

The initial charter of the City of Ferrysburg was completed and adopted by a charter commission on July 2, 1963, and was approved by the voters at a special election on September 10, 1963. Since that date, a number of charter amendments have been adopted, and many changes have been brought about by state legislation.

This printing of the charter represents an attempt to provide a useful reference version of the document for the public, the city council, and the many persons involved in municipal affairs including members of boards and commissions and city administrative employees. It results from the joint labors of Mayor David H. Walborn and City Attorney James Bussard.

In order to be more readily useful, a table of contents has been developed. Amendments and deletions have been noted. Material included as *Editor's Notes* represents explanatory annotations and is not a part of the charter itself.

CHARTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section

Preamble

Chapter I. Name and Boundaries

- 1.1 Name
- 1.2 Boundaries

Chapter II. Municipal Powers

- 2.1 General powers
- 2.2 Exercise of powers
- 2.3 Utility powers

Chapter III. Elections

- 3.1 Electors
- 3.2 Election of officers
- 3.3 Wards and precincts
- 3.4 Primary elections
- 3.5 Regular city elections
- 3.6 Election Commission
- 3.7 Nomination petitions
- 3.8 Petition form
- 3.9 Nominating petitions - procedure
- 3.10 Public inspection
- 3.11 Ballot form
- 3.12 Board of Canvassers
- 3.13 Tie votes
- 3.14 Recount
- 3.15 Recall

Chapter IV. Organization of Government

- 4.1 City Council
- 4.2 Election of Council Members and Mayor

- 4.2A Election of Council Members and Mayor; term limits
- 4.3 Filling vacancy in office of Council Member
- 4.4 Eligibility for office
- 4.5 Organizational meeting
- 4.6 Mayor - mandatory duties
- 4.7 City Manager - Mayor - duties
- 4.8 City Manager - permissive powers
- 4.9 Administrative officers
- 4.10 Administrative officers - residence
- 4.11 Administrative officers - deputies
- 4.12 Administrative officers - duties
- 4.13 City Clerk - duties
- 4.14 City Treasurer - duties
- 4.15 City Assessor - duties
- 4.16 Council Members - Mayor - compensation
- 4.17 Appointment, employment of relatives - restriction
- 4.18-4.20 Board of Supervisors
- 4.21 Officers - employees compensation
- 4.22 Planning Commission
- 4.23 Zoning Ordinance
- 4.24 Constables
- 4.25 Other boards and commissions
- 4.26 Elective office vacancy
- 4.27 Board or commission vacancy
- 4.28 Removal from office
- 4.29 Resignations
- 4.30 Filling vacancies in appointive offices
- 4.31 Oath of office
- 4.32 Officers' bonds
- 4.33 Duties on leaving office or employment

Chapter V. The Council, Legislation and Restrictions

- 5.1 Regular meetings
- 5.2 Special meetings
- 5.3 Special meetings - business
- 5.4 Public meetings
- 5.5 Council procedure
- 5.6 Quorum
- 5.7 Compelling attendance
- 5.8 Power to investigate
- 5.9 Public health and safety
- 5.10 Restriction - default
- 5.11 Restriction - sale of property - business enterprises
- 5.12 Ordinance form
- 5.13 Ordinance - publication
- 5.14 Ordinance - penalty
- 5.15 Ordinance - adoption by reference
- 5.16 Initiative and referendum
- 5.17 Initiative and referendum - procedure
- 5.18 Initiative and referendum - duties of Council
- 5.19 Initiative and referendum - submission to voters
- 5.20 Initiative and referendum - amendments and repeal
- 5.21 Conflicting ordinances

- 5.22 Ordinances - severability
- 5.23 Public utility franchise - restrictions
- 5.24 Public utility franchise - revocation
- 5.25 Public utility franchise - rates
- 5.26 Public utility - public ways
- 5.27 Council - contracting power
- 5.28 Contracts - execution
- 5.29 Contracts - purchasing and sale procedures
- 5.30 Contracts - deferred payment - restriction
- 5.31 Contracts - real estate
- 5.32 Contracts - competitive bidding
- 5.33 Contracts - default
- 5.34 Contracts - extra compensation
- 5.35 Contracts - officer or employee restriction

Chapter VI. Budget, Finance and Taxation

- 6.1 Fiscal year
- 6.2 Departmental budget
- 6.3 Budget requirements
- 6.4 Budget - public hearing
- 6.5 Budget - adoption
- 6.6 Expenditures - restrictions
- 6.7 Depositories
- 6.8 Independent audit and annual report
- 6.9 Tax rate limitation
- 6.10 Property subject to tax
- 6.11 Exemptions
- 6.12 Tax status
- 6.13 Assessment roll
- 6.14 Board of Review
- 6.15 Board of Review - powers
- 6.16 Board of Review - meetings
- 6.17 Board of Review - notice of meetings
- 6.18 Board of Review - endorsement of roll
- 6.19 Certification of tax levy
- 6.20 City tax roll
- 6.21 Tax lien
- 6.22 Tax warrant
- 6.23 City taxes - collection and penalties
- 6.24 Tax collection - personal property
- 6.25 Tax roll - return to County Treasurer
- 6.26 Taxes - county and school - collection
- 6.27 City taxes - protection of

Chapter VII. Special Assessments

- 7.1 Powers
- 7.2 Powers - limitations
- 7.3 Requirements
- 7.4 Excess and deficiency
- 7.5 Invalidity
- 7.6 Court judgments
- 7.7 Court action - limitation

- 7.8 Lien for payment
- 7.9 Restrictions on use of money
- 7.10 Removal of nuisance or hazard
- 7.11 Mortgage in lieu of payment
- 7.12 Notice - failure

Chapter VIII. Borrowing Powers

- 8.1 General powers and restrictions
- 8.2 Bond - requirements
- 8.3 Bonds - time of issue

Chapter IX. Justice of the Peace

- 9.1-9.4 [Void]

Chapter X. Miscellaneous

- 10.1 City records
- 10.2 Effect of illegality of any part of Charter
- 10.3 Amendments
- 10.4 City records
- 10.5 City liability
- 10.6 No estoppel
- 10.7 Trusts
- 10.8 Definition of publication - mailing of notices
- 10.9 Sundays and holidays
- 10.10 Chapter and section headings
- 10.11 Interpretations
- 10.12 Penalties for violations of Charter