City of Norton
4060 Columbia Woods Drive
Norton, Ohio 44203

Administration (330) 825-7815 * Finance (330) 825-4511
FAX (330) 825-3104 * Website: www.cityofnorton.org

CHARTER REVIEW COMMMISSION
Wednesday, May 25, 2011

The Charter Review Commission of the City of Norton, Ohio, convened for a public meeting in Norton City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm and postponed until 8:30 pm due to weather conditions.

I. Attendance:

A. Present: Gayle Brenner, Mary Ann Driscoll, Jim Pekarek, and Ron Schaffer

B. Absent: Shannon Barker, Ron Clawson, and Bill Conte

C. Public Attendees: Rick Ryland

II. Consideration of Minutes:

Mr. Schaffer made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April 20, 2011 meeting. Vice-Chairperson Brenner seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The minutes were signed by the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Vice-Chairperson Brenner will provide a copy of the signed minutes to the Clerk of Council.

III. Old Business:

A. Review of Article 3.04: The Commission started discussing the modification of this article again. Mr. Ryland introduced the possibility of making the President position be held by an at-large member and the Vice-President position be held by a member from any ward. Mr. Ryland indicated that Council would like to discuss this item with the Commission. Therefore, Chairperson Pekarek suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting for continued discussion. All agreed.

B. Review of Council and Mayor Salaries: The Commission reviewed the local salary information from September 2010 provided by the Clerk of Council. The Commission discussed whether or not the Mayor position should be full or part time. The ramifications of suggesting a raise for the Mayor and Council in this economic atmosphere were also discussed. It was decided by those present that the Commission would recommend that the salaries for elected officials be adjusted simply to meet the minimum requirement for the public employee's retirement contribution. Mr. Schaffer made the motion to recommend this change to Council. Vice-Chairperson Brenner seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

IV. New Business:

A. Review Articles V - X of the Charter:

1. **Article V, Section 5.03 –** All present discussed the drafted ordinance. Mr. Ryland explained that the adjustment will bring the administration of contracts and bidding in line with the Ohio Revised Code. Mrs. Driscoll made the motion to recommend this ordinance to Council. Vice-Chairperson Brenner seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

2. **Article VI:**
   a. **Section 6.02 –** The Commission discussed the drafted ordinance. The proposed ordinance removes term limits from Planning Commission members. None of the Commission members present are in favor of recommending the draft ordinance as written. Therefore, Chairperson Pekarek suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting for continued discussion. All agreed.

   b. **Section 6.03 –** The Commission discussed the drafted ordinance. The proposed ordinance adjusts term limits for the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals members. The Commission members present would like to discuss this item with Mr. Ryland. Therefore, Chairperson Pekarek suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting for continued discussion. All agreed.

   c. **Section 6.05 –** The Commission discussed the drafted ordinance. The proposed ordinance adjusts term limits for the Park and Cemetery Board members. The Commission members present would like to discuss this item with Mr. Ryland. Therefore, Chairperson Pekarek suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting for continued discussion. All agreed.

2. **Article VII:** There were no comments or recommended modifications.

3. **Article VIII, Section 8.03 –** The Commission reviewed the suggested changes from the Clerk of Council. We decided to recommend that Council remove the party nomination reference and adjust the filing deadline from 75 to 90 days. Mr. Schaffer made the motion to recommend these corrections to Council. Vice-Chairperson Brenner seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

4. **Article IX, Section 9.03 –** The Commission reviewed the drafted ordinance prepared to modify this section. It appears that this ordinance removes typographical errors and corrects language within this section. Mr. Schaffer made the motion to recommend these minor corrections to Council. Vice-Chairperson Brenner seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

5. **Article X:** There were no comments or recommended modifications.

C. **Review of comments from the public:** There were no written comments from the public to discuss.

V. **Announcements:**
The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2011 at 8:00 pm in Council Chambers.

VI. **Adjournment:**
Chairperson Pekarek adjourned the meeting at 10:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mary Ann Driscoll - Stenographer

Jim L. Renaren 6-1-11

Charter Review Commission Chairperson Date

Gayle R. Brenner 6-1-11

Charter Review Commission Vice-Chairperson Date