CITY OF GREENVILLE

CITY CHARTER

Adopted by Special Meeting Held
January 10, 1956

Amended
November 5, 1974
November 6, 1979

CITY CHARTER

GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN

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PREAMBLE

We, the people of the City of Greenville, County of Montcalm, State of Michigan, pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution, and the statutes of the State of Michigan, in order to establish a City Government, and to provide for and maintain the essential interest and welfare of all our people, do hereby ordain and establish this Charter of the City of Greenville, Michigan.

CHAPTER 1

NAMES AND BOUNDARIES

Name:

Section 1.1. The Municipal Corporation now existing and known as the “City of Greenville” shall continue to be a body politic and corporate under the name “City of Greenville”, and include the territory hereinafter described with power and authority to change its boundaries in the manner authorized by law.

Boundaries:

Section 1.2. The City of Greenville shall include all the territory described as follows, to wit:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 9, TN, R8W, Montcalm County, Michigan; thence South along the West Section lines of Sections 9 and 16 to the Southwest corner of Section 16; thence East along the South Section lines of Sections 16 and 15 to the Southeast corner of Section 15; thence North along East Section lines of Sections 15 and 10 to the Northeast corner of Section 10; thence West along North line of Sections 10 and 9 to the point of beginning.

Section 1.3. The City of Greenville shall also include land which is or has been annexed or added to the City in the manner authorized by Michigan Statute.
CHAPTER 2
MUNICIPAL POWERS

Continuation of Powers of Former Charter:

Section 2.1. All powers, privileges, and immunities, not inconsistent with the provisions of this charter, possessed by the City of Greenville by virtue of its incorporation as such and enumerated in Act 215 of the Public Acts of 1895, the former charter of the city which is hereby superseded, are hereby expressly retained by the city and shall constitute a part of the powers of the city even though not expressly enumerated herein.

I. General Powers:

Section 2.2. unless otherwise provided by or limited in this charter, the city and its officers shall possess and be vested with any and all powers, privileges and immunities which cities and their officers are, or hereafter may be, permitted to exercise or to provide for in their charters under the Constitution and statutes of the State of Michigan, including all powers, privileges and immunities which cities are, or may be permitted to provide in their charter by Public Act 279 of 1909, as amended as fully and completely as though these powers, privileges and immunities were specifically enumerated in and provided for in this charter, and in no case shall any enumeration of particular powers, privileges or immunities herein be held to be exclusive.

The city and its officers shall have power to exercise all municipal powers in the management and control of municipal property and in the administration of the municipal government, whether such powers be expressly enumerated herein or not; to do any act to advance the interests of the city, the good government and prosperity of the municipality and its inhabitants, and through its regularly constituted authority, to pass and enforce all laws, ordinances and resolutions relating to its municipal concerns, subject to the Constitution and statute and the provisions of this charter.

Further Definition of Powers:

Section 2.3. In addition to the powers possessed by the city under the Constitution and statutes, and otherwise set forth throughout this charter, the city shall have power with respect to and may, by ordinance and other lawful acts of its officers, provide for the following, subject to any specific limitations placed thereon by this charter:
(a) The acquisition by purchase, gift, condemnation, lease, construction or in any manner permitted by Statute, of private property of every type and nature for public use, which property may be located within or without the County of Montcalm and which may be required for or incidental to the present or future exercise of the purposes, powers and duties of the city, either proprietary or otherwise;

(b) The maintenance, development, operation, leasing and disposal of city property subject to any restrictions placed thereon by statute or this charter;

(e) The refunding of money advanced or paid on special assessments;

(d) The installation and connection of conduits for the service of municipally owned and operated electric lighting plants;

(e) The purchase or condemnation of the franchises and of the property use din the operation of companies or individuals engaged in the cemetery, hospital, inhouse, electric light, gas, heat; water and power businesses.

(f) The establishment and vacation of streets, alleys, public ways and otter public places, and the use, regulation, improvement and control of the surface of such, streets, alleys, public, ways and otter public places and of the space above and beneath them;

(g) The use, by others than the owner, of property located in streets, alleys and public places, in the operation of a public utility, upon the payment of a reasonable compensation to the owners thereof;

(h) A plan of streets and alleys within and for a distance of not more than three miles beyond the municipal limits;

(i) The use, control and regulation of streams and water courses within its boundaries, subject to any limitations imposed by statute;
(j) The securing by condemnation, by agreement or purchase, or by any other means, of an easement in property abutting or adjacent to any navigable body of water for the purpose of securing the privilege and right to construct, own and maintain along or adjacent to any navigable body of water an elevated structure of one or more levels for use as a vehicular or pedestrian passageway, or for any other municipal purpose;

(k) The acquiring, establishment, operation, extension and maintenance of facilities for the storage and parking of vehicles within its corporate limits, including the fixing and collection of charges for services and use thereof on a public utility basis, and for such purpose to acquire use thereof on a public basis, and for such purpose to acquire by gift, purchase, condemnation or otherwise the land necessary therefore;

(l) The acquiring, construction, establishment, operation, extension and maintenance of facilities for the docking of water craft, hydroplanes and seaplanes, within its corporate limits, including the fixing and collection of charges for use thereof, and for such purpose or purposes, to acquire by gift, purchase, condemnation or otherwise, the land necessary therefore;

(m) Regulating, restriction and limiting the number and locations of oil and gasoline stations;

(n) The establishing of districts or zones within which the use of land and structures, the height, the area, the size and location of buildings and required open spaces for light and ventilation of such buildings, and the density of population may be regulated by ordinance in accordance with statutory provisions governing zoning;

(o) The regulating of trades, occupations and amusements within the City, not inconsistent with State and federal laws, and for the prohibiting of such trades, occupations, and amusements as are detrimental to the health, morals, or welfare of its inhabitants;

(p) Licensing, regulating, restricting and limiting the number and locations of advertising signs or displays and billboards within the city;
(q) The preventing of injury or annoyance to the inhabitants of the city from anything which is dangerous, offensive or unhealthy, and for preventing and abating nuisances and punishing those occasioning them or neglecting or refusing to abate, discontinue or remove the same;

(r) The prescribing of the terms and conditions upon which licenses may be granted, suspended or revoked; requiring payment of reasonable sums for licenses; and requiring the furnishing of a bond to the city for the faithful observances of the conditions under which licenses are granted, and otherwise conditioning such licenses as the Council may prescribe;

(s) The regulating of all airports located within its boundaries, and for the purpose of promoting and preserving the public peace, safety and welfare, controlling and regulating the use of the air above the city by aircraft of all types;

(t) The prohibiting or regulating of the use, occupancy, sanitation and parking of house trailers within the city, and the right of the city to so regulate any house trailer shall not be abrogated because of any detachment thereof from its wheels or because of placing it on, or attaching it to, the ground by means of any temporary or permanent foundation, or in any manner whatsoever;

(u) The requiring of an owner of real property within the city to construct and maintain sidewalks abutting upon such property, if the Council shall determine that such sidewalks are necessary for protection of the public safety, health and welfare, and if the owner fails to comply with such requirements or if the owner is unknown, to construct and maintain such sidewalks and assess the cost thereof against the abutting property in accordance with Section 11.9;

(v) The requiring of an owner of real property within the city to abate public hazards and nuisances which are dangerous to the health or safety of inhabitants of the city within a reasonable time after the Council notifies him that such hazard or nuisance exists, and if the owner fails to comply with such requirements, or if the owner is unknown, to abate such hazard or nuisance and assess the cost thereof against such property in accordance with Section 11.9;

(w) The compelling of owners of real property within the city to
keep sidewalks abutting upon their, property clear from snow, ice or other obstructions, and if the owner fails to comply with such requirements, to remove such snow, ice or other obstructions and assess the cost thereof against the abutting property in accordance with, Section 11.9;

(x) The control over all trees, shrubs and plants in the public streets, highways, parks or other public places in the city, all dead and diseased trees on private property and trees on private property overhanging the street, sidewalk, or public places, including the removal thereof and assessing the cost thereof against the abutting property according to Section 11.9.

Exercise of Power:

Section 2.4. Where no procedure is set forth in this charter for the exercise of any power granted to or possessed by the city or its officers, the procedure set forth for the exercise of such power in any public body, shall govern. If alternative procedures are to be found in different statutes, the Council shall select that procedure which it deems to be most expedient and to the best advantage of the city and its inhabitants. Where no procedure for the exercise of any power of the city or its officers is set forth, either in this charter or in any statute of the State of Michigan, the Council shall prescribe a reasonable procedure for the exercise thereof by ordinance.

CHAPTER 3

_____________________________ ELECTIONS

Qualifications of Electors:

Section 3.1. The residents of the city having the qualifications of electors in the State of Michigan shall be electors of the city.

Election Procedure:

Section 3.2. The election of all city officers shall be on a non-partisan basis. The general election statutes shall apply to and control, as near as may be, all procedures relating to registration and city elections, except as such statutes relate to political parties or partisan procedure and except as otherwise provided in this charter.
The Clerk shall give public notice of the time and place of holding each City election and of the officers to be elected and the questions to be voted upon in the same manner as is required by statute for the giving of public notice of general elections in the State.

The polls at all elections shall be opened and closed at the time prescribed by law for the opening and closing of polls at State elections, subject to the statutory right of the Council to adjust these hours to local time.

Wards and Precincts:

Section 3.3. The City of Greenville shall consist of one ward. The precincts into which the City is divided on the effective date of this charter shall remain the precincts of the City until changed pursuant to this charter. The Council shall from time-to-time establish convenient election precincts.

Regular City Elections:

Section 3.4. Regular City elections shall be held in accordance with State Law.

Special Elections:

Section 3.5. Special City elections shall be held when called by resolution of the council at least forty days in advance of such election or when required by this charter or by statute. Any resolution calling a special election shall set forth the purpose of such election. No more special elections shall be called in any one year than permitted by statute.

Nominations:

Section 3.7. The method of nomination of all candidates for City elections shall be by petition. Such petitions for an candidate shall be signed by not less than fifty, nor more the one hundred, registered electors of the city. No person shall sign his name to a greater number of petitions for any one office than there are persons to be elected to said office at the following regular city election. Where the signature of any individual appears on petitions than he is so permitted to sign, such signatures shall be counted only to the extent he is permitted to sign in the order of the respective dates and hour of filing the petitions containing such signatures.
Nomination petitions shall be filed with the Clerk between the thirty-fifth day preceding such election and 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day preceding the regular city primary election or any special election for the filling of vacancies in office.

The Clerk shall, prior to every city election, publish notice of the last day permitted for filing nomination petitions and of the number of persons to be nominated or elected to each office at least one week and not more than three weeks before such day.

**Form of Petition:**

Section 3.8. The form of petition shall be substantially as that designated by the Secretary of State for the nomination of non-partisan judicial officers. A supply of official petition forms shall be provided and maintained by the Clerk.

**Approval of Petition:**

Section 3.9. The Clerk shall accept only nomination petitions which conform with the form provided and maintained by him and which contain the required number of valid signatures for candidates having the qualifications required for elective city offices by this charter. All petitions shall be accompanied by the affidavit of qualifications provided for in Section 5.1. When a petition is filed by persons other than the person whose name appears thereon as a candidate, it may be accepted only when accompanied by the written consent of the candidate.

