

NORTH CANTON, OHIO
CHARTER ADVISORY BOARD

TRANSCRIPT OF
JANUARY 31, 2022, MEETING

- - - - -

Transcript of Proceedings of the North Canton
Charter Advisory Board, at the North Canton Civic Center,
845 West Maple Street, North Canton, Ohio, on Monday,
January 31, 2022, at 9:07 a.m.

- - - - -

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

APPEARANCES:

- Benjamin R. Young, Chairperson
- Miriam Baughman, Vice Chairperson
- Jina E. Alaback, Member
- Ronald Feltz, Member
- Zachary Fettman, Member
- Kristina Hostetler, Member
- Stephen B. Wilder, Mayor

- - - - -

1 MAYOR WILDER: Good morning, everybody.
2 Mayor Steve Wilder here for the City of North Canton
3 on January 31, 2022, at about 9:07.

4 Our first order of business is to swear in
5 the charter advisory board for the City of North
6 Canton. So I want to thank those that have
7 volunteered to be a part that. If you would please
8 stand where you're at and I'll just ask you to raise
9 your right hand and I'll give the oath of office.

10 (Whereupon, an oath of office was
11 administered by Mayor Wilder.)

12 MAYOR WILDER: Thank you very much. You can
13 lower your hands. Congratulations. You have been
14 sworn in to be members of our charter advisory board
15 for the City of North Canton. Thank you for
16 volunteering to do this very important mission for
17 our city. I'm going to turn the meeting over to our
18 clerk of council, Mr. Ben Young, for the order of
19 business.

20 Mr. Young.

21 MR. YOUNG: Thank you very much, Mayor.

22 I will now call to order this first meeting
23 of the 2022 North Canton Charter Advisory Board at
24 approximately 9:05 a.m. I will now call the roll.

25 Myself, I'm here.

1 Member Alaback.

2 MS. ALABACK: Here.

3 MR. YOUNG: Member Baughman.

4 MS. BAUGHMAN: Here.

5 MR. YOUNG: Member Hostetler.

6 MS. HOSTETLER: Here. Present.

7 MR. YOUNG: Member Feltz.

8 MR. FELTZ: Here.

9 MR. YOUNG: Mr. Fettman.

10 MR. FETTMAN: Here.

11 MR. YOUNG: And Member Grandjean is absent.

12 I will move to excuse Member Grandjean.

13 MS. ALABACK: Second by Alaback.

14 MR. YOUNG: All in favor, say "aye."

15 ("Aye" in unison.)

16 MR. YOUNG: All opposed? Motion carries.

17 All right. At this time our first order of
18 business is to elect a chairperson. So I will open
19 the floor to nomination for the position of chair.

20 MS. BAUGHMAN: I nominate Ben Young.

21 MS. ALABACK: Second.

22 MR. YOUNG: I am honored and will graciously
23 accept my nomination. Are there any further
24 nominations? All right. Hearing none, the floor is
25 now closed to nominations.

1 Is there a motion and a second to appoint
2 Member Young to the position of chair of this
3 advisory board?

4 MS. BAUGHMAN: .I move to appoint Ben Young to
5 the chair of the advisory board.

6 MR. FELTZ: Second.

7 MR. YOUNG: Motion has been moved and
8 seconded. All in favor, say "aye."

9 ("Aye" in unison.)

10 MR. YOUNG: All opposed? Motion carries.

11 All right. Next point of order, election of
12 a vice chairperson. I will now open the floor to
13 nominations for vice chair. I would like to nominate
14 Miss Miriam Baughman. She has served on the past two
15 full charter commissions and is an invaluable asset
16 to have on this board.

17 MR. FELTZ: Second.

18 MR. YOUNG: Second. Ms. Baughman, do you
19 accept your nomination?

20 MS. BAUGHMAN: I do.

21 MR. YOUNG: Are there any further
22 nominations? All right. At this time the floor is
23 closed to nominations. I will move that we appoint
24 Member Baughman as vice chair of this advisory board.
25 All in favor?

