



# Charter Commission Meeting

April 7, 2025

7:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue NE

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## Minutes

### **Call to Order**

Chair Johnson called the Charter Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Present**

Mohammed Barre  
Brad Bremener  
Donald Findell  
Greg Gardner  
Clifford Johnson  
Nikki Karnopp  
Steve Kisner  
Audrey Nelson  
Pam Reynolds  
Valerie Rolstad  
Doug Schmitz  
Kathy Smith

### **Absent**

Ted Kranz  
Dave Linton  
Rick Nelson

### **City Council Members Present**

Dave Ostwald, Mayor  
Ryan Evanson, Councilmember, Ward 2  
Ann Bolcom, Councilmember, Ward 3  
Patrick Vesico, Councilmember At Large

### **Others Present**

Wally Wysopal, City Manager  
Melissa Moore, Assistant City Manager  
Beth Kondrick, Deputy City Clerk

### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Commissioner Karnopp, seconded by Commissioner Findell.

Upon a voice call vote, all voting aye, Chair Johnson declared the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

1. Approval of March 3, 2025, Charter Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the March 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes by Commissioner Reynolds. Seconded by Commissioner Kisner.

Upon a voice call vote, all voting aye, Chair Johnson declared the motion carried unanimously.

**Administrative Matters**

2. Upcoming Terms Expiring

Ms. Moore informed the Commission that the terms of Commissioners Rolstad and Findell are set to expire in May. Both Commissioners indicated they wished to be reappointed.

Motion to reappoint Commissioners Rolstad and Findell by Commissioner Reynolds. Seconded by Commissioner Karnopp.

Upon a voice call vote, all voting aye, Chair Johnson declared the motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion with the Fridley City Council

Dave Ostwald, Mayor, opened the conversation asking what the Commission would like to discuss.

Commissioner Nelson brought up a recent water service issue she was experiencing and the high cost of repair and asked the Council for better education on what costs residents are responsible for with their water service.

Mayor Ostwald asked for an update on Chapter 5 and the Council and Commission discussed the potential changes proposed to the chapter, mainly pertaining to the threshold for petition and referendum signatures.

Commissioners asked the City Council about their goals and objectives for the year. The Council shared that the Park Improvement Master Plan continues to be a major initiative with construction expected soon on Commons Park.

Commissioners asked the Mayor what he hopes his legacy would be. Mayor Ostwald responded that one his goals is improving traffic safety on University and Central Avenues and completion of the 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge.

Councilmember Bolkom asked if the Commission had any questions regarding the Commission Onboarding Manual. Chair Johnson said the Commission is still absorbing the information and plan to discuss it at the next meeting.

Councilmember Vescio took a few minutes to introduce himself to the Commission.

Commissioners asked about plans for the property at Mississippi and Old Central. Mayor Ostwald stated that single family homes, like the ones behind City Hall, will be constructed there.

### **Old Business**

#### 4. Chapter 5 Review

Commissioner Reynolds asked if the Charter has the authority to change the Charter language or do they have to follow State Rule? Ms. Moore said she would have to do a little research and ask the City Attorney.

Motion to table the item by Commissioner Gardner. Seconded by Commissioner Schmitz.

Upon a voice call vote, all voting aye, Chair Johnson declared the motion carried unanimously.

### **Future Meeting Topics/Communications**

#### 5. Future Meeting Topics

- Candidate Interview Process
- Adding Language to the Charter for who can and cannot serve on the Commission, specifically section 2.013 of Chapter 2
- Next Chapter to Review
- Bylaws
- Chapter 5
- Commission Onboarding Manual

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Commissioner Barre to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Gardner. Upon a voice call vote, all voting aye, Chair Johnson declared the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.