The Clerk shall, forthwith after filing of a petition, notify in writing any candidate whose petition is then known not to meet the requirements of this section, but the failure to so notify any candidate shall not prevent a final determination that the petition does not meet such requirements. Within three days after the last date for filing petitions, the Clerk shall make his final determination as to the validity and sufficiency of each nomination petition and writ his determination thereof on the face of the petition. No petition shall be determined to be valid unless the affidavit of qualifications provided for in Section 5.1 shall be filed with such petition.
The Clerk shall immediately notify in writing the candidate whose name appears thereon of his determinations. Such notice to any candidate whose petition is found invalid or insufficient shall be delivered by personal messenger if possible. Any candidate whose petition is so found invalid or insufficient shall be allowed to file supplementary or replacement petitions before 5:00 p.m., at the then prevailing local time on the fifth day after the last date for filing original petitions; thereafter no further petitions may be filed.

**Public Inspection of Petitions:**

Section 3.10. All nomination petitions shall be open to public inspection in the office of the Clerk.

**Election Commission:**

Section 3.11. An election Commission is hereby created, consisting of the Clerk, the Attorney and one member of the Council who shall not be a candidate for elective office at the election for which he serves as a member of the Election Commission, such member to be appointed by the Council not less than thirty (30) days before such election. The members shall serve without compensation. The Clerk shall be chairman. The Election Commission shall appoint the Board of Election Inspectors for each precinct and have charge of all activities and duties required of it by statute and this charter relating to the conduct of elections in the city. The compensation of election personnel shall be determined in advance by the Council. In any case where election procedure is in doubt, the Election Commission shall prescribe the procedure to be followed, subject to State election laws.

**Form of Ballot:**

Section 3.12. The form, printing and numbering of ballots or the preparation of the voting machines used in any city election shall conform as nearly as may be to the provisions of statute, except that no party designation or emblem shall appear. In all city elections, the names of qualified candidates or nominees for each office shall be listed under a separate heading and shall be rotated systematically in the manner prescribed by statute for rotation of names.
Canvass of Votes:

Section 3.13. The Clerk and the members of the Council shall be the board of canvassers to canvass the votes at all city elections, except that if any of such persons are candidates for office at the election to be canvassed such person shall not serve as a canvasser at such election. The board of canvassers shall convene on the day following each city election at the usual time and place of meeting of the Council and determine the results of the city election upon each question and proposition voted upon and what persons are duly elected to the several offices respectively at said election, and shall notify in writing the successful candidates of their election. The Clerk shall make under the corporate seal of the city duplicate certificates of the determinations of the board and shall file one certificate with County Clerk and the other in his own office.

Tie Vote:

Section 3.14. If at any city election there shall be no choice between candidates by reason of two or more persons having received an equal number of votes, then the Council shall name a date for the appearance of such persons for the purpose of determining the election of such candidate by lot as provided by statute.
Recount:

Section 3.15. A recount of the votes cast at any city election for any office or upon any proposition may be had in accordance with election statutes. Unless otherwise required by statute (a) the petition for a recount of the votes cast at any city election shall be filed with the Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the second full day on which the Clerk’s office is open for business after the board of canvassers has made its official report of the result of the election at which such votes were cast, (b) any counter petition shall be filed by 5:00 p.m. of the next full day thereafter on which the Clerk’s office is open for business, and (c) no officer shall be qualified to take office until final determination of any recount of the votes cast for such office.

Recall:

Section 3.16. Any elected official may be recalled from office by the electors of the city in the manner provided by statute. A vacancy created by such, recall shall be filled in the manner prescribed by this charter and by statute.

Elective Officers and Terms of Office:

Section 3.6 The elective officers of the City shall be seven Councilpersons all of whom shall be nominated and elected from the City at large. Each Councilperson (commencing in 1998) shall be elected to a four year term.

In 1997, there will be five vacancies upon the Council to be filled. The two receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to a term of office of four years; the two receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected to a term of office of three years. The one who shall receive the fifth highest number of votes shall be elected to a term of office of one year.

In 1998, there will be one vacancy upon the Council to be filled.

In 1999, there will be two vacancies upon the Council to be filled.

In 2000, there will be two vacancies upon the Council to be filled.

In 2001, there will be two vacancies upon the Council to be filled.
The terms of office of Councilpersons shall commence at 12:00 Noon on the first day of January following the regular City Election at which they were elected.

Provisions of existing Section 3.6 of the Charter of the City of Greenville to be altered or abrogated by such proposal, if adopted, now read as follows:

CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENVILLE
Section 3.6, as amended by Ordinance No. 77 pursuant to Public Act No. 239 of 1970 effective February 16, 1971

CITY ELECTIONS

12.000 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR CITY ELECTIONS TO BE HELD EVERY TWO YEARS ON THE FIRST TUESDAY SUCCEEDING THE FIRST MONDAY IN NOVEMBER OF EACH ODD NUMBERED YEAR, COMMENCING IN NOVEMBER, 1971; AND TO EXTEND THE TERM OF OFFICE OF CITY OFFICER NOW ELECTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ACT NO. 239 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1970.

THE CITY OF GREENVILLE ORDAINS:

12.001 Section 1. REGULAR CITY ELECTIONS: TIME FOR HOLDING

The regular City election shall be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November of 1971 and on the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November of every two years thereafter. (Ordinance No. 77, effective February 16, 1971)

12.002 Section 2. TAKING OFFICE: DATE AND TIME

All persons elected in November of 1971 and in November every two years thereafter shall take office at 12:00 o'clock Noon on January 1st, following the election. (Ordinance No. 77, effective February 16, 1971)
Section 3. **EXPIRATION OF TERM: SUCCESSORS**

Any person whose term would expire prior to January 1, 1972, under City Charter, shall continue in office until a successor takes office pursuant to Section 2 and any person whose term would expire in 1972, under City Charter, shall continue in office until a successor takes office on January 1, 1974. (Ordinance No. 77, effective February 16, 1971)

Section 4. **ELECTION: NUMBER OF COUNCILMEN: TERMS**

A. At the election to be held in November 1971, pursuant to this Ordinance, there shall be elected four councilmen and such additional number as may be required to fill vacancies pursuant to Section 5.6 of the City Charter. The two receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of office of four years, and the two receiving the third and fourth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of office of two years; a number equal to the number of vacancies being filled (if any) who shall receive the next highest number of votes in order shall be elected for a term of office of two years.

B. At the election to be held in November 1973, and every two years thereafter, there shall be elected five councilmen and such additional numbers as may be required to fill vacancies, the two receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of office of four years, and the three receiving the third, fourth and fifth highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of office of two years; a number equal to the number of vacancies being filled (if any) who shall receive the next highest number of votes in order shall be elected for a term of office of two years. (Ordinance No. 77, effective February 16, 1971)

The purpose of the proposed Amendment shall be designated on the ballot as follows:

The purpose of this Amendment is to amend Section 3.6 to provide four-year terms for City Councilperson. Should the ballot pass, the Amendment becomes effective in 1998 with all seven (7) seats elected as follows:
In 1997, there will be five (5) vacancies to be filled as follows:

Top two votegetters: 4 - year terms
Third & Fourth highest votegetters: 3 - year terms
Fifth highest votegetter: 1 - year term

Shall Section 3.6 of the City Charter be amended to provide for four-year terms for City Councilpersons, as explained above?

( ) Yes
( ) No

3. The City Clerk shall forthwith transmit a copy of the proposed amendment to the Governor of the state of Michigan for his approval, and transmit a copy of the foregoing statement of purpose of such proposed amendment tot he Attorney General of the State of Michigan, for his approval, as required by law.

4. The proposed Charter Amendment shall be, and the same is hereby ordered to be, submitted to the qualified electors of this City at an election to be held int he City of Greenville, the fifth day of November, 1996, and the City clerk is hereby directed to give notice of the election and notice of registration therefore in the manner prescribed by law and to do all things and to provide all supplies necessary to submit each Charter amendment to the vote of the electors, as required by law.

5. The proposed Amendment shall be published in full, together with the existing Charter provision altered or obrogated thereby, on or before August 30, 1996.

6. In accordnace with the law that the porposed Charter Amendment shall be posted in full in a conspicuous place in each polling place and a verbatim statement of the proviisons be placed conspicuously within each machine voting booth.

7. The canvass and determination of the votes of said question shall be made in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and the Charter of the City of Greenville. Councilperson Merritt suported. Unanimously adopted.
CHAPTER 4

ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT

The City Council:

Section 4.1. The electors of the city shall elect a City Council of seven members, one of whom shall serve as Mayor. The Council shall constitute the legislative and governing body of the city and shall have power and authority, except as in this charter or by statute otherwise provided, to exercise all powers conferred upon or possessed by the city, and shall have the power and authority to adopt such laws, ordinances and resolutions as it shall deem proper in the exercise thereof. In all cases where the word “Council” is used in this charter, the same shall be synonymous with the word “Commission” or any other term used in any state or federal law in referring to municipal legislative or governing bodies.

Compensation of Mayor and Councilperson:

The Mayor and Council shall receive compensation as set by the Compensation Commission under Section 117.5c of the Michigan Compiled Laws and under a City Ordinance enacted pursuant to that statute.

Such compensation shall be paid quarterly and, except as otherwise provided in this charter, shall constitute the only compensation which may be paid the Mayor and Councilpersons for the discharge of any official duty for or on behalf of the city during their tenure of office. However, the Mayor and Councilpersons may, upon order of the Council, be paid such necessary bona fide expenses incurred in service on behalf of the city as are authorized, itemized and approved by the Council.

Election of Mayor; Mayor Pro-Tem:

Section 4.4. After election of Council members and upon the taking of office by new Council members, the Council shall, at its first meeting, elect one of its members to serve as Mayor and one to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem, both for a term expiring at the time following the next regular election when the next newly elected Council members take office. Such election shall be by written ballot and by majority vote of the members of the Council in office at the time.
In the event of absence or disability of both the Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem, the Council may designate another of its members to serve as Acting Mayor during such absence or disability.

Duties of Mayor:

Section 4.5. (a) Insofar as required by statute, and for all ceremonial purposes, the Mayor shall be the executive head of the city. He shall have a voice and vote in all proceedings of the Council equal with that of other members of the Council, but shall have no veto power. He shall be the presiding officer of the Council.

(b) The Mayor shall be conservator of the peace, and in emergencies may exercise within the city the powers conferred upon sheriffs to suppress riot and disorder, and shall have authority to command the assistance of all able-bodied citizens to aid in the enforcement of the ordinances of the city and to suppress riot and disorder.

(c) The Mayor shall execute or authenticate by his signature such instruments as the Council, this charter or any statutes of the State of Michigan or laws of the United States shall require.

(d) Except as may be required by statute, the Mayor shall exercise only such power as this charter or the Council shall specifically confer upon him.

(e) In the absence or disability of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro-Tem shall perform the duties of the Mayor. In the absence or disability of both, the designated Acting Mayor shall perform such duties.

Administrative Services:

Section 4.6. The administrative officers of the city shall be the City Manager, Attorney, Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor, and such additional administrative officers as may be created by ordinance. The Council may by ordinance create additional administrative offices and may by ordinance combine any administrative offices in any manner it deems necessary or advisable for the proper and efficient operation of the city.

The City Manager and Attorney shall be appointed by the Council for an indefinite period, shall be responsible to and serve at the pleasure of the Council and shall have their compensation fixed by the Council.

All administrative officers of the city, except the City Manager and Attorney, shall be appointed by the City Manager for an indefinite period, subject to
confirmation by the Council. Such officers shall be responsible to the City Manager and shall have their compensation fixed by him in accordance with budget appropriations and subject to approval by the Council. Such officers may be discharged by the City Manager at his pleasure without confirmation by the Council.
Except as may be otherwise required by statute or this charter, the Council shall establish by ordinance such departments of the city as it deems necessary or advisable and shall prescribe therein the functions of each department, and the duties, authorities and responsibilities of the officers of each department. The City Manager may prescribe such duties and responsibilities of the officers of those departments responsible to him which are not inconsistent with this charter or with any ordinance or resolution.

