



# Royal Oak

Minutes

## Charter Review Committee Meeting

October 22, 2024, 5:45 p.m.  
City Hall Conference Room 116  
203 South Troy Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Present: Commissioner Hunt  
Ryan Everett - Chairperson  
Ronald George  
Salvatore Vitale  
Deborah Zukin

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### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm.

### 2. Public Comment

There was nobody who wished to speak at public comment.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Deborah Zukin  
Seconded by: Ronald George

Be it resolved the Charter Review Committee hereby approves the agenda for the October 22, 2024 meeting as presented.

Motion Adopted

### 4. Approval of Minutes

Be it resolved the Charter Review Committee minutes of May 28, 2024 are hereby approved as submitted.

Moved by: Salvatore Vitale  
Seconded by: Ronald George

Motion Adopted

### 5. Old Business

### **5.a    Review Potential Vacancy Language**

The committee members discussed and edited the presented amendment language for Chapter Three, Section 10 of the charter. (attachment 1)

Moved by: Ronald George

Seconded by: Salvatore Vitale

Be it resolved the Charter Review Committee approves the edited charter language and the draft ballot language as presented (attachment 2) and;

be it further resolved directs the City Attorney to review the proposed language and if there are suggestions or changes to present at the November meeting.

Motion Adopted

Moved by: Ronald George

Seconded by: Salvatore Vitale

Be it resolved the Charter Review Committee directs the City Attorney to present the draft charter language and the draft ballot language regarding vacancies to the City Commission for approval after the November meeting.

Motion Adopted

### **5.b    City Attorney Update**

There was no update from the City Attorney.

## **6.    New Business**

There was no new business.

## **7.    Adjournment**

Upon motion of George and seconded by Vitale the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Melanie Halas, City Clerk/db

# Attachment 1

**Charter Review for the City of Royal Oak**  
**Proposed Amendment to Chapter 3, Section 10**  
**(Addressing Definition of Vacancy)**

**Section 10 - Vacancy of Seat**

[Amended and adopted 11-4-1947; 7-24-2017]

A member of the City Commission shall be deemed to have vacated their seat if, at any time during their term of office, he or she:

- (a) Is absent from five consecutive regular meetings, unless the absence is excused by the Commission, by resolution setting forth such excuse and entered upon the journal.
- (b) Dies, resigns, is removed from office, moves from the City, or otherwise no longer possesses all of the qualifications for the office to which they were elected or appointed;
- (c) Is convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony, or of misconduct in office under this Charter, or is judicially declared to be mentally incompetent.

A vacancy shall also be deemed to exist on City Commission when no candidate is elected to a City Commission seat, including the office of Mayor.

## Attachment 2

**Charter Review for the City of Royal Oak**  
**Proposed Amendment to Chapter 3, Section 10**  
**(Addressing Definition of Vacancy)**

**Section 10 - Vacancy of Seat**

[Amended and adopted 11-4-1947; 7-24-2017]

A member of the City Commission shall be deemed to have vacated their seat if, at any time during their term of office, they:

- (a) Are absent from five consecutive regular meetings, unless the absence is excused by the Commission, by resolution setting forth such excuse and entered upon the journal;
- (b) Die, resign, are removed from office, move from the City, or otherwise no longer possess all of the qualifications for the office to which they were elected or appointed;
- (c) Are convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony, or are judicially declared to be mentally incapacitated.

A vacancy shall also be deemed to exist on the City Commission when no candidate is elected to a City Commission seat, including the office of Mayor.

**A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE ROYAL OAK CITY CHARTER TO EXPAND AND CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF VACANCY OF A CITY COMMISSION SEAT**

The proposed amendment, if adopted, would provide that a member of the City Commission will be deemed to have vacated their seat if, at any time during their term of office, they resign, are removed from office, moves from the City, is convicted of a felony or is judicially declared mentally incompetent.

Should this proposal be adopted?

Yes

No