1 ("Aye" in unison.)

2 MR. YOUNG: All opposed? Motion carries.

3 All right. Third is our regular meeting
4 schedule. According to the ordinance that
5 established this body, we need to meet at least once
6 a month until May when our recommendations are due to
7 city council. As I put in your packets, there have
8 been a couple of schedules proposed. The first being
9 second Mondays of the month at 5 p.m. And the other
10 being one of us expressed a preference for Tuesday or
11 Wednesday evening. I personally am inclined to agree
12 with the second Mondays at 5 p.m.

13 MR. FELTZ: I move we add the second Monday.

14 MR. YOUNG: I will second second Mondays at 5
15 p.m. All in favor?

16 ("Aye" in unison.)

17 MR. YOUNG: Any opposed? All right. Second
18 Mondays of each month at 5 p.m. shall be our regular
19 meeting time.

20 And finally, establishment of rules. Miriam,
21 take it from here. She was the one who reminded me
22 that we need to consider all of these things.

23 First would be minimum number of votes for a
24 favorable recommendation to pass. Miriam, do you
25 have a recommendation that you'd like?

1 MS. BAUGHMAN: Well, since there's seven of
2 us, a quorum would be four. And majority would be
3 four, so I guess we go -- and then I further read
4 that if you have a quorum and only four people show
5 up, you still have to do the quorum of the seven.

6 MR. YOUNG: So you're saying that even if we
7 have a meeting and only four of us show up, instead
8 of majority rules of that four we still go with the
9 four votes?

10 MS. BAUGHMAN: You still go with four. You
11 know, you have to think about that.

12 MS. ALABACK: Are there any votes that would
13 require two-thirds?

14 MR. YOUNG: I don't know what we would do
15 that would require two-thirds.

16 MS. BAUGHMAN: I think we usually go by
17 Robert's Rules.

18 MR. YOUNG: Then I would move that we make
19 four votes the minimum number needed to positively
20 recommend something.

21 MS. HOSTETLER: I have a question. And so I
22 heard that the State of Ohio is looking, with COVID
23 and all of this, so just curious about remote voting.
24 Is that even -- I understand that they are revisiting
25 that to see if that's something that's allowable up

1 through June or is that not applicable in this case?

2 MR. YOUNG: Yes. So if you'll -- in 2020 and
3 2021 we had a lot of public meetings virtually. At
4 that time we were -- the state legislature created an
5 exemption that allowed public bodies like us to meet
6 virtually. I am watching, and I have been told by
7 our state reps they are working on it, but it is not
8 yet in place.

9 MS. HOSTETLER: Okay.

10 MR. YOUNG: So if that happens, we can have
11 people join virtually. But without that exemption,
12 legally to vote you must be here present.

13 MS. HOSTETLER: Okay. Perfect.

14 MS. BAUGHMAN: The second thing I think that
15 we need to decide, since it's a public meeting,
16 visitors will be here. But if there will be public
17 speaks and how long they will be, that needs to be
18 decided.

19 MR. YOUNG: Was -- for the full charter
20 reviews is there normally public comment?

21 MS. BAUGHMAN: Yes.

22 MR. YOUNG: And do you generally follow what
23 city council usually follows?

24 MS. BAUGHMAN: I can't remember. It was
25 2008.

1 MR. YOUNG: That's fine.

2 MS. BAUGHMAN: That's something that
3 everybody could talk about and decide.

4 MR. YOUNG: So what Miriam is asking is do we
5 want to let members of the public, you know, address
6 us and give input on what we're voting on during each
7 meeting.