All personnel employed by the city who are not elected officers of the city or administrative officers by, or under the authority of, this charter shall be deemed to be employees of the city. The head of each department shall have the power to hire, suspend or discharge the employees of his department with confirmation by the City Manager.

Any administrative officer or employee who has been discharged may within ten (10) days thereafter petition the Council to hear the facts regarding such discharge, and in such case the Council may, in its sole discretion, hold a hearing and inquire into such facts and may make such decision in the matter as it considers proper.

The Council may require any administrative officer or employee, if he is not resident at the time of his appointment or employment, to become a resident of the city within the time set by the Council and so remain throughout his tenure of office or employment.

Relationship of Council to Administrative Service:

Section 4.7. Neither the Council nor, any of its members or committees shall dictate the appointment of any person to office by the City Manager or in any way interfere with the City Manager or other city officer to prevent him from exercising his judgment in the appointment or employment of officers and employees in the administrative service. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the Council and its members shall deal with the administrative service solely through the City Manager, and neither the Council nor any member thereof shall give orders to any of the subordinates of the City Manager.
City Manager: Appointment and Qualifications:

Section 4.8. The Council shall appoint a City manager within ninety (90) days after any vacancy exists in such position. The City Manager shall hold office at the pleasure of a majority of the Council, but he shall not be removed from office during a period of sixty (60) days following any regular city election, except by the affirmative vote of five (5) members of the Council. He shall be selected on the basis of his executive and administrative qualifications with special reference to his training and experience.

Acting City Manager:

Section 4.9. The Council may appoint or designate an Acting City Manager during the period of a vacancy in the office or during the absence of the City Manager from the City. Such Acting City Manager shall, while he is in such office, have all the responsibilities, duties, functions and authority of the City Manager.

City Manager: Functions and Duties:

Section 4.10. The City Manager shall be the chief administrative officer of the city government. His functions and duties shall be:

(a) To be responsible to the Council for the efficient administration of all administrative departments of the city government, except the department under the direction of the Attorney;

(b) To see that all laws and ordinances are enforced.

(c) To appoint, with the consent of the Council, the heads of the several city departments whose appointment is not otherwise specified in this charter, and to direct and supervise such department heads;

(d) To give to the proper department or officials ample notice of the expiration or termination of any franchises, contracts or agreements;

(e) To see that all terms and conditions imposed in favor, of the city or its inhabitants in any public utility franchise, or in any contract, are faithfully kept and performed;
(f) To recommend an annual budget to the Council and to administer the budget as finally adopted under policies formulated by the Council, and to keep the Council fully advised at all times as to the financial condition and needs of the city;

(g) To recommend to the Council for adoption such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient, and to attend Council meetings with the right to take part in discussions but not to vote;

(h) To exercise and perform all administrative functions of the city that are not imposed by this charter or ordinance upon some other official;

(i) To be responsible for the maintenance of a system of accounts of the city which shall conform to any uniform system required by law and by the Council and to generally accepted principles and procedures of governmental accounting. He shall submit financial statements to the Council quarterly, or more often as the Council directs.

(j) To act as Purchasing Agent for the city and in such capacity shall purchase all supplies and equipment and dispose of the same in accordance with procedures established by the Council.

(k) To perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this charter or required of him by ordinance or by direction of the Council.

Clerk: Function and Duties:

Section 4.11. (a) The Clerk shall be the Clerk of the Council and shall attend all meetings of the Council and shall keep a permanent journal of its proceedings in the English language.

(b) The Clerk shall be custodian of the city seal, and shall affix it to all documents and instruments requiring the seal, and shall attest the same. He shall also be custodian of all papers, documents, bonds, and records pertaining to the city the custody of which is not otherwise provided for.

(c) The Clerk shall certify by his signature all ordinances and resolutions enacted or passed by the Council.

(d) The Clerk shall provide and maintain in his office a supply of forms for all petitions required to be filed for any purpose by the provisions of this charter.
(e) The Clerk shall have power to administer oaths of office.

(f) The Clerk shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed for him by this charter, by the Council or by the City Manager.

Treasurer: Functions and Duties:

Section 4.12.

(a) The Treasurer shall have the custody of all moneys of the city, and bond pertaining solely to the Clerk, and all evidences of indebtedness belonging to the city or held in trust by the city.

(b) The Treasurer shall collect all moneys of the city the collection of which is not provided for elsewhere by charter or ordinance. He shall receive from other officers and employees of the city all money belonging to and receivable by the city that may be collected by such officers and employees, including fines, license fees, taxes, assessments and all other charges. All money shall be turned over to the Treasurer after collection or receipt, and shall in all cases give a receipt therefore.

(c) The Treasurer shall keep and deposit all moneys or funds in such manner and only in such places as the Council may determine and shall report the same in detail to the City Manager.

(d) The Treasurer shall disburse all city funds in accordance with the provisions of statute, this charter and procedures to be established by the Council.

(e) The Treasurer shall have such powers, duties and prerogatives in regard to the collection and custody of state, county, school district and city taxes as are conferred by statute upon township treasurers in connection with state, county, township and school district taxes upon real and personal property.

(f) The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed for him by this charter, by the Council or by the City Manager.
Assessor: Functions and Duties:

Section 4.13. The Assessor shall possess all the powers vested in, and shall be charged with all the duties imposed upon assessing officers by statute. He shall prepare all regular and special assessment rolls in the manner prescribed by this charter, by ordinance and by statute. He shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed for him in this charter, by the Council or by the City Manager.

Attorney: Functions and Duties:

Section 4.14. (a) The Attorney shall act as legal advisor to, and be attorney and counsel for, the Council and shall be responsible solely to the Council. He shall advise any officer or department head of the city in matters relating to his official duties when so requested and shall file with the Clerk a copy of all written opinions given by him.

(b) The Attorney shall prosecute such ordinance violations and he shall conduct for the city such cases in court and before other legally constituted tribunals as the Council may request. He shall file with the Clerk copies of such records and files relating thereto as the Council may direct.

(c) The Attorney shall prepare or review all ordinances, contracts, bonds and other written instruments which are submitted to him by the Council and shall promptly give his opinion as to the legality thereof.

(d) The Attorney shall call to the attention of the Council all matters of law, and changes or developments therein, affecting the city.

(e) The Attorney shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed for him by this charter or by the Council.

(f) Upon the recommendation of the Attorney, or upon its own initiative the Council may retain special legal counsel to handle any matter in which the city has an interest, or to assist and counsel with the Attorney therein.
Compensation of Attorney and Special Counsel:

Section 4.15. The compensation of the Attorney shall be set by the Council. No compensation to special legal counsel shall be paid, except in accordance with an agreement between the Council and the Attorney for Special Counsel made before the service for which such compensation to be paid has been rendered.

Deputy Administrative Officers:

Section 4.16. The Clerk, Treasurer and Assessor may appoint their own deputies, subject to the written confirmation of the City Manager, and may terminate the status of their deputies at their pleasure, upon written notice to the City Manager. Such deputies shall, in each case, possess all the powers and authorities of their superior officers, except as the same may be from time-to-time limited by their superiors or by the City Manager.

Planning and Zoning:

Section 4.17. The Council shall maintain a city planning commission in accordance with and having all the powers and duties granted by the provisions of statute relating to such commissions.

The Council shall maintain a zoning ordinance in accordance with the provisions of statute relating to such ordinances. Insofar as may be, such ordinance shall provide that zoning be coordinated with the work of the city planning commission.

Independent Boards and Commissions:

Section 4.18. The Council may not create any board or commission, other than those provided for in this charter, to administer any activity department or agency of the city government, except (a) a municipal hospital, (b) a municipal cemetery, (c) recreation, or (d) any activity which by statute is required to be so administered. The Council may, however, establish (a) quasi-judicial appeal boards and (b) boards or commissions to serve solely in an advisory capacity.
Eligibility for Office and Employment in the City:

Section 5.1. No person shall hold an elective office of the city unless he or she meets all of the following requirements: (a) is a citizen of the United States, (b) is at least 21 years of age, (e) has been a resident of the State of Michigan and the City of Greenville, Michigan, for 45 days before the last day for the filing of a nominating petition for an elective office. In the case of an appointment to fill a vacancy in an elective office, the appointee must be a resident of the State and City for a period of 45 days preceding the appointment.

No person shall be eligible for any elective or appointive city office who is in default to the city. The holding of office by any person who is in such default shall create a vacancy unless such default shall be eliminated within thirty (30) days after written notice thereof by the Council, or unless such person shall in good faith be contesting the liability for such default.

Each candidate for elective office shall file with his petition his affidavit that he possesses the qualifications for such office provided in this section. Failure to file such affidavit shall invalidate his petition. Each member of a city board or commission shall have been a resident of the city for at least two (2) years prior to the date of his appointment and shall be a qualified and registered elector of the City on such day and throughout his tenure of office.

Vacancies in Elective Offices:

Section 5.2. Any elective city office shall be declared vacant by the Council before the expiration of the term of such office:

(a) For any reason specified by statute or by this charter as creating a vacancy in office;

(b) If no person is elected to, or qualifies for, the office at the election at which such office is to be filled;
(c) If the officer shall be found guilty by a competent court of any act constituting misconduct in office under the provisions of this charter;

(d) In the case of any member of the Council, if such officer shall miss four (4) consecutive regular meetings of the Council or twenty-five (25) percent of such meetings in any fiscal year of the city, unless such absence shall be excused by the Council and the reason therefore entered in its proceedings at the time of each absence;

(e) If the officer is removed from office by the Council in accordance with provisions of Section 5.4.

Vacancies in Boards and Commissions:

Section 5.3. The office of any member of any board or commission created by, or pursuant to, this charter shall be declared vacant by the Council before the expiration of the term of such office:

(a) for any reason specified by statute or by this charter as creating a vacancy in office;

(b) If the officer shall be found guilty by a competent court of any act constituting misconduct in office under the provisions of this charter;

(c) If such officer shall miss four (4) consecutive regular meetings of such board or commission or twenty-five (25) percent of such meetings in any fiscal year of the city, unless such absence shall be excused by such board or commission and the reason therefore entered in the proceedings at the time of each absence;

(d) If the officer is removed from office by the Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 5.4.
Removals from Office:

Section 5.4. Removals by the Council of elective officers or of members of boards or commissions shall be made for either of the following reasons: (a) for any reason specified by statute for removal of city officers by the Governor, (b) for any act declared by this Charter to constitute misconduct in office. Such removals by the Council shall be made only after hearing of which such officer has been given notice by the Clerk at least ten (10) days in advance, either personally or by delivering the same at his last known place of residence. Such notice shall include a copy of the charges against such officer. The hearing shall afford an opportunity to the officer, in person or by attorney, to be heard in his defense, to cross-examine witnesses and to present testimony. If such officer shall neglect to appear at such hearing and answer such charges, his failure to do so may be deemed cause for his removal. A majority vote of the members of the Council in office at the time, exclusive of any member whose removal may be being considered, shall be required for any such removal.

Resignations:

Section 5.5. Resignations of elective officers shall be made in writing and filed with the Clerk and shall be acted upon by the Council at its next regular meeting following receipt thereof by the Clerk. Resignations of officers appointed by the Council shall be made in writing to the Council. All resignations shall be immediately acted upon.

