

# Minneapolis Charter Commission Minutes

October 7, 2015 - 4:00 p.m.

Room 317 City Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Members Present: Commissioners Barry Clegg (Chair), Dan Cohen, Todd Ferrara, Jill Garcia, DJ Heinle, Andrew Kozak, Jana Metge, Jeffrey Peltola, Matt Perry, Andrea Rubenstein, Jan Sandberg, and Lyall Schwarzkopf

Members Absent: Commissioners Barbara Lickness and Aaron Street

1. Roll Call

Chair Clegg called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

2. Adopt Agenda

On motion, seconded, the agenda was adopted. Absent: Lickness and Street

3. Approve minutes of regular meeting of August 5, 2015

20150805 Minutes

On motion, seconded, the minutes were approved. Absent: Lickness and Street

4. Chair's Report

Update on applications received for the Charter Commission Seat 1 vacancy.

The application review process will begin Oct. 23, with two new and four previous applications currently under consideration and having been forwarded to Judge Cahill.

## Discussion

5. Board of Estimate and Taxation (BET) Composition and Membership

a. Historical overview of the composition and membership of the BET from the City Clerk's Office.

b. Discussion on merits of a possible ballot question relative to the addition of a 7th seat.

BET Memo

BET MN Laws Ch. 252.1919

BET MN Laws Ch. 160.1983

BET MN Special Laws Ch. 338.1879

BET Becker Proposal

BET Sandberg Proposal

BET Schwarzkopf Proposal

A letter of concern drafted by Mayor Hodges, Council President Barbara Johnson, and Chair of the Ways & Means Committee John Quincy was distributed to Commissioners re: BET membership and bond issuance.

Motion and 2nd to add Becker's proposal to the discussion.

Motion and 2nd to add Sandberg's proposal to the discussion.

Motion and 2nd to add Schwarzkopf's proposal to the discussion.

Following discussion, on motion by Sandberg, seconded, the item was tabled to the December 2, 2015, Charter Commission meeting.

Ayes: Heinle, Kozak, Metge, Peltola, Rubenstein, Sandberg, and Clegg

Noes: Cohen, Ferrara, Garcia, Perry, Schwarzkopf

Absent: Lickness, Street

6. Charter Rules Relative to Debt and Professional Sports Facilities

Historical context of Article 9, Section 9.4(e) of the Charter relating to debt and professional sports facilities from City Attorney Burt Osborne.

City Attorney Burt Osborne reported on the City's compliance with Section 9.4(d) of the Charter, which requires a referendum by the voters for capital projects where the debt exceeds \$15 million dollars. Mr. Osborne reported that it has been the City's practice to issue bonds only when authorized by a State general or special law, which authorize such issuance without regard to any contrary local charter provision. Given that the issuances are specifically authorized by superseding State law, referenda in accordance with the Charter have not been required.

A motion by Ferrara, seconded, to prepare a memorandum outlining and clarifying the methods of funding and bonding used for capital projects where the debt exceeds \$15 million was defeated on voice vote.

**Public Commentary**

Arlene Fried, 1109 Xerxes Ave S spoke in favor of the creation of a memorandum as proposed by Commissioner Ferrara.

On motion, seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Absent: Lickness and Street

Submitted by Diana Armstrong, Charter Commission Coordinator