

November 15, 2017

The Honorable Douglas B. Meslow  
Chief Judge Tenth Judicial District  
Anoka County Court House  
3325 E. Main Street  
Anoka, MN 55303-2489

**Re: City of Ramsey, Anoka County, Minnesota, Charter Commission Annual Report**

Dear Judge Meslow:

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 410.05, the following is an annual report reflecting the activities of the City of Ramsey Charter Commission during the year 2016.

Members of the Charter Commission for year 2016 were as follows: Mark Anderson, Susan E. Anderson, Mark Barrows, Jim Bendtsen, Benjamin Deemer (Vice-Chair), Joseph Field (Chair), John Niederhaus, Chad Sivertson and Eric Zaetsch.

The Charter Commission met on Wednesday, July 13, and heard a presentation from the City of Ramsey's Community Development Director Tim Gladhill relating to a newly forming Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Mr. Gladhill noted that The Steering Committee had been established by the City Council as an ad-hoc committee to guide the completion of the Comprehensive Plan Update, and asked for a representative from the Charter Commission to serve on such Committee. The Charter Commissioners appointed Jim Bendtsen as the representative and Susan Anderson as the alternate representative.

The Commission also held a discussion relating to authorities, most specifically the Economic Development Authority, and whether or not the Charter could impose some constraints on such Authority (i.e. bonding, etc.). Following discussion, the Commissioners determined a second meeting should be held to talk more about bonding and Tax Increment Financing and requested the Finance Director be at the meeting to present information on same and answer questions.

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The Charter Commission met on Wednesday, October 19, 2016, and heard a review of municipal bond regulations and Tax Increment Financing from Stacy Kvilvang of Ehlers Inc. Finance Director Diana Lund was also present. City Attorney Joe Langel was present and provided an overview of an Economic Development Authority and how that entity is created and governed in answer to the previous meetings discussion. The Commissioner's terms were reviewed and it was noted that the terms of Commissioners M. Anderson, Bendtsen, Field and Zaetsch would all expire the end of 2016. Commissioners Anderson and Zaetsch indicated they were not interested in reappointment, while Commissioners Bendtsen and Field expressed interest.

The City Clerk stated she would contact the Chief Judge of the Tenth District to request reappointment of current Commissioners Bendtsen and Field to a term set to expire December 31, 2020, and that the other two vacant seats on the Commission would be advertised.

That summarizes the activities of the Ramsey Charter Commission for year 2016.

Very truly yours,

On behalf of the Ramsey City Charter Commission

Jo Ann M. Thieling, CMC  
City Clerk