Filling Vacancies in Elective Offices:

5.6. (a) Any vacancy within the Council more than fifty (50) days before the next regular Council election shall be filled within thirty (30) days by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Council. The seat so filled by Council appointment, shall be filled at the next regular council election. The council member so appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office until the person elected at the next regular election takes office.

Any vacancy which occurs on the Council fifty (50) days or less before the next regular Council election, shall not be filled by Council appointment.
(b) If any vacancy in the office of Councilperson which the Council is authorized to fill, is not so filled within thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs, or if four (4) or more vacancies exist simultaneously in the office of Councilperson, such vacancies shall be filled for the respective unexpired terms at a special election. In connection with any special election to fill a vacancy or vacancies in any elective office no primary election shall be held; candidates shall be nominated by petitions in a manner identical to that provided in Section 3.10 to 3.13 inclusive; the names of all qualified candidates who file sufficient valid nomination petitions thirty (30) days before such special election shall be certified to the Election Commission and placed on the ballot; and all other provisions of this charter, not inconsistent with this Section 5.6 shall govern.

(c) The provisions of this Section 5.6 shall not apply to the filling of vacancies resulting from recall.

Filling Vacancies in Appointive Offices:

Section 5.7. Vacancies in appointive offices shall be filled in the manner provided for making the original appointment.

Filling Vacancies in the Office of Justice of the Peace:

Section 5.8. Is hereby deleted and repealed. Election held November 6, 1979.

Change in Term of Office or Compensation:

Section 5.9. Except by procedures provided in this charter the terms of office of the elective officers and of members of boards and commissions appointed for a definite term shall not be shortened. The terms of elective officers shall not be extended beyond the period for which any such officer was elected, except that an elective officer shall after his term has expired continue to hold office until his successor is elected or appointed and has qualified.

The Council shall not grant or authorize extra compensation to any officer or employee after his service has been rendered. The salary of any elective officer shall not be increased or decreased from the day he is elected until the end of the term of office for which he was elected.
Oath of Office and Bond:

Section 5.10. Every officer, elective or appointive, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall take the oath of office prescribed for public officers by the Constitution and shall file the oath with the Clerk together with any bond required by statute, this charter or by the Council. In case of failure to comply with the provisions of this section within ten (10) days from the date he is notified in writing of his election or appointment, such officer shall be deemed to have declined the office and such office shall thereupon become vacant, unless the Council shall by resolution extend the time in which such officer may qualify.

Surety Bonds:

Section 5.11. Except as otherwise provided in this charter, all officers of the city whose duties involve the custody of public property or the handling of public funds, either by way of receipt or disbursement or both, and all other officers and employees so required by the Council shall, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, file with the city an official bond, in such form and amount as the Council shall direct and approve. Such official bond of every officer and employee shall be conditioned that he will faithfully perform the duties of his office, and will on demand deliver over to his successor in office, or other proper officer or an agent of the city, all books, papers, moneys, effects and property belonging thereto, or appertaining to his office, which may be in his custody as an officer or employee; and such bonds may be further conditioned as the Council shall prescribe. The official bond of every officer whose duty it may be to receive or pay out money, besides being conditioned as above required, shall be further conditioned that he will on demand, pay over or account for to the city, or any proper officer or agent thereof, all moneys received by him as such officer or employee. The requirement of this paragraph may be met by the purchase of one or more appropriate blanket surety bonds covering all, or a group of, city employees and officers.

All official bonds shall be corporate surety bonds and the premiums thereon shall be paid by the City. The Clerk shall be custodian of all the bonds of all officers or employees, except that the Treasurer shall be custodian of any bonds pertaining solely to the Clerk.
Delivery of Office:

Section 5.12. Whenever any officer or employee shall cease to hold such office or employment for any reason whatsoever, he shall within five (5) days, or sooner on demand, deliver to his successor in office or to his superior all the books, papers, moneys and effects in his custody as such officer or employee. Any officer violating this provision may be proceeded against in the same manner as public officers generally for a like offense under statute. Any employee found guilty of violating this provision by a competent tribunal may be punished by a fine of not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00) or imprisonment for not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Pecuniary Interest Prohibited:

Section 5.13. (a) Except as permitted by this section no contract or purchase involving an amount in excess of one hundred dollars ($100.00) shall be made by the city in which any elective or appointive officer or any member of his family has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect. A “contract” shall for the purposes of this section include any arrangement or agreement pursuant to which any material, service or other thing of value is to be furnished to the city for a valuable consideration to be paid by the city or sold or transferred by the city, except the furnishing of personal services as an officer or employee of the city; and the term “member of his family” shall include spouse, children, and the spouse of any of them.

(b) Without limiting the generality of paragraph (a) of this section an officer shall be deemed to have a pecuniary interest in a contract if he or any member of his family is an employee, partner, officer, director or sales representative of the person, firm or corporation with which such contract is made or of a sales representative of such person, firm or corporation with which such contract is made or of a sales representative of such person, firm or corporation. Ownership, individually or in a fiduciary capacity, by an officer or member of his family of securities, or of any beneficial interest in securities, of any corporation with which a contract is made or which is a sales representative of any person, firm or corporation with which such contract is made, shall not be deemed to create a pecuniary interest in such contract, unless the aggregate amounts of such securities, or interest in such securities, so owned by such officer and the member of his family, shall amount to ten (10) percent of any class of the securities of such corporation then outstanding.
(c) A contract in which an officer or member of his family has a pecuniary interest may be made by the city if the members of the Council in office at the time having no such interest shall by unanimous vote determine that the best interests of the city will be served by the making of such contract and if such contract is made after comparative prices are obtained.

(d) Any officer who knowingly permits the city to enter into any contract in which he has a pecuniary interest without disclosing such interest to the Council prior to the action of the Council in authorizing such contract, shall be guilty of misconduct in office. Except in the instances specified in paragraph (c) of this section, the unanimous determination (by vote or written instrument filed with the Clerk) of the Council that in a particular case an officer or member of his family will not have a pecuniary interest in a contract or purchase to be entered into by the City shall be final and conclusive in the absence of fraud or misrepresentation.

(e) No officer shall stand as security on any bond to the city or give any bail for any other person which may be required by the charter or any ordinance of the City. Any officer of the city who violates the provisions of this paragraph shall be guilty of misconduct in office.

Anti-Nepotism:

Section 5.14. Unless the Council, by unanimous vote of those Council persons voting on the question, shall determine that the best interests of the City shall be served, the following relatives of any elective or appointive City officer or official are disqualified from holding any appointive office or employment during the term for which said elective or appointive officer was elected or appointed: Spouse, child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister or the spouses of any of them.

Compensation of Employees and Officers:

Section 5.15. (a) The compensation of all employees and officers of the city whose compensation is not provided for herein shall be fixed by the appointing officer or body, within the limits of budget appropriations and in accordance with any pay plan adopted by the Council.

(b) The respective salaries and compensation of officers and employees as fixed by, or pursuant to, this charter shall be in full for all official services of such officers or employees and shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions and other compensation receivable by such officers or employees for their services.

Such fees, commissions and compensation shall belong to the city and shall be collected and accounted for by such officers or employees, and be paid into the
city treasury and a statement thereof filed periodically with the City Manager. The provisions of paragraph (b) of this section shall not apply to fees, commissions or other compensation paid by the County of Montcalm to any officer or employee serving as a city representative on the Board of Supervisors.

(e) Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit the payment of necessary bona fide expenses incurred in service on behalf of the City.

Employee Welfare Benefits:

Section 5.16. The Council shall have the power to make available to the administrative officers and employees of the City and its department and boards any recognized standard plan of group life, hospital, health, or accident insurance either independently of, or as a supplement to, any retirement plan provided for said officers and employees.

Merit System:

Section 5.17. The Council may provide for a merit system for City employees.

CHAPTER 6

THE COUNCIL: PROCEDURE AND MISCELLANEOUS POWER AND DUTIES

Regular Meeting:

Section 6.1. The Council shall provide by resolution for the time and place of its regular meetings and shall hold at least one (1) regular meeting each month.

Special Meetings:

Section 6.2. Special meetings shall be called by the Clerk on the written request of the Mayor or any two (2) members of the Council on at least twenty-four (24) hours written notice to each member of the Council, served personally or left at his usual place of residence; but a special meeting may be held on shorter notice if all members of the council are present or have waived notice thereof in writing.

Business at Special Meetings.

Section 6.3. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting of the Council, unless the same has been stated in the notice of such meeting. However, any business which, may lawfully come before a regular meeting may be transacted
at a special meeting if all the members of the Council present consent thereto and all the members absent file their written consent.

Meetings to be Public:

Section 6.4. All regular and special meetings of the Council shall be open to the public and citizens shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard under such rules and regulations as the Council may prescribe.

Quorum: Adjournment of Meeting:

Section 6.5. A majority of the members of the Council in office at the time shall be a quorum for the transaction of business at all Council meetings, but in the absence of a quorum a less number may adjourn any meeting to a later time or date, and in the absence of all members the Clerk may adjourn any meeting for not longer than one week.

Compulsory Attendance and Conduct at Meeting:

Section 6.6. Any two (2) or more members of the Council may by vote either request or compel the attendance of its members and other officers of the city at any meeting. Any member of the council or other officer who when notified of such request for his attendance fails to attend such meeting for reason other than those approved by the Council shall be deemed guilty of misconduct in office, unless excused by the Council. The presiding officer shall enforce orderly conduct at meetings and any member of the Council or other officer who shall fail to conduct himself in an orderly manner at any meeting shall be deemed guilty of misconduct in office.

Any police officers designated by the presiding officer of the meeting shall serve as the Sargeant-at-arms of the Council in the enforcement of the provisions of the section.

Organization and Rules of the Council:

Section 6.7. The Council shall determine its own organization, rules and order of business, subject to the following provisions:
(a) A journal of the proceedings of each meeting shall be kept in the English language by the Clerk and shall be signed by the presiding officer and the Clerk of the meeting.

(b) A vote upon all ordinances and resolutions shall be taken by a roll call vote and entered upon the records, except that where the vote is unanimous it shall only be necessary to state.

(e) No member of the Council shall vote on any question in which he has a financial interest, or on any question concerning his own conduct, but on all other questions each member who is present shall vote when his name is called, unless excused by the unanimous consent of the remaining members present. Any member refusing to vote, except when not so required by this paragraph, shall be guilty of misconduct in office.

(d) The proceedings of the Council, or a brief summary thereof, shall be published within fifteen (15) days following each meeting. Any such summary shall be prepared by the Clerk and approved by the Mayor and shall show the substance of each separate proceeding of the Council.

(e) There shall be no standing committees of the Council.

Investigations:

Section 6.8. The Council or any person or committee authorized by it for the purpose, shall have power to inquire into the conduct of any department, office or officer and to make investigations as to matters in which the municipality has an interest. The Council for the purpose stated herein, may summon witnesses, administer oaths and compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers and other evidence.
Failure on the part of any officer to obey such summons or to produce books, papers and other evidence as ordered under the provisions of this section shall constitute misconduct in office. Failure on the part of any employee or other person to obey such summons or to produce books, papers or other evidence as ordered under the provisions of this section shall constitute a violation of this charter and such person when found guilty of such violation by a competent tribunal may be punished by a fine of not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00) or imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

It is provided further that, in case of failure on the part of any person to obey such summons or to produce such books, papers and other evidence as so ordered, the Council may invoke the aid of the proper judicial tribunal in requiring observance of such summons or production of such books, papers and other evidence.

