



CITY CHARTER REVIEW AD-HOC MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2021

The scheduled meeting of the Ontario City Charter Review Ad-Hoc Committee was called to order by Ken Hart at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Committee members present were Ken Hart, John Kirby, Sam Baker, Susann Mills, Jaimie Taylor, and Robert Wheatley. Michael Miller was excused.

Members of staff present in person were Adam Brown, Peter Hall, Tori Barnett, and Larry Sullivan.

The meeting was recorded, and copies are available at City Hall.

Ken Hart led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

John Kirby stated he was a life-long resident of Ontario and a current City Councilor. He was also a proud member of the class of '66!

Bob Wheatley was born and raised in Ontario, and also from the Class of '66. He was a retired pharmacist in Ontario and had been a partner with Bob Keele at the Ontario Pharmacy for many years when that building was located at the base of the hospital.

Susann Mills was a resident of Ontario 43+ years. Her family owned Mills Manor Apartments, which started in 1985. She had also served on the City Council 2006-2010.

Sam Baker, Baker Auction Company, from the Class of '81. He, too, was born and raised in Ontario.

Ken Hart had been a resident of Ontario 16 years but had married a young lady born and raised here, Sheila Collins, so he got his credibility from her. He was also a current City Councilor who had been appointed to serve on the Charter Committee.

Jaimie Taylor was born and raised in Ontario. She previously worked at the hospital for 18 years as a Nurse Manager, but recently changed her career path and now served the community from here to Boise for Heart-n-Home Hospice Community Outreach.

Larry Sullivan came to Ontario in 1978 right out of law school. He had a law practice in Vale but lived in Ontario. Part of his practice was representing various cities.

Adam Brown stated he would hit five years in Ontario in June. He married an Oregonian, but he was a Virginia boy.

Tori Barnett would be with the city 26 years on April 1st. She moved to Ontario when she was 12, so this was home. She went to school with Sam Baker, but was younger. She was the Clerk to the Council, so she'd be working with Mr. Sullivan to make sure the issue was on the ballot and no deadlines were missed.

BACKGROUND OF COMMITTEE

Ken Hart stated the Council, in January, had a citizen approach them, Jack Fox, a previous City Councilor, who gave them a written petition that asked the Council to look at the fact that the ability to impose a sales tax in Ontario had taken place, went to the voters, was rejected, and he raised the question of the Council looking at possibly putting that in the Charter, so that in the future, something like that would have to go to the voters. That started the process of thinking about what a Charter Review Committee might look like. He presented a resolution to the Council in February asking that this group be convened. He set a very tight timeline, originally first meeting by March 8th, and it needed to be done by July. Per that resolution that the Council approved unanimously, he asked the Mayor to appoint three members from the Council, and he had proposed two members from the public, but John Kirby suggested more public

