



CITY OF HAM LAKE

15544 Central Avenue NE
Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304
(763) 434-9555
info@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

CITY OF HAM LAKE CHARTER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

The Ham Lake Charter Commission met on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Ham Lake City Hall located at 15544 Central Avenue NE in Ham Lake, Minnesota.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Dwight McCullough; Vice Chair Brenda Reiner; Commissioners Gary Kirkeide, Al Stauffacher, Bill Vokovan, Tara Lanigan and David Ross

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy City Clerk, Dawnette Shimek

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m. – Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair McCullough called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2.0 OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy Clerk Shimek administered the Oath of Office Tara Lanigan and David Ross with term expiring on February 4, 2024.

3.0 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Motion by Vokovan, seconded by Kirkeide, to nominate and elect Dwight McCullough as Chair of the Charter Commission. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Stauffacher, seconded by McCullough, to nominate and elect Brenda Reiner as Vice-Chair of the Charter Commission. All in favor, motion carried.

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Vokovan, seconded by Commissioner Reiner, to approve the March 22, 2023 agenda as written. All in favor, motion carried.

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 23, 2022

Motion by Kirkeide, seconded by Vokovan, to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2022 Charter Commission meeting as written. All in favor, motion carried.

6.0 APPEARANCES – None

7.0 COMMISSION BUSINESS – None

8.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Kirkeide stated that the City had been working on a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Program. Commissioner Kirkeide explained that the CERT program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may occur where they live. CERT trains volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as: Fire safety; Light search and rescue; and team organization. The City of Ham Lake has been approved by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Organization) to initiate the CERT program. Members of the Chamber Commission agreed that their neighborhoods would help each other out if ever needed in a community emergency. Discussion followed regarding whether the CERT program should be incorporated into the City's Charter. There was discussion to follow-up in the future with the City Council on where the CERT Program is in the planning stages and whether will it be pursued.

Commissioner Vokovan inquired if there is language that can be incorporated into City's Charter to make it difficult for future Councils to raise taxes on utility fees, sales tax and excise tax. This discussion will be placed on the 2024 Charter Commission Agenda.

9.0 ADJOURN

Motion by Vokovan, seconded by Reiner, to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.



Dawnette Shimek, Deputy City Clerk