



MINUTES
WATAUGA CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD
SEPTEMBER 22, 2023
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kip Woodruff called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Kip Woodruff	Chairperson, Place 7
Jillian Giles	Place 1
Jan Hill	Place 2
Cristy Blackburn	Place 3
Lindsey Neal	Secretary, Place 4
Arthur Miner	Place 5
Robert Minucci	Place 6
And	
Mark Taylor	Council Liaison
Andrew Neal	Council Member, Place 4
Malissa Minucci	Council Member, Place 5 – entered 6:35 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests for public comment.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

There were no requests for public testimony.

RECESSED

Chairperson Woodruff recessed the meeting at 6:09 pm.

RECONVENED

Chairperson Woodruff reconvened the meeting at 6:15 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

1. The committee will discuss and consider action on concerns, possible assignments, additions, deletions, amendments to the City of Watauga's Charter.

Mark Taylor desires changes to:

- a. Sec. 301 Change to 3-year terms for council members to have two elections in three years.
- b. Sec. 305 Clarify the section on meeting absences.
- c. Sec. 3.07 (k) Regulate, license, and fix the charges or fares made by any person, firm, or corporation owning, operating, or controlling any vehicle of any character used for the carrying of passengers for hire or the transportation of freight for hire on the public streets and alleys of the city.

There was a brief discussion between Mr. Taylor and Mr. Miner over Apartments and the last city manager.

Arthur Miner wants the following sections reviewed:

- a. Sec. 301 Council terms, change them to 3 or 4 years.
- b. Sec 305 Clarify absences for board and council meetings.
- c. 7.06 Residency requirements for city manager.

Kip Woodruff would also like to review:

- a. 7.06, Residency requirements for city manager.

Cristy Blackburn would like to review the following sections:

- a. Sec. 3:05 Vacancies; forfeiture of office; filling of vacancies. She suggests two consecutive meetings.
- b. 7.06 Residency requirements for city manager.

Jillian Giles would like the following sections discussed and reviewed:

- a. Sec. 3.02 (g) Shall have not been finally convicted of a felony offense or a misdemeanor offense involving moral turpitude from which the person had not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability. For purposes of this Home Rule Charter, a crime of moral turpitude shall mean a criminal offense involving fraud, deceit, dishonesty, or a criminal offense that is inherently immoral. Ms. Giles is looking for the legal definition.
- b. Sec 3.07 (i) Adopt, modify, and carry out plans for the clearance of slum districts and rehabilitation of blighted areas.
- c. Sec. 3.07 (k) Regulate, license, and fix the charges or fares made by any person, firm, or corporation owning, operating, or controlling any

vehicle of any character used for the carrying of passengers for hire or the transportation of freight for hire on the public streets and alleys of the city. Questions on Amazon, Lift, Uber, and similar services.

- d. Sec. 3.08 (a) Holding other office.
- e. Sec. 7.06 Residency requirements for city manager.
- f. Would like to discuss the transparency of the city manager.
- g. Sec. 11.01 The planning and zoning commission.
- h. Sec. 14.03 Nepotism
- i. Sec. 14.14 Conflict of interest

Board members Lindsey Neal, Robert Minucci, and Jan Hill stated that prior members already mentioned their concerns.

Arthur Miner have the City Attorney look at the sections they want reviewed. Which are:

- a. 3.01
- b. 3.05
- c. 3.02 (g)
- d. 3.07 (k)
- e. 3.08 (a)
- f. 7.06
- g. Transparency/clause
- h. 14.03 Nepotism "office" "appoint."

2. Discuss and Consider action to schedule the next Charter Review Commission Meeting.

The board discussed and decided for the next meeting on Friday, October 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Lindsey Neal motioned to hold the next meeting on Friday, October 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Jillian Giles seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0-0-0

Ayes, Woodruff, Giles, Hill, Blackburn, Neal, Miner, Minucci

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

ADJOURNMENT

Kip Woodruff, Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm

Approved: this 17 day of Nov, 2023

Signed: this 17 day of Nov, 2023

APPROVED:
Kip Woodruff /s/
Chairperson

ATTEST: L. Neal /s/ ?

Lindsey Neal, Secretary