

MINUTES
WEST ST. PAUL CHARTER COMMISSION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015
6:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL CENTER
ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Mark Tessmer, Commissioners Neftali Ramirez-Rosario, Mark Tessmer, Aaron Van Moorlehem, Nicole Paradise, Doug Fromm, Jim McKie, Wendy DeVore

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Laura Nichols-Endres, Dave Dyrhaug, Tim Valento

OTHERS PRESENT: Council liaison Ed Iago, City Attorney Kori Land

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tessmer called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Van Moorelehem/Fromm
All ayes.

APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2014 MEETING

Motion by Commissioner Van Moorlehem, seconded by Commissioner McKie to approve the minutes. All ayes.

COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENTS

Attorney Land asked if DeVore and Tessmer wanted to be reappointed. They indicated that they were willing to do so. Their names will be submitted to the Council who will forward their names to the First Judicial District Chief Judge for reappointment.

COMMISSION VACANCIES

Attorney Land indicated there are 3 vacancies on the Commission and only one application. Additional applications will be solicited and the Commission will review the applications at an upcoming meeting. Members recommended posting the openings on the City's Facebook page.

DISCUSSION OF BYLAWS AMENDMENT AND CHARTER AMENDMENT

Attorney Land explained the proposed amendment to the Bylaws to add Article 3.03 stating that Commissioners held office for a term of 4 years, expiring the last day of February.

Motion by Commissioner McKie and seconded by Paradise to approve the amendment to the Bylaws. All ayes.

Commissioner Tessmer explained that Mayor Meisinger had a request to add a provision in Charter Section 3.01 subd. 2 regarding special meetings requiring that when special meetings are called, the requestors of the meeting must be identified. Commissioner Tessmer thought that this

would add transparency to the process. Commissioner Van Moorlehem concurred. Council member Iago added that it also eliminates the possibility of an open meeting law violation if other council members are aware of the identity of the three council members who requested the meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Fromm and seconded by McKie to recommend that the Council adopt the Charter Amendment by adding that the written notice requesting a special meeting must identify the requestors of the meeting. All ayes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was noted that the current Officers are as follows:

Chair: Mark Tessmer

Vice Chair: Aaron Van Moorlehem

Secretary: Wendy DeVore

All Officers indicated they were willing to continue to serve in their respective roles. Motion by Commissioner Ramirez-Rosario and seconded by Paradise to move the slate. All ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Rosario-Ramirez asked if Section 8.01 was being followed, requiring that the annual report be submitted to the Commission prior to being submitted to the Chief Judge. Attorney Land admitted that she was previously unaware of this requirement in the Charter but would make note of it follow it in the future.

DISCUSS NEXT MEETING DATE

It was decided that no new meeting date would be set at this time but the Commission supported having a meeting if needed to review Charter member applications.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Fromm, seconded by McKie. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.