

**CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2022
6:30 P.M.**

1. Mayor Smith opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge.
2. ATTENDANCE

Linda Allen – Present
Linda Burke – Present
Brenda Combs – Present

Maryan Harrison – Present
Bill Madison – Absent
Rolin Spicer – Present

OLD BUSINESS

3. ORDINANCE 2022-04, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2021-43 APPROVING THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH LEBANON THE FOLLOWING QUESTION AT THE NEXT REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION: “SHALL A COMMISSION BE CHOSEN TO FRAME A CHARTER?”, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Andrew Meier stated that when Mayor Smith and Jerry Haddix took Ordinance 2021-43 to the Board of Elections regarding placing the question of establishing a Charter Commission on the ballot they were informed that we have the ability to lay out some additional procedures/rules. Such as, how the question should be placed on the ballot, petitions, number of signatures we require on the petitions, and details as to what may happen if there is a vacancy on the commission in the event that the voters answer the question yes and people are elected to the commission.

As a result of this additional information we have put together an amended ordinance with suggestions for the Council specifically regarding having 25 people signing the nomination petitions for city residents who wish to serve on the commission and run and laying out details of what may happen in the event of a vacancy should a commission be elected.

The nominations must be made by the nomination petitions, those petitions must be signed by not less than 25 persons eligible to vote, and those petitions must be filed with the Board of Elections at least 75 days before the election. We have flexibility in determining that date as well.

There are 2 forms that we want the members of the community to use. One form is for an individual and one form is for a group. So if there is a group of people who want to put their names on one petition there is a petition form that permits that.

Council Members should not run and serve on the Charter Commission. There is a statute that says elected officials cannot serve in another elected office. Also, if the voters say yes to the question and a Charter Commission is established the proposed Charter is

eventually going to be brought back to Council for approval before the Charter is put on the ballot. Council Members can however sign petitions.

City employees, who are not elected officials and are eligible to vote in South Lebanon, can file a nomination petition.

The Commission forms/frames/writes/drafts the Charter and then presents it to Council. The Council then votes on whether that Charter is going to be placed on the ballot.

Section 4 relates to the situation if there are not 15 people who submit nominating petitions, there is a provision that gives the Council the power to nominate additional people to the ballot.

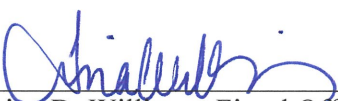
Section 7 relates to the situation that may exist if the Commission is formed, the question is passed, and then there is a vacancy at some point in time while the Commission is doing its job. The Council would have the ability to vote and fill that vacancy.

If the voters say yes and a Charter Commission is established then certain individuals could be selected to serve as facilitators. These individuals would give presentations to the Commission about what they need to think about during the process, how the prior government worked, pros and cons; assist in the process.

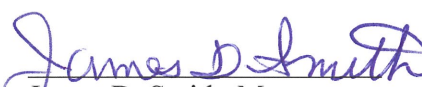
Discussion ensued regarding Council Members current and future term limits as well as the voting wards. Haddix stated that the wards have been submitted and Warren County GIS is working on the maps.

A motion to waive the three-reading rule was made by Burke, seconded by Allen, all yeas. By title only, Ordinance 2022-04, a motion to adopt was made by Burke, seconded by Allen, all yeas.

4. Mayor Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. A motion was made by Allen, seconded by Burke, all yeas.



Petrina D. Williams, Fiscal Officer



James D. Smith, Mayor

For an audio copy of the January 11, 2022 minutes of the City of South Lebanon Council special meeting, please contact Fiscal Officer at twilliams@southlebanonohio.org.