Providing for Public Health and Safety"

Section 6.9. The Council shall see that provision is made for the public peace and health, and for the safety of person and property. Unless and until a board of health is established for the city by ordinance, the Council shall constitute the board of health of the city, and it and its officers shall possess all power, privileges and immunities granted to boards of health by statute.

CHAPTER 7

LEGISLATION

Prior City Legislation:

Section 7.1. All valid bylaws, ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations of the city which are not inconsistent with this charter and which are in force and effect at the time of the effective date of this charter shall continue in full force and effect until repealed. If any such ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation provides for the appointment of any officers or any members of any board or commission shall, after the effective date of this charter, be appointed by the Council.

Those provisions of any effective valid bylaw, ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation which are inconsistent with this charter, are hereby repealed.
Form of Ordinances:

Section 7.2. All legislation of the City of Greenville, shall be by ordinance or by resolution. The word “resolution” as used in this charter shall be the official action of the Council in the form of a motion, and such action shall be limited to matters required or permitted to be done by resolution by this charter or by state or federal law and to matters pertaining to the internal affairs or concerns of the city government. All other acts of the Council, and all acts carrying a penalty for the violation thereof, shall be by ordinance. Each ordinance shall be identified by a number and a short title. Each proposed ordinance shall be introduced in written or printed form. The style of all ordinances passed by the Council shall be, “The City of Greenville ordains:”.

Enactment, Amendment, and Repeal of Ordinances:

Section 7.3. Ordinances may be enacted, amended, or repealed by the affirmative vote of not less than four (4) councilpersons, and except that when an ordinance is given immediate effect, Section 7.4. shall govern. Unless by the affirmative vote of five (5) councilmen, no office shall be created or abolished, no tax or assessment be imposed, no street, alley, or public ground be vacated, no real estate or any interested therein be sold or disposed of, no private property be taken for public Use, nor any vote of the Council be reconsidered or rescinded at a special meeting, nor any money appropriated, except as otherwise provided by this charter.

Except in the case of ordinances which are declared to be emergency ordinances, no ordinance shall be finally passed by the Council until two (2) weeks after the meeting at which it is introduced. A brief description of the subject and contents of the ordinance as introduced shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city at least one (1) week before final passage, either separately or as part of the published proceedings of the Council.

No ordinance shall be revised, altered, or amended by reference to the title only, but the section or sections of the ordinance revised, altered, or amended shall be reenacted and published at length in a newspaper of local circulation in the city. However, an ordinance may be repealed by reference to its number and title only.
Publication and Recording of Ordinances:

Section 7.4. Each ordinance shall be published within ten (10) days after its enactment by publishing the full text thereof in a newspaper as defined in Section 17.9 either separately or as part of the published Council proceedings.

All ordinances shall be recorded by the Clerk in a book to be called The Ordinance Book, and it shall be the duty of the Mayor and Clerk to authenticate such records by their official signatures thereon, but the failure to so record and authenticate such ordinance shall not invalidate it or suspend its operation.

Effective Date of Ordinances:

Section 7.5. The effective date of all ordinances shall be prescribed therein but the effective date, except in the case of emergency ordinances, shall not be less than fifteen (15) days after enactment nor before publication thereof.

Penalties for Violations of Ordinances:

Section 7.6. The Council may provide in any ordinance for the punishment of those who violate its provisions. The punishment for the violation of any city ordinance shall not exceed a fine of five hundred dollars ($500.00) or imprisonment for ninety (90) days, or both in the discretion of the court.

Enactment of Technical Codes by Reference:

Section 7.7. The Council may adopt in whole or in part any provision of State law or any detailed technical regulation as a city ordinance or code by citation of such provision of State law or by reference to any recognized standard code, official or unofficial, provided that any such provision of State law or recognized official or unofficial standard code shall be clearly identified in the ordinance adopting the same as an ordinance of the city. Where any code, or amendment thereto, is so adopted, all requirements for its publication may be met, other provisions of this charter notwithstanding, by (i) publishing the ordinance citing such code in Manner provided for the publication of other ordinances, and (2) by making available to the public copies of the code cited therein in book or booklet form at a reasonable charge.
Severability of Ordinances:

Section 7.8. Unless an ordinance shall expressly provide to the contrary, if any portion of an ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be found to be invalid by a court, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portion or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid portion or application, provided such remaining portions or applications are not determined by the court to be inoperative, and to this end ordinances are declared to be severable.

Compilation or Codification of Ordinances:

Section 7.9. Within five (5) years after the effective date of this charter the Council shall direct the compilation or codification and printing in looseleaf or pamphlet form of all ordinances of the City then in force. Such compilation or codification shall be completed within one (1) year thereafter. If a codification is completed it shall be maintained thereafter in current form; if a compilation is completed, a recodification shall be completed at least once in every five (5) years thereafter. Any codification may include provisions not previously contained in ordinances of the City.

All requirements for publication of such compilation or codification, and of the ordinances contained therein, other provisions of this charter notwithstanding, may be met by making copies thereof available for inspection by, and distribution to, the public at a reasonable charge and by publishing notice of the printing and availability thereof before the effective date thereof.

The copies of the ordinance and of any compilation, code or codes referred to in the charter may be certified by the Clerk and when so certified shall be competent evidence in all courts and legally established tribunals as to the matter contained therein.

Initiative and Referendum:

Section 7.10. An ordinance may be initiated by petition, or a referendum on an ordinance enacted by the Council may be had by petition, as hereinafter provided.
Initiatory and Referendary Petitions:

Section 7.11. An initiatory or a referendary petition shall be signed by not less than ten (10) percent of the registered electors of the city, as of the date of the last regular city election, and all signatures on said petition shall be obtained within twenty-one (21) days before the date of filing the petition with the Clerk. Any such petition shall be addressed to the Council, and may be the aggregate of two (2) or more petition papers identical as to contents. An initiatory petition shall set forth in full the ordinance it proposed to initiate, and no petition shall propose to initiate more than one (1) ordinance. A referendary petition shall identify the ordinance or code sections it proposes to have repealed.

Each signer of a petition shall sign his name, and shall place thereon, after his name, the date and his place of residence by street and number, or by other customary designation. To each petition paper there shall be attached a sworn affidavit by the circulator thereof, stating the number of signers thereof and that each signature thereon is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be, and that it was made in the presence of the affiant. Such petition shall be filed with the Clerk who shall, within fifteen (15) days, canvass the signature thereon. If the petition does not contain a sufficient number of signatures of registered electors of the city, and the Clerk shall notify forthwith the person filing such petition and fifteen (15) days from such notification shall be allowed for the filing of supplemental petition papers. When a petition with sufficient signatures is filed within the time allowed by this section, the Clerk shall present the petition to the Council at its next regular meeting.

Council Procedure-on Initiatory and Referendary Petition:

Section 7.12. Upon receiving an initiatory or referendary petition from the Clerk, the Council shall either, within thirty (30) days, unless otherwise provided by statute:

(a) Adopt the ordinance as submitted by an initiatory petition;

(b) Repeal the ordinance referred to by a referendary petition; or

(c) Determine to submit the proposal provided for in the petition to the electors.
Submission of Initiatory and Referendary Ordinances to Electors:

Section 7.13. Should the Council decide to submit the proposal to the electors, it shall be submitted at the next election held in the city for any other purpose, or, in the discretion of the Court at a special election called for that specific purpose. In case of an initiatory petition, if no election is to be held in the city for any other purpose within one hundred and fifty (150) days from the time the petition is presented to the Council and the Council does not adopt the ordinance, then the Council shall call a special election within sixty (60) days from such time for the submission of the initiative proposal. The results shall be determined by a majority vote of the electors voting thereon, except in cases where otherwise required by statute or the Constitution.

Ordinance Suspended: Miscellaneous Provisions on Initiatory and Referendary Ordinance:

Section 7.14. The presentation to the Council by the Clerk of a valid and sufficient referendary petition containing a number of signatures equal to twenty-five (25) percent of the registered electors of the city as of the date of the last regular city election shall automatically suspend the operation of the ordinance in question pending repeal by the Council or final determination by the electors.

An ordinance adopted by the electorate through initiatory proceedings may not be amended or repealed for a period of six (6) months after the date of the election at which it was adopted, and an ordinance repealed by the electorate may not be reenacted for a period of six (6) months after the date of the election at which it was repealed. It is provided, however, that any ordinance may be adopted, amended or repealed at any time by appropriate referendin or initiatory procedure in accordance with the provisions of this chapter or if submitted to the electorate by the Council on its own motion.

If two (2) or more ordinances adopted at the same election shall have conflicting provisions, the provisions in the ordinance receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall govern.
CHAPTER 8

GENERAL FINANCE - BUDGET, AUDIT

Fiscal Year:

Section 8.1. The fiscal year of the city and of all its agencies shall begin on the first day of July of each year and end on the thirtieth day of June of the following year.

Budget Procedure:

Section 8.2. The City Manager shall prepare and submit to the Council at its first meeting following the regular city election in April of each year a recommended budget covering the next fiscal year, and shall include therein at least the following information:

(a) Detailed estimate with supporting explanation of all proposed expenditures for each department, office, and agency of the city, and for the court, showing the expenditures for corresponding items for the last preceding fiscal year in full, and for the current fiscal year to March first and estimated expenditures for the balance of the current fiscal year;

(b) Statements of the bonded and other indebtedness of the city, if any, showing the debt redemption and interest requirements, the debt authorized and unissued, and the condition of sinking funds if any;

(c) Detailed estimates of all revenues of the city from sources other than taxes with a comparative statement of the amounts received by the city from each of the same or similar sources for the last preceding fiscal year in full, and for the current fiscal year to March first, and estimated revenues for the balance of the current fiscal year;

(d) A statement of the estimated balance or deficit for the end of the current fiscal year;

(e) An estimate of the amount of money to be raised from current and delinquent taxes and the amount to be raised from bond issues which, together with any available appropriated surplus and any revenues from other sources, will be necessary to meet the proposed expenditures;

(f) Such other supporting information as the Council may request.

Budget Hearing:
Section 8.3. A public hearing on the proposed budget shall be held before its final adoption at such time and place as the Council shall direct. Notice of such public hearing, a summary of the proposed budget and notice that the proposed budget is on, file in the office of the Clerk shall be published at least one (1) week in advance of the hearing. The complete proposed budget shall be on file for public inspection during office hours at such office for a period of not less than one (1) week prior to such hearing.

Adoption of Budget:

Section 8.4. Not later than the second week in May of each year, the Council shall by resolution adopt a budget for the next fiscal year, shall appropriate the money needed for municipal purposes during the next fiscal year of the city and shall provide for a levy of the amount necessary to be raised by taxes upon real and personal property for municipal purposes subject to the limitations contained in Section 9.1.

Budget Control:

Section 8.5. Except for purposes which are to be financed by the issuance of bonds or by special assessment, or for other purposes not chargeable to a budget appropriation, no money shall be drawn from the treasury of the city, except in accordance with an appropriation thereof for such specific purpose, nor shall any obligation for the expenditure of money be incurred without an appropriation covering all payments which will be due under such obligation in the current fiscal year. The Council by resolution may transfer any unencumbered appropriation balance, or any portion thereof from one (1) account, department, fund or agency to another.

The Council may make additional appropriations during the fiscal year for unanticipated expenditures required by the city, but such additional appropriations shall not exceed the amount by which actual and anticipated revenues of the year are exceeding the revenues as estimated in the budget, unless the appropriations are necessary to relieve an emergency endangering the public health, peace or safety.

