

October 31, 2017

Clarkston City Council
Clarkston, Georgia

Dear Council Members:

Attached is the final report from the Charter Review Committee covering Articles I through Article III, Section 3.03 – City Attorney of the City Charter. We regret to report that we were unable to complete a review of the entire City Charter by the delivery date of November 1, 2017, as stated in the Resolution to Create a Charter Review Committee.

In addition to the written recommendations contained in the report, we would like to add the following recommendations:

- For the sake of clarity and to make it easier to understand which entity has which powers and responsibilities, standardize throughout the charter the use of the terms “city council” and “council” when referring to the “mayor and six (6) councilmembers” and the use of the term “council members” when referring to the “six (6) council members”.
- Where the term “appoint” is used in the charter, it should be defined and written procedures should be developed detailing the appointment process and identifying the role of each entity in the process.
- The City Council should direct that research be done on current salaries for mayors, council members and city clerks in cities comparable to Clarkston and consider an adjustment in salaries for these positions. (Attached is data compiled by a member of the Charter Review Committee on this topic.)
- The City Council should seek additional means to enhance and encourage public participation in city government through routinely scheduled town hall meetings or other measures.

Please let us know if you have questions about this report and if you would like to have a presentation of our recommendations.

Also, all members of the charter review committee are committed to completing a review of the remaining portions of the charter, if that is the desire of the City Council.

Sincerely,

Susan Hood
Chair, Charter Review Committee

Brian Medford, Co-Chair

Warren Hadlock

Dean Moore, City Council Member

Emanuel Ransom

Traci Turgeon

Mario Williams, City Council Member