

**DEFIANCE CITY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

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The first meeting of the Charter Review Commission met in the Charles D. Beard Community Room of the Municipal Annex at 6:32 p.m.

The meeting was attended by: Chairperson Beard, Marc Warncke, Bob Lawson, Mike McCann, and Lisa Elders, Clerk.

Those unable to attend the meeting were: Pete Lundberg

Others in attendance were: Todd Helberg

➤ Mr. Williams gave a history of the Charter Review:

- Mr. Williams stated the Ohio Municipality do have Constitutional authority to provide for the organization of the government itself and they have no obligation to structure the government or to allocate powers within the government to varies officers in accordance with better judgment of the General Assembly. In the Municipality chooses to structure the government in some differently, it does that by the adoption of the charter. What the charter does is defines the public offices, how they are going to be selected and what powers they are going to have.
- Chairman Beard understands, other than a violation of State Law the charter trumps ORC. Mr. Williams stated the city's Constitutional authority is to provide for its own self local government. The charter sets up the structure of the government and decides how and when the council can adopt Ordinances.
- Mr. McCann stated different examples, trying to get a grasp of the charter and Mr. Williams was answering the situations given.
- Chairman Beard stated there are Nine Articles in the charter and Mr. Holtsberry (President of Council), would like to have the Charter Review Board's recommendations by the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, so council can review them and then get them on the ballot. Chairman Beard suggested looking at two Articles a month. Mr. Williams stated there are only eight Articles to deal with, the Ninth Article is the Transitional Provisions.
- Chairman Beard stated there is a link on the Defiance City Website and Lisa (Charter Review Clerk) will post the minutes and the board will have their emails on the site. The Crescent will post the agenda.
- Mr. Holtsberry did submit several proposals to look at for Charter Amendments.

➤ Schedule for the Charter Meeting:

- Meetings will be in the Charlie D. Beard Community Room on Monday's at 6:30 discussing two Articles a meeting.

Next meeting is March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Charles D. Beard Community Room:

- Article I and Article II

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Elders