Except in those cases where there is no other logical account to which an expenditure can be charged, expenditures shall not be charged directly to the contingency fund (or other similar fund). Instead, the necessary part of the appropriation for the contingency fund (or other similar fund) shall be transferred to the logical account and the expenditure then charged to such account.

At the beginning of each quarterly period during the fiscal year, and more
often if required by the Council, the City Manager all submit to the Council data showing the relation between the estimated and actual revenues and expenditures to date; and if it shall appear that the revenues are less than anticipated, the Council may reduce appropriations, except amounts required for debt and interest charges, to such a degree as may be necessary to keep expenditures within the revenues.

The balance in any budget appropriation which has not been encumbered at the end of the fiscal year shall revert to the general fund.

Depository:

Section 8.6. The Council shall designate depositories for city funds and shall provide for the regular deposit of all city moneys. The Council shall provide for such security for city deposits as is authorized or permitted by statute, except that personal surety bonds shall not be deemed proper security.

Independent Audit: Annual Report:

Section 8.7. An independent audit shall be made of all city amounts at least annually, and more frequently if deemed necessary by the Council. Such audit shall be made by Certified Public Accountants experienced in municipal accounting selected by the Council.

The City Manager shall prepare an annual report of the affairs of the city, including a financial report. Copies of such audit and annual report shall be made available for public inspection at the office of the City Manager within thirty (30) days after receipt of the audit.

CHAPTER 9

TAXATION

Power to Tax: Tax Limit:

Section 9.1. The city shall have the power to assess taxes and levy and collect rents, tolls and excises. Exclusive of any levies authorized by statute to be made beyond charter tax rate limitations, the annual ad valorem tax levy shall not exceed one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the assessed value of all real and personal property, subject to taxation in the city.
Subjects of Taxation:

Section 9.2. The subjects of ad valorem taxation for municipal purposes shall be the same for State, County and school purposes under the general law. Except as otherwise provided by this charter, city taxes shall be levied, collected and returned in the manner provided by statute.

Exemptions:

Section 9.3. No exemptions from taxation shall be allowed, except as expressly required or permitted by statute.

Tax Day:

Section 9.4. Subject to the exceptions provided or permitted by statute the taxable status of persons and property shall be determined as of the first day of January, which shall be deemed the tax day.

Preparation of the Assessment Roll:

Section 9.5. On or before the first Monday in March in each year the Assessor shall prepare and certify an assessment roll of all property in the city subject to taxation. Such roll shall be prepared in accordance with statute and this charter. Values shall be estimated according to recognized methods of systematic assessment. The records of the Assessor shall show separate figures for the value of the land, of the building improvements and of personal property; and the method of estimating all such values shall be as nearly uniform as possible.

On or before the first Monday in March the Assessor shall give by first-class mail a notice of any increase over the previous year in the assessed value of any property or of the addition of any property to the roll to the owner as shown by such assessment roll. The failure to give any notice or of the owner to receive it shall not invalidate any assessment roll or assessment thereon.

Board of Review:

Section 9.6. The Board of Review shall be composed of three (3) freeholders of the city who shall meet the eligibility requirements for elective officers contained in Section 5.1. and who during their term of office shall not be city officers or employees or be nominees or candidates for elective city
office. The filing by a member of the Board of Review of his nomination petition for an elective city office or the filing of a consent thereto shall constitute a resignation from the Board of Review. The appointment of members of such Board shall be based upon their knowledge and experience in property valuation. One member of the Board shall be appointed by the Council in January, 1957, and in each January thereafter for a term of three (3) years, to replace the member whose term expires that year. The Council shall fix the compensation of the members of the Board. The Board of Review shall annually in February, select its own chairman for the ensuing year, and the Assessor shall be clerk of the Board and shall be entitled to be heard at its sessions, but shall have no vote.

Meetings of the Board of Review:

Section 9.7. The Board of Review shall convene in its first session on the second Monday in March of each year at such time of day and place as shall be designated by the Council and shall remain in session for at least eight (8) hours for the purpose of considering and correcting the roll. In each case in which the assessed value of any property is increased over the amount shown on the assessment roll as prepared by the Assessor or any property is added to such roll by the Board, or the Board has resolved to consider at its second session such increasing of an assessment or the adding of any property to such roll, the Assessor shall give notice thereof to the owners as shown by such roll by first-class letter mailed not later than the second day following the end of the first session of the Board. Such notice shall state the date, time, place and purpose of the second session of the Board. The failure to give any such notice or of the owner to receive it shall not invalidate any assessment roll or assessment thereon.

The Board of Review shall convene in its second session on the fourth Monday in March of each year at such time of day and place as shall be designated by the Council and shall continue in session until all interested persons have had an opportunity to be heard, but in no case for less than six (6) hours. At the second session, the Board may not increase any assessment or add any property to the rolls, except in those cases in which the Board resolved at its first session to consider such increase or addition at its second session.

Notice of Meetings:

Section 9.8. Notice of the time and place of the sessions of the Board of Review shall be published by the Clerk at least ten (10) days prior to each session of the Board.

Duties and Functions of Board of Review:
Section 9.9. For the purpose of revising and correcting assessments, the Board of Review shall have the same powers and perform like duties in all respects as are by statute conferred upon and required of boards of review in townships, except as otherwise provided in this charter. It shall hear the complaints of all persons considering themselves aggrieved by assessments, and if it shall appear that any person or property has been wrongfully assessed or omitted from the roll, the Board shall correct the roll in such manner as it deems just. In all cases the roll shall be reviewed according to the facts existing on the tax day and no change in the status of any property after said day shall be considered by the Board in making its decisions. Except as otherwise provided by statute, no person other than the Board of Review shall make or authorize any change upon, or additions or corrections to, the assessment roll. It shall be the duty of the Assessor to keep a permanent record of all proceedings and to enter therein all resolutions and decisions of the Board.

Endorsement of Roll:

Section 9.10. After the Board of Review has completed its review of the assessment roll, and not later than the first Monday in April, the majority of its members shall endorse thereon and sign a statement to the effect that the same is the assessment roll of the city for the year in which it has been prepared. The omission of such endorsement shall not affect the validity of such roll.

Clerk to Certify Tax Levy:

Section 9.11. Within three (3) days after the Council has adopted the budget for the ensuing year, the Clerk shall certify to the Assessor the total amount which the Council determines shall be raised by general ad valorem tax. He shall also certify all amounts of current or delinquent special assessments and all other amounts which the Council requires to be assessed, reassessed or charged upon any property or against any person.

City Tax Roll:

Section 9.12. After the Board of Review has completed its review of the assessment roll, the Assessor shall prepare a copy or assessment roll to be known as the City Tax Roll, and upon receiving the certification of the several amounts to be raised, as provided in Section 9.11, the Assessor shall spread
upon said tax roll the several amounts determined by the Council to be charged, assessed or reassessed against persons or property. The fractions in computation on any tax roll, the Assessor may add to the amount of the several taxes to be raised not more than the amount prescribed by statute. Any excess created thereby on any tax roll shall belong to the city.

**Tax Roll Certified for Collection:**

Section 9.13. After spreading the taxes the Assessor shall certify the tax roll, and the Mayor shall annex his warrant thereto directing and requiring the Treasurer to collect, prior to March 1st of the following year, from the several persons named in said roll the several sums mentioned therein opposite their respective names as a tax or assessment and granting to him, for the purpose of collecting the taxes, assessments and charges on such roll, all the statutory powers and immunities possessed by township treasurers for the collection of taxes. on or before June 1st the roll shall be delivered to the Treasurer for collection.

**Tax Lien on Property:**

Section 9.14. On July 1st the taxes thus assessed shall become a debt due to the city from the persons to whom they are assessed, and the amounts assessed on any interest in real property shall become a lien upon such real property, for such amounts and for all interest and charges thereon, and all personal taxes shall become a first lien on all personal property of such persons so assessed. Such lien shall take precedence over all other claims, encumbrances and liens to the extent provided by statute and shall continue until such taxes, interest and charges are paid.

**Taxes Due: Notification Thereof:**

Section 9.15. City taxes shall be due on July 1st of each year. The Treasurer shall not be required to call upon the persons named in the city tax roll, nor to make personal demand for the payments of taxes, but he shall (a) publish, between June 15th and July 1st, notice of the time when said taxes will be due for collection and the penalties and fees for late payment of same, and (b) mail a bill to each person named in said roll, but in cases of multiple ownership of property only one bill need be mailed.

Failure on the part of the Treasurer to publish said notice or mail such bills shall not invalidate the taxes on said tax roll nor release the person or property assessed from the penalties and fees provided in this chapter of late payment or nonpayment of the same.

**Interest on Late Pay in lieu of Taxes:**
Section 9.16. All taxes paid on or before the 31st day of August shall be collected by the Treasurer without additional charge. On September 1st he shall add to all taxes paid thereafter four percent (4%) of the amount of said taxes and on the 1st day of October and of each succeeding month he shall add an additional one-half of one percent of said taxes that remain unpaid. Such interest shall not exceed six percent (6%) and shall belong to the ada and constitute a lien against the property to which the taxes themselves apply, collectible in the same manner as the taxes to which they are added. It is provided, however, that if delivery of the tax roll to the Treasurer, as provided in Section 9.13, is delayed for any reason by more than thirty (30) days after June 1st, the application of the interest charge provided herein shall be postponed thirty (30) days for the first thirty (30) days of such delay and shall be postponed an additional thirty (30) days for each thirty (30) days, or major fraction thereof, of such delay.

**Failure or Refusal to Pay Personal Property Tax:**

Section 9.17. If any person, firm or corporation shall neglect or refuse to pay any personal property tax assessed to him or them by October 1st, the Treasurer shall collect the same by seizing the personal property of such person, firm or corporation to an amount sufficient to pay such tax, fees and charges for subsequent sale, wherever the same may be found in the state, and from which seizure no property shall be exempt. He may sell the property seized to an amount sufficient to pay the taxes and all charges in accordance with statutory provisions. The Treasurer may, if otherwise unable to collect a tax on personal property sue, in accordance with statute, the person, firm or corporation to whom it is assessed.

**Delinquent Tax Roll to County Treasurer:**

Section 9.18. All city taxes on real property remaining uncollected by the Treasurer on the first day of March following the date when said roll was received by him shall be returned to the County Treasurer in the manner and with like effect as provided by statute for returns by township treasurers of township, school and county taxes. Such returns shall include all the additional assessments, charges and fees hereinbefore provided, which shall be added to the amount assessed in said tax roll against each property or person. The taxes thus returned shall be collected in the same manner as other taxes returned to the County Treasurer are collected, in accordance with statute, and shall be and remain a lien upon the property against which they are assessed.
until paid. If by change in statute or otherwise, the Treasurer of the County of Montcalm is no longer charged with the collection of delinquent real property taxes, delinquent taxes shall be collected in the manner provided by statute for the collection of delinquent township, school and county taxes.

State, County and School Taxes:

Section 9.19. For the purpose of assessing and collecting taxes for state, county and school purposes, the city shall be considered the same as a township, and all provisions of statute relative to the collection of and accounting for such taxes shall apply. For these purposes the Treasurer shall perform the same duties and have the same powers as township treasurers under statute.

