

**APPROVED**  
**CITY OF LINO LAKES**  
**CHARTER COMMISSION**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>February 23, 2017</b>
<b>TIME STARTED</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>TIME ENDED</b>	<b>7:25 p.m.</b>
<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>Aldentaler, Bretoi, Dahl, Johnson, Juni, Lyden, Stanek, Storberg, Stranik, and Vanderpoel</b>
<b>MEMBERS EXCUSED</b>	<b>Poehling, Turcotte, and Damiani</b>
<b>MEMBERS UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>Combs and Devaney</b>
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	<b>None</b>

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Dahl reconvened the meeting of the Lino Lakes Charter Commission at 6:33 pm on Thursday, February 23, 2017.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Dahl lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SETTING THE AGENDA**

Agenda was accepted as presented without additions

**OPEN MIC/PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one present opted to speak for the open mike.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Dahl noted on page six, line 253, it should state, “It was noted that ~~a specific dollar amount would need to be included in the request would be submit in the amount of \$4,000. She stated that she would develop several drafts and will bring a draft back to the Charter Commission for review before submittal.~~”

MOTION by Commissioner Juni, seconded by Commissioner Stranik, approving the meeting minutes of January 12, 2017 as amended.

Motion passed unanimously. (Johnson, Lyden and Storberg abstained.)

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Ward Amendment**

Commissioner Juni stated that he contacted the offices of Robert Chamberlain and Linda Runbeck, leaving voicemails and sending emails. He stated that he did receive a message back that they received his messages and would respond but had not yet received a real response.

46  
47 Commissioner Johnson stated that he has regular contact with a representative and would be able  
48 to reach out on behalf of the Commission.

49  
50 Commissioner Juni provided background information noting that the State Statute specifies that  
51 the Charter Commission would receive \$1,500, or a higher amount determined by the City  
52 Council. He stated that the attempt is to have the minimum specified in State Statute increased.

53  
54 Commissioner Johnson confirmed that he would reach out. He noted that there is a lot going on  
55 at the legislature right now and therefore this would not be high on the list. He stated that it may  
56 be helpful if there are other cities that would join with the Lino Lakes Charter Commission.

57  
58 Commissioner Stranik stated that while he would love for this to be successful, it is doubtful in  
59 the given timeline and therefore the Commission should review alternative options.

60  
61 Chair Dahl stated that even though it may be unlikely for this year, the comments will show that  
62 the Charter Commission is interested in the matter and can continue the efforts in the future.

63  
64 Commissioner Storberg noted that it would also be helpful if unused funds could roll over from  
65 year to year, rather than reverting back to the general fund if unused.

66  
67 Commissioner Bretoi asked for an update on the request for funds that was submitted to the City  
68 Council.

69  
70 Chair Dahl stated that she did submit a request for funds to the City Council and was told that the  
71 Council would not take action as the Commission did not make a formal motion.

72  
73 MOTION by Commissioner Bretoi, seconded by Commissioner Stanek, to direct Chair Dahl to  
74 submit a request to the City Council for increased funds for the Charter Commission in the  
75 amount of \$5,500 annually as discussed the previous month.

76  
77 Motion passed unanimously.

78  
79 **B. Attorney for Charter**

80 Chair Dahl stated that at the January meeting, several Commissioners volunteered to reach out to  
81 possible attorneys that could represent the Charter Commission.

82  
83 Commissioner Juni stated that he plays tennis with an attorney and reached out to him to see if  
84 there would be interest in representing the Charter Commission. He distributed information on  
85 the attorney, who has worked as city attorney for multiple cities throughout his career. He noted  
86 that they did not discuss a rate during the conversation. He stated that this appears to be the only  
87 potential candidate and noted that if the Commission is interested, Chair Dahl could reach out to  
88 the attorney and gain information on potential rates for his services.

89

90 MOTION by Commissioner Bretoi, seconded by Commissioner Stranik, authorize Chair Dahl to  
91 contact Fredrick “Fritz” Knaak on behalf of the Charter Commission, make the decision on  
92 whether to engage him as the Charter Commission attorney for the ward amendment, and if  
93 appropriate execute the contract on behalf of the Commission.  
94

95 Further discussion: Commissioner Lyden asked if the hiring of an attorney would be an annual  
96 renewal or whether it would be for a contracted amount of time.  
97

98 Commissioner Juni stated that he did not discuss the attorney being a long-term option, but  
99 simply contracting to assist with the ward amendment language.  
100

101 Chair Dahl stated that the potential attorney does have experience with multiple municipalities  
102 and therefore is aware of the lower rates that municipalities typically pay for services. She stated  
103 that from the background information provided, the attorney seems to be fair and knowledgeable  
104 and is not afraid to step up if need be. She asked if the Commission would want the potential  
105 attorney attend a meeting before hiring.  
106

107 Commissioner Lyden stated that he would feel comfortable with the submission of a contract.  
108

109 Commissioner Stranik noted that he has been vetted and the Commission seems to be  
110 comfortable.  
111

112 Chair Dahl confirmed that she would contact the attorney, determine his costs and if acceptable  
113 would ask him to draft a contract.  
114

115 Motion passed unanimously.  
116

117 Commissioner Stranik proposed that the potential attorney be presented with the comments from  
118 the City Attorney and prior Charter Commission attorney to gauge his position on the topic, as  
119 that seems to be a logical method to engage.  
120

121 Chair Dahl stated that in the past all three Officers of the Commission have signed agreements  
122 but noted that she could sign the agreement, as the Chair, if the Charter Commission was  
123 comfortable with that.  
124

125 Commissioner Juni noted that the potential attorney has served as a State Senator and therefore  
126 he may also have an opinion on how the approach the legislature on a potential increase to the  
127 minimum amount specified in the State Statute for Charter Commission funding.  
128

129 **C. Report on City Attorney Attending Charter Commission Meeting**

130 Commissioner Stranik stated that he reached out to the City Administrator in regard to  
131 potentially having the City Attorney assist the Charter Commission and received a response that  
132 the City Attorney would not be able to assist the Commission as he represents the City Council  
133 and therefore would have a conflict. He noted that he responded back to the City Administrator  
134 stating that the Charter Commission was not asking for representation but simply asking the City

135 Attorney to attend a meeting and explain his position on the ward amendment language drafted  
136 by the Charter Commission. He noted that he did not receive a response to the clarification he  
137 provided to the City Administrator.

138

139 **NEXT MEETING DATE**

140 Chair Dahl noted the next meeting date is to be determined and asked for input from the  
141 Commission.

142

143 Commissioner Juni noted that the next regular meeting date is the Thursday prior to Easter and  
144 therefore perhaps an earlier date be established.

145

146 It was the consensus of the Commission to change the date of the April 13, 2017 regular meeting  
147 to Thursday, March 23, 2017 or Thursday, March 30, 2017. It was noted that Chair Dahl would  
148 poll the Commissioners to determine which date would be best.

149

150 **ADJOURN**

151

152 MOTION by Commissioner Stranik, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to adjourn the meeting  
153 at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

154

155 Drafted by: Amanda Staple, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*