee to add to all taxes levied by other taxing jurisdictions on real or personal property within the boundaries of the city.” Motion Carried yes 9 no 0.

Discussion followed on a resolution to adopt the draft charter. Greene/Baird Move to adopt the draft charter and add this signed resolution as page 71. Carried yes 9 no 0.

Jones/Baird move to authorize the Clerk of the Charter Commission to submit this draft city charter to Governor Granholm and Attorney General Mike Cox for their review. Carried yes 9 no 0.

Lipan/Jones move to adjourn at 4:00 P.M. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted

Don Duggar
Clerk of the Charter Commission