CHAPTER 10

BORROWING POWER

Grant of Authority to Borrow:

Section 10.1. Subject to the applicable provisions of statute and this charter, the Council may by ordinance or resolution authorize the borrowing of money for any purpose within the scope of powers vested in the city and permitted by statute and may authorize the issuance of bonds or other evidence of indebtedness therefore. Such bonds or other evidence of indebtedness shall include, but not be limited to, the following types:

(a) General obligations which pledge the full faith, credit and resources of the city for the payment of such obligations, including bonds for the city’s portion of public improvements;

(b) Notes issued in anticipation of the collection of taxes, but the proceeds of such notes may be spent only in accordance with appropriations as provided by Section 8.5;

(c) In case of fire, flood or other calamity, emergency loans due in not more than five (5) years for the relief of the inhabitants of the city and for the preservation of municipal property;

(d) Special assessment bonds issued in anticipation of the payment of special assessments made for the purpose of defraying the cost of any public improvement, or in anticipation of the payment of any combination of such special assessments. Such special assessment bonds may be an obligation of the special assessment district or districts or may be both an obligation of the special assessment or districts and a general obligation of the city.
(e) Mortgage bonds for the acquiring, owning, purchasing, constructing, improving or operating of any public utility which the city is authorized by this charter to acquire or operate; provided such bonds shall not impose any liability upon such city, but shall be secured only upon the property and revenues of such public utility, including a franchise, stating the terms upon which, in case of foreclosure, the purchaser may operate the same, which franchise shall in no case extend for a longer period than twenty (20) years from the date of the sale of such utility and the franchise on foreclosure. A sinking fund shall be created in the event of foreclosure. A sinking fund shall be created in the event of the issuance of such bonds, by setting aside such percentage of the gross or net earnings of the public utility as may be deemed sufficient for the payment of the mortgage bonds at maturity, unless serial bonds are issued of such a nature that no sinking fund is required;

(f) Bonds issued at a rate of interest not to exceed six percent per annum to refund money advanced or paid on special assessments imposed for water main extensions;

(g) Bonds for the refunding of the funded indebtedness of the city and

(h) Revenue bonds as authorized by statute which are secured only by the revenues from public improvement and do not constitute a general obligation of the city.

Authorization of Electors Required:

Section 10.2. (a) Except as provided in Section 10.2(b), no bonds pledging the full faith and credit of the city shall be issued without the approval of three-fifths of the electors voting thereon at any general or special elections.

(b) The restriction of Section 10.2(a) shall not apply to general obligation bonds issued to pay for the city’s portion of public improvements the remainder of which are to be financed by special assessments, tax anticipation notes issued under Section 10.1(b), emergency bonds issued under Section 10.1(c), special assessment bonds issued under Section 10.1(d), refunding bonds issued under Section 10.1(g) or to bonds the issuance of which cannot, by statute, be so restricted by this charter.
(c) Only those persons who have property assessed for taxes in the city and their husbands and wives shall be entitled to vote on the approval of any issue of bonds which constitute a general obligation of the city, but no person may so vote unless he is a registered elector.

Applicability of Other Statutory Restrictions:

Section 10.3. The issuance of any bonds not requiring the approval of the electors shall be subject to applicable requirements of statute with, regard to public notice in advance of the authorization of such issues, filing of petitions for a referendum on such issuance, holding of such referendum and other applicable procedural requirements.

Limits of Borrowing Powers:

Section 10.4. The net bonded indebtedness incurred for all public purposes shall not at any time exceed ten percent of the assessed value of all the real and personal property in the city, provided that in computing such net bonded indebtedness there shall be excluded money borrowed under the following sections of this chapter: 10.1(b) (tax anticipation notes), 10.1(c) (emergency loans) , 10.1(d) (special assessment bonds even though they are also a general obligation of the City), 10.1(e) (mortgage bonds), 10.1(f) (special assessment refunding bonds) 10.1 (h) (revenue bonds), and other bonds which do not constitute a general obligation of the city.

The amount of emergency loans which the Council may make under the provisions of Section 10.1(c) of this charter may not exceed 3/8 of one percent of the assessed value of all the real and personal property in the city.

The total amount of special assessment bonds pledging the full faith and credit of the city shall at no time exceed five percent of the assessed value of all the real and personal property in the city, nor shall such bonds be issued in any consecutive period of twelve (12) months in excess of one percent of such assessed value, unless authorized by a 3/5 vote of the electors voting thereon at any general or special election.
Preparation and Record of Bonds:

Section 10.5. Each bond or other evidence of indebtedness shall contain on its face a statement specifying the purpose for which the same is issued, and it shall be unlawful for any officer of the city to use the proceeds thereof for any other purpose. Any officer who shall violate this provision shall be deemed guilty of misconduct in office. All bonds and other evidence of indebtedness issued by the city shall be signed by the Mayor and countersigned by the Clerk, under the seal of the city. Interest coupons may be executed with the facsimile signatures of the Mayor and Clerk. A complete and detailed record of all bonds and other evidence of indebtedness issued by the City shall be kept by the Clerk. Upon the payment of any bond or other evidence of indebtedness, the same shall be marked cancelled.

Unissued Bonds:

Sections 10.6. No unissued bonds of the city shall be issued or sold to secure funds for any purpose other than that for what they were specifically authorized, and if any such bonds are not sold within three (3) years after authorization, such authorization shall, as to such bonds, be null and void, and such bonds shall be cancelled.

Deferred Payment Contracts:

Section 10.7. The city may enter into installment contracts for the purchase of property or capital equipment. Each of such contracts shall not extend over a period greater than five (5) years, nor shall the total amounts of principal payable under all such contracts exceed a sum of $10,000.00 in any one fiscal year of the city.

All such deferred payments shall be included in the budget for the year in which the installment is payable.

CHAPTER 11

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

General Power Relative to Special Assessments:

Section 11.1. The Council shall have the power to determine by resolution that the whole or any part of the expense of any public improvement be defrayed by special assessment upon the property especially benefitted in proportion to the benefits derived or to be derived.

Detailed Procedure to be Fixed by Ordinance:
Section 11.2. The Council shall prescribe by ordinance the complete special assessment procedure governing the initiation of projects, preparation of plans and cost estimates, creation of districts, making and confirming of assessment rolls, correction of errors in the rolls, collection of assessments and any other matters concerning the making of improvements by the special assessment method.

Such ordinance shall be subject to the following provisions:

(a) No resolution finally determining to proceed with establishing any special assessment district for the making of any public improvement shall be enacted until cost estimates have been prepared and a public hearing has been held on the advisability of so proceeding, which hearing shall be held not less than ten (10) days after notice thereof has been published and sent by first class mail to all property owners in the proposed district as shown by the current assessment roll of the city.

(b) No special assessment roll shall be finally confirmed until after a meeting of the Council has been held for the purpose of reviewing such roll, which meeting shall be held not less than ten (10) days after notice thereof has been published and sent by first class mail to all property owners in the proposed district as shown by the current assessment roll of the city.

(c) No original special assessment roll shall be confirmed, except by the affirmative vote of five (5) members of the Council if prior to such confirmation written objections to the proposed improvement have been filed by the owners of property in the district which will be required to bear more than fifty percent (50%) of the amount of such special assessment.

(d) No public improvement to be financed in whole or part by special assessment shall be made before the confirmation of the special assessment roll for such improvement.

(e) No special assessment district or districts shall be created by the Council for any one public improvement which includes property having an area in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) of the total area of the city. No public improvement project shall be divided geographically for the purpose of circumventing this provision.
Special Assessment Powers:

Section 11-3. The Council shall, in the exercise of its power of special assessment, have power to provide for the following, but this list shall not be exclusive:

(a) For the construction of public parking facilities as a public improvement financed in whole or part by the special assessment method.

(b) For installing a boulevard lighting system on any street as a public improvement to be financed in whole or part by special assessment upon the lands abutting thereupon, provided that the property owners of a majority of the frontage on such street or part thereof to be so improved shall petition therefore.

(c) For the payment of special assessments in annual installments not to exceed ten (10) in number. The first such installment to be due upon confirmation of the special assessment roll, and subsequent installments to be due on July first of succeeding years and to be placed upon the annual city tax roll, if delinquent, and for an interest charge only until the due date of each such deferred installment not to exceed six per cent per year, subject to the right of advance payment of any such installment with interest only to the date of payment.

Disposition of Excess Special Assessments:

Section 11.4. The excess by which any special assessment proves larger than the actual cost of the improvement and expenses incidental thereto may be placed in the general fund of the city if such excess is five percent or less of the assessment, but should the assessment prove larger than necessary by more than five percent the entire excess shall be refunded on a pro rata basis to the owners of the property assessed as shown by the current assessment roll of the city. Such refund shall be made by credit against future unpaid installments to the extent such installments then exist and the balance of such refund shall be in cash. No refunds may be made which contravene the provisions of any outstanding evidence of indebtedness secured in whole or part by such special assessment.
Additional Assessments: Correction of Invalid Special Assessments.

Section 11.5. Additional pro rata assessments may be made when any special assessment roll proves insufficient to pay for the improvement for which it was levied and the expenses incident thereto, or to pay the principal and interest on bonds or other evidence of obligation issued therefor; provided that the additional pro rata assessment shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the assessment as originally confirmed, unless a meeting of the Council be held to review such additional assessment, for which meeting notices shall be published and mailed as provided in the case of review of the original special assessment roll.

Whenever any special assessment shall, in the opinion of the Council, be invalid by reason of irregularity or informality in the proceedings, or if any court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge such assessment to be illegal, the Council shall, whether the improvement has been made or not, or whether any part of the assessments have been paid or not, have power to cause a new assessment to be made for the same purpose for which the former assessment was made. All proceeding on such reassessment and for the collection thereof shall be conducted in the same manner as provided for the original assessment, and whenever any sum or part thereof levied upon any property in the assessment so set aside has been paid and not refunded, the payment so made shall be applied upon the reassessment or if the payments exceed the amount of the reassessment refunds shall be made.

No judgment or decree nor any act of the Council vacating a special assessment shall destroy or impair the lien of the city upon the premises assessed for such amount or the assessment as may be equitable charged against the same or as by regular mode of proceeding might have been lawfully assessed thereupon.

Contested Assessments:

Section 11.6. No suit or action of any kind shall be instituted or maintained for the purpose of contesting or enjoining the collection of any special assessment (a) unless within thirty (30) days after confirmation of the special assessment roll written notice is given to the Council of intention to file such suit or action stating the grounds on which it is claimed such assessment is illegal and (b) unless such suit or action shall be commenced within sixty (60) days after confirmation of the roll.
Collection of Special Assessments:

Section 11-7. Upon the confirmation of each special assessment roll the special assessments shall become a debt to the city from the persons to whom they are assessed and shall until paid be a lien upon the property assessed for the amount of such assessment and all interest and charges thereon. Such lien shall be of the same character and effect as created by this charter for city taxes.

Special assessments, or installments thereof, which become due on July 1st of any year shall be collected in all respects as are city taxes due on July 1st of the same year, and if uncollected on the following first day of March, shall be returned to the County Treasurer with unpaid taxes as provided in Section 9.18.

The initial special assessment installments which become due other than on July 1st shall, if unpaid for ninety (90) days or more on May 1st of any year, be certified as delinquent to the Council by the Treasurer and the Council shall place such delinquent assessments on the tax roll for that year together with accrued interest to July 1st of such year. The total amount of such assessment and interest shall thereafter be collected in all respects as are City taxes due on July first of that year, shall be subject to the same fees and penalties as are city taxes due on that date and if uncollected on the following March 1st shall be returned to the County Treasurer with unpaid taxes as provided in Section 9.18.

Special Assessment Accounts:

Section 11.18. Except as otherwise provided in this charter, moneys raised by special assessment for any public improvement shall be credited to a special account and shall be used to pay for the costs of the improvement for which the assessment was levied and expenses incidental thereto or to repay any money borrowed therefore.

