

## Government Study Commission

August 12, 2014

Carlisle Borough Hall

### Meeting Minutes

Commission members in attendance: Ken Womack, David Sheridan, John Sacrison, Stephen Hughes, Bert Lennon, Robert Winston, Phil Shevlin, William Berwick and Secretary Joyce Stone.

1. Call to order

Ken Womack called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from the July 29, 2014 meeting were approved.

3. Public Comment

No public comment

4. Old Business

Solicitor/External Charter Review

Ken Womack announced that the charter had been sent to the Governor's Center for Local Government Services as well as the Local Government Commission of the PA legislature. Ken Womack will forward comments to the commission as he receives them.

Charter Review

At the suggestion of Bert Lennon, the commission discussed whether or not the proposed change in the form of government was a good choice and whether or not it might be an issue which causes citizens to reject the proposed charter. He suggested that perhaps the commission had not thought this through as well as they should have. Commission members present restated their position on the issue and after a discussion the commission made no additional changes to the portion of the charter on the form of government.

Some commission members stated that they had received positive public comments on the charter.

Transition Issues

The commission had a detailed discussion concerning the transition section of the charter. The key issue is how to reduce the number of council members from seven to six during the same election cycle that four council positions will be on the ballot, while allowing other provisions of the charter to take effect as soon as possible. Among the possible alternatives is delaying the transition to the new form of government until January, 2018. This issue has been identified to the solicitor and Ken Womack stated that he will attempt to find other sources of guidance on how this can be done.

5. New Business

Robert Winston reported that the Commission expenses to date in 2014 are \$2151.18.

The commission approved the content of the August 2014 newsletter.

The commission will hold a regular meeting on August 26, 2014.

6. Public Comment

No public comment

7. Adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joyce Stone, Borough Secretary