8 MS. HOSTETLER: Is there ever a situation
9 where you wouldn't let them or wouldn't want that?

10 MS. BAUGHMAN: No, I don't think so. I think
11 it's a good thing. You just have to put a time limit
12 on it.

13 MS. HOSTETLER: Sure. How popular are these
14 meetings with the public? I guess it depends on the
15 issue.

16 MS. BAUGHMAN: Yes.

17 MR. YOUNG: So the city council has a
18 five-minute rule, time limit. And then, you know,
19 they have some rules against slander and things like
20 that. I guess I would suggest we use city council's
21 rules with the additional rule that it must be
22 limited to things on our agenda.

23 MS. HOSTETLER: Sure.

24 MR. YOUNG: Because, you know, if someone
25 comes, we can't help you with your driveway problem;

1 right?

2 MS. HOSTETLER: So second. I'm supposed to
3 second? That sounds good to me.

4 MR. YOUNG: Okay. Well, then I'll move that
5 we use city council's public speaks rules with the
6 addition of limiting it to items relating to the city
7 charter.

8 MR. FETTMAN: Second.

9 MR. YOUNG: All in favor?

10 ("Aye" in unison.)

11 MR. YOUNG: Okay. And I don't believe we
12 actually voted on minimum number of votes so I will
13 make that motion again, that the minimum number be
14 four. Is there a second?

15 MS. ALABACK: Second.

16 MR. YOUNG: All in favor, say "aye."

17 ("Aye" in unison.)

18 MR. YOUNG: Opposed? Motion carries.

19 All right. Finally, for the review process
20 and how we're -- we go about looking at these
21 amendments, as I shared with you all in e-mail, there
22 are 15 amendments that have been submitted. This
23 says 16; two of those are duplicates of each other so
24 it's 15. Looking at the data of what was submitted,
25 we have about half that relate to Article 2 and then

1 half that relate to everything else. So I would like
2 to move and recommend that how we go about this is in
3 February we look at everything relating to Article 2,
4 in March we look at everything else, then in April we
5 should be able to have final drafts of everything we
6 have come up with to send to city council in May and
7 then we still have that meeting in May; if there's
8 something we decide to change in April, that can come
9 back to us.

10 MS. BAUGHMAN: Okay. I have a question.

11 MR. YOUNG: Yeah.

12 MS. BAUGHMAN: I don't have those 15 in front
13 of me, but what I remember that -- and I think should
14 be addressed and I don't know if it was one of the
15 15, is the how often that the charter review
16 commission meets. The last time we had a charter
17 review we looked at it and some decided ten years was
18 too long, but it -- it didn't pass the whole. So I
19 feel ten years is too long to wait to review it
20 because things change quickly. You know, Ohio law
21 changes and we can't be in conflict of Ohio law.

22 MR. YOUNG: Yeah.

23 MS. BAUGHMAN: So we can't have Ohio law say
24 something and then we say something else.

25 MR. YOUNG: I do know, because it was one of

1 the ones I collected beforehand and I submitted that.
2 That is in there. That's one of them.

3 MS. BAUGHMAN: Okay.

4 MR. YOUNG: Is there a second for the process
5 I laid out or an alternative process?

6 MS. ALABACK: Second.

7 MR. YOUNG: Okay. All in favor?

8 ("Aye" in unison.)

9 MR. YOUNG: Opposed? Motion carries.

10 All right. Anything else before we adjourn?

11 MS. BAUGHMAN: Did we put a time on how long
12 the meetings would be? Of course, if they're Monday
13 night they can only be --

14 MR. YOUNG: So we'll have two hours on Monday
15 nights, yeah.

16 MS. BAUGHMAN: Okay. Two hours.

17 MR. YOUNG: Because city council would start
18 at 7 p.m.

19 MS. BAUGHMAN: Right. Okay.

20 MR. YOUNG: All right. Then I would
21 entertain a motion to adjourn.

22 MS. ALABACK: I move.

23 MR. YOUNG: All in favor?

24 ("Aye" in unison.)

25 MR. YOUNG: Opposed? We are adjourned.