

**Minneola City Council
Workshop Minutes
Minneola City Hall
June 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM**

The City of Minneola City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Pat Kelley. Also present were Councilor Erick Hernandez, Councilor Joe Saunders, Scott Gerken (City Attorney), Mark Johnson (City Manager), and Kristine Thompson (City Clerk).

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kelley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Councilor Hernandez**.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1: Charter Amendments

Mayor Kelley suggested the list of topics provided by Nathan Focht should be used during the workshop.

Richard Garvie, 827 Maple Forest Avenue, asked if a decision regarding charter amendments must be made by a certain date.

Mayor Kelley indicated there are deadlines to meet which the attorney is familiar with. He suggested the first reading of the ordinance will be at the July 11 city council meeting and the second reading would be at the July 18 city council meeting. This would leave time to be seen at the first city council meeting in August if any changes were needed.

Mayor Kelley asked if there were any topics which needed to be addressed that were not listed on the list provided by Nathan.

Councilor Hernandez suggested the entire charter should be reviewed for changes.

Mayor Kelley suggested tonight's workshop was to focus specifically on election related items.

There was a discussion regarding primary elections.

Nathan Focht suggested council should focus on term limits and term lengths as to not place too many referendums on the ballot.

Councilor Hernandez indicated districting should be addressed and the elections should match the governor and presidential elections.

Nathan Focht suggested there is more of a turn out during the governor and presidential election, but they tend to be less informed on the local races.

Mayor Kelley suggested districting be discussed in the future as this would require more of a conversation than this workshop would allow.

There was a discussion regarding term lengths and term limits.

Bill Seigenthaler, 204 East Osceola Street, spoke positively regarding districting with a mayor at large.

Councilor Saunders indicated he is fine with the current term lengths and was not in favor of districting as council members should represent the city as a whole. He suggested term lengths remain the same as they are with a limit of four terms.

Scott Gerken indicated he would bring back an ordinance addressing three items. First, establishing new term lengths, to increase the current term from two years to four years. The second item would address term limits. The third item would relate to residency requirements.

There was a discussion regarding residency requirements.

The consensus was for an eight-year limit.

Scott Gerken reiterated the consensus was to increase term length from two years to four years with a two-term limit, for a total of eight years.

There was a discussion regarding changing the election date and what this process would entail.

The consensus was to not change current residency related requirements.

MOTION by Councilor Hernandez, SECONDED by Councilor Saunders, to adjourn.

AYE: Kelley, Hernandez, Saunders

NAY: None

MOTION PASSED: 3-0

(Meeting adjourned at 7:27 P.M.)

ATTEST:



Kristine Thompson, City Clerk

