

City of Carson City
Special Council Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024
652 Williams Street
Carson City, Michigan 48811

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present at roll call: McCrackin, Keiffer, Hauck, Gage, Miller, Parmenter and Kapustka.
Members Absent: None

Others in attendance: Pam Hagerman, Mark Crawfis, Nate Plath, Tom Haradine, Randy Shepler, Amanda Stoudt, Tim Stoudt, Joni Jegla, and Nan Hagerman

Moved by Keiffer, supported by Parmenter to approve the Agenda with moving item #2 to the top of the agenda and move #1 to #2. Motion carried.

Motion by Gage, supported by Parmenter to approve agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None given

Kapustka asked all to stay within the scope of what's on the agenda.

Kapustka stated that he is going to go pursuant with the city charter, no longer have standing committees. He believes a workshop atmosphere will be better for all concerns.

If there are issues on specific topics, for example like parks, we will either call a workshop or have discussion at a regular meeting.

Kapustka read an email sent from Chris Johnson with MML regarding having council making motions without being on the agenda.

Hauck feels like the council has been cut off with making any discussion. She feels that making motions is the only way she gets results.

Parmenter asked so a workshop really will be a committee of a whole verses a committee of three? Yes, Kapustka responded.

Hauck thought that was the purpose of the committees. To have a committee and then recommend to the council as a whole. But going forward this isn't the way it will be?

Keiffer, asked how are we going to hire, or make decisions on streets, parks, etc. Will this make us have a longer meeting prior to having our regular council meetings. Can we set those dates tonight? Kapustka believed that is moving away from the agenda topics.

Kapustka read a statement regarding allowing motions being made against charter at our last regular meeting held on January 16, 2024. He gave two references from the charter under Organization and Rules of the Council on page 28-29 Section E., Section 4.2 on page 20, and also Ordinance #53 why he will entertain a motion to rescind the motion #1 made by McCrackin, supported by Hauck to separate the Personnel and Finance Committee.

Hauck, questioned isn't there any amendments to the charter. Hauck thought there was a three- ring binder with amendments regarding the current charter.

Keiffer feels if there is a written opinion from our city attorney then why can't the council have that in writing?

Motion by Parmenter to rescind the motion made last week to separate the Personnel & Finance Committees I believe it does violate the charter. Motion failed due to lack of support.

Parmenter stated he doesn't feel that this motion violated the charter, since at that time the city did have standing committees.

No motion was made to rescind the motion to have the personnel committee get 3 bids for time clocks and report back to the council.

Kapustka stated that changing the charter takes a committee and has to be approved by the residence.

McCrackin, stated that she has really read the charter book, and there are many things in the charter that we are not following. You're telling me tonight that we follow the charter and I can tell you many things that we are not following the charter. McCrackin, asked if she could state some of the things right now? Kapustka said no it is outside of the scope of our special agenda. She can get her list and deal with them at our next meeting. McCrackin asked if we could set a date tonight for the next meeting?

Hauck would like to have a meeting sooner than later to deal with hiring a new police chief, and the charter issues.

Kapustka would like to have a workshop for the selection of a police chief asked everyone to review their calendar and get back with Pam or himself so he can set up a date for a workshop next week sometime.

For the concerns with the charter & Hauck's other concerns with believing there is an amendment book to the charter, we can deal with those issues at our regular meeting in February.

Public Comments:

Keiffer asked so when I leave here tonight there are no more committees? Keiffer asked if we can call a vote on this? Kapustka said no he has made the decision to not have committees any longer.

McCrackin asked if there is something a council member would like to have on the agenda, can they request it to you the Mayor or City Administrator? Kapustka said yes, get it to the City Administrator.

Nate Plath asked so the Charter is from 1962 since then, even since City Administrator Fred Brown, we have had committees, what has changed? Other than management?

Motion by Miller, supported by Hauck to adjourn at 6:35 pm. Motion carried.

Neil A. Kapustka, Mayor

Nan Hagerman, Comptroller