Assessments for Removal of Hazards, etc.:

Section 11.9. The assessment for the cost of the construction of any sidewalk or the abatement of any hazard or nuisance to be made pursuant to Section 2.3 (u) or Section 2.3 (v), or for the cost of removing snow, ice or other obstructions from sidewalks or trimming and removal of hazardous trees to be made pursuant to Section 2.3 (w) or Section 2.3 (x), shall be made by resolution of the Council. Notice of the time at which the council will act.
thereon shall be given by first-class mail to the owner of the property to be assessed as shown by the current tax roll of the city, except that no notice shall be required in the case of assessments for the removal of weeds, snow or ice. For the purposes of collection of such assessments, the adoption of such resolution shall be equivalent to the confirmation of a special assessment roll. The amount of any such assessment shall become a debt to the city upon adoption of such a resolution, be due at such time as the Council shall prescribe, and shall be subject to the collection fees and become a lien as provided in Section 11.7. Every such assessment shall also be subject to Section 11.4, 11.5 and 11.6.

Failure to Mail Notice:

Section 11.10. Failure to mail or receive any notice required to be so sent by this chapter or by ordinance shall not invalidate any special assessment or special assessment roll.

CHAPTER 12

PURCHASES - CONTRACTS - LEASES

Purchase and Sale of Property:

Section 12.1. City Manager shall be responsible for the purchase and sale of all city property, subject to the restrictions or statutes and ordinances.

Comparative prices shall be obtained for the purchase or sale in an amount not in excess of five hundred dollars ($500.00) of all materials, supplies and public improvements, except (a) in the employment of professional services and (b) when the City Manager shall determine that no advantage to the city would result.

In all sales or purchases in excess of $1,500.00, (a) the sale or purchase shall be approved by the Council, (b) sealed bids shall be obtained and (e) the requirements of Section 12.2 shall be complied with. No sale or purchase shall be divided for the purpose of circumventing the dollar value limitation contained in this section. The Council may authorize the making of public improvements or the performance of any other city work by any city agency without competitive bidding.

Purchases shall be made from the lowest competent bidder meeting specifications, unless the Council shall determine that the public interest will be better served by accepting a higher bid. Sales shall be made to the bidder whose bid is most advantageous to the city.

All purchases and sales shall be evidenced by written contract or purchase order.
The city may not sell any park, cemetery or any part thereof, except in accordance with restrictions placed thereon by statute.

The city may not purchase, sell or lease any real estate and interest therein, except by the affirmative vote of four (4) or more members of the Council.

The purchase and sale of all city property shall be subject to the provisions of Section 5.13.

Detailed purchasing, sale and contract procedures shall be established by ordinance.

Section 12.1(a): Section 12.1 shall not apply to land owned by the city at an Industrial or Commercial Park development. The City Council may contract for the sale of, and sell by proper conveyance, land in an Industrial or Commercial Park, upon such terms and conditions as the Council may determine are best for proper development of an Industrial or Commercial Park.

Contracts:

Section 12.2. The authority to contract on behalf of the city is vested in the Council and shall be exercised in accordance with the provisions of statute and of this charter, provided that purchases and sales may be made by the City Manager subject to the provisions of Section 12.1.

Any contract or agreement in amount of $1,500.00 or more made with form or terms other than the standard city purchases order form, shall before execution be submitted to the Attorney and his opinion obtained with respect to its form and legality. A copy of all contracts or agreements requiring such opinion shall be filed in the office of the Clerk together with a copy of the opinion.
Before any contract, agreement or purchase order obligating the city to pay any amount of five hundred dollars ($500.00) or more is executed, the accounting officer of the city shall first have certified that an appropriation has been made for the payment thereof, or that sufficient funds will be available if it be for a purpose being financed by the issuance of bonds or by special assessments or for some other purpose not chargeable to a budget appropriation. In the case of a contract or agreement obligating the city for periodic payments in future fiscal years for the furnishing of a continuing service or the leasing of property, such certification need not cover those payments which will be due in future fiscal years, but this exception shall not supply to a contract for the purchase or construction is being financed by an installment contract under authority of Section 10.7. Certification by the accounting officer of the city shall be endorsed on each contract, agreement or purchase order requiring same or shall be filed as an attachment thereto.

No contract or purchase order shall be subdivided for the purpose of circumventing the dollar value limitations contained in this Section.

No contract shall be amended after the same has been made, except upon authority of the Council, provided the City Manager may amend contracts for those purchases and sales made by him under authority of Section 12.1.

No compensation shall be paid to any contractor, except in accordance with, the terms of the contract.

No contract shall be made with any person, firm or corporation in default to the city.

An individual agreement of employment shall not be deemed a contract requiring opinion by the Attorney or certification by the accounting officers of the city.

Restriction on Powers to Lease Property:

Section 12-3. The Council may not rent or let public property for a period longer than three (3) years, unless such rental or lease agreement shall have been referred to the people at a regular or special election and shall have received the approval of a majority of the electors voting thereon at such election. No such lease shall be approved by the Council for presentation to the electorate before thirty (30) days after application therefore has been filed with the Council, nor until a public hearing has been held thereon. No such lease shall be submitted to the electors, unless the party leasing or renting the property has filed with the Clerk his unconditional acceptance of all terms of such lease or rental agreement.

Section 12-3(a): Section 12.3 shall not apply to land owned by the City at the Greenville Airport. In order to facilitate development of the Greenville Airport, the
City Council may lease airport property upon such terms and conditions as the Council may determine are best for promotion and development of the airport.

CHAPTER 13

MUNICIPALLY OWNED UTILITIES

General powers Respecting Utilities:

Section 13.1. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution and statute, the city shall have the power to acquire, own, establish, construct, operate, improve, enlarge, extend, repair and maintain, either within or without its corporate limits, a public utility for supplying water to the municipality and its inhabitants for domestic, commercial and municipal purposes, and may sell and deliver water without its corporate limits in an amount not to exceed the limitations set by the Constitution and statute. Subject to statutory provisions, the city shall also have the power to acquire, own, establish, construct, operate, improve, enlarge, extend, repair and maintain, either within or without its corporate limits, including, but not by way of limitation, public utilities for supplying light, heat, power, gas, sewage treatment and garbage disposal facilities, and facilities for the storage and parking of vehicles within its corporate limits.

Management of Municipal Utilities:

Section 13.2. All municipally owned and operated utilities shall be administered as a regular department of the city government under the management and supervision of the City Manager.

Rates:

Section 13-3. The Council shall have the power to fix from time to time such just and reasonable rates and other charges as may be deemed advisable for supplying the inhabitants of the city and others with such public utility services as the city may provide. There shall be no discrimination in such rates within any classification of users thereof, nor shall free service be permitted. Higher rates may be charged for service outside the corporate limits of the city.

Utility Rates and Charges - Collection:

Section 13.4. The Council shall provide by ordinance for the collection of all public utility rates and charges of the city. Such ordinance shall provide at least: (a) That the City shall have as security for the collection of such utility rates and charges a lien upon the real property supplied by such utility which, lien shall become
effective immediately upon the supplying of such utility service and shall be enforced in the manner provided in such ordinance. (b) The terms and conditions under which utility services may be discontinued in case of delinquency in paying such rates or charges. (e) That suit may be instituted by the city before a competent tribunal for the collection of such rates or charges.

With respect to the collection of rates charged for water the city shall have all the powers granted to cities by Act 178 of the Public Acts of 1939.

**Disposal of utility Plants and Property:**

Section 13-5. Unless approved by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the electors voting thereon at a regular or special election, the city shall not sell, exchange, lease or in any way dispose of any property, easements, equipment, privilege or asset belonging to and appertaining to any municipally owned public utility which is needed to continue operating such utility. All contracts, negotiations, licenses, grants, leases or other forms of transfer in violation of this section shall be void and of no effect as against the city. The restrictions of this section shall not apply to the sale or exchange of any articles of machinery or equipment of any city owned public utility which are worn out or useless or which have been, or could with advantage to the service be replaced by new and improved machinery or equipment, to the leasing of property not necessary for the operation of the utility, or to the exchange of property or easements for other needed property or easements. It is provided, however, that the provisions of this section shall not extend to vacation or abandonment of streets, as provided by statute.

**Utility Finances:**

Section 13.6. The rates and charges for any municipal utility for the furnishing of water, light, heat, power of gas shall be so fixed as to at least meet all the costs of such utility.
Transactions pertaining to the ownership and operation by the city of each public utility shall be recorded in a separate group of accounts under an appropriate fund caption, which accounts shall be classified in accordance with generally accepted utility accounting practice. Charges for all service furnished to, or rendered by, other city departments or agencies shall be recorded. An annual report shall be prepared to show fairly the financial position of each utility and the results of its operation, which report shall be available for inspection at the office of the Clerk.

CHAPTER 14

PUBLIC UTILITY FRANCHISES

Franchises Remain in Effect:

Section 14.1. All franchises to which the City of Greenville is a party when this charter becomes effective shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their respective terms and conditions.

Granting of Public Utility Franchises:

Section 14.2. Public utility franchises and all renewals and extensions thereof and amendments thereto shall be granted by ordinance only. No exclusive franchise shall ever be granted. No franchise shall be granted for a longer period than thirty (30) years.

No franchise ordinance which, is not subject to revocation at the will of the Council shall be enacted nor become operative until the same shall have first been referred to the people at a regular or special election and received the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the electors voting thereon. No such franchise ordinance shall be approved by the Council for referral to the electorate before thirty (30) days after application therefor has been filed with the Council nor until a public hearing has been held thereon nor until the grantee named therein has filed with the Clerk his unconditional acceptance of all terms of such franchise. No special election for such purpose shall be ordered, unless the expense of holding such election, as determined by the Council shall have first been paid to the Treasurer by the grantee.

A franchise ordinance or renewal or extension thereof or amendment thereto which is subject to revocation at the will of the Council may be enacted by the Council without referral to the voters, but shall not be enacted unless it shall have been complete in the form in which it is finally enacted and shall have so been on file in the office of the Clerk for public inspection for at least four (4) weeks after publication of a notice that such ordinance is so on file.
Conditions of Public Utility Franchises:

Section 14.3. All public utility franchises granted after the adoption of this charter, whether it be so provided in the granting ordinance or not, shall be subject to the following rights of the city, but this enumeration shall not be exclusive or impair the right of the Council to insert in such franchise any provision within the power of the City to impose or require:

(a) To repeal the same for misuse; non-use or failure to comply with the provisions thereof;

(b) To require proper and adequate extension of plant and service and maintenance thereof at the highest practicable standard of efficiency;

(c) To establish reasonable standards of service and quality of products and prevent unjust discrimination in service or rates;

(d) To require continuous and uninterrupted service to the public in accordance with the terms of the franchise throughout the entire period thereof;

(e) To use, control and regulate the use of its streets, alleys, bridges and other public places and the space above and beneath them;

(f) To impose such other regulations as may be determined by the Council to be conducive to the safety, welfare and accommodation of the public.

Regulation of Rates:

Section 14.4. All public utility franchises shall make provision therein for fixing rates, fares and charges, and may provide for readjustments thereof at periodic intervals. The value of the property of the utility used as a basis for fixing such rates, fares and charges shall in no event include a value predicated upon the franchise, goodwill or prospective profits.

Use of Public Places by Utilities:

Section 14.5. Every public utility whether it has a franchise or not, shall pay such part of the cost of improvement or maintenance of streets, alleys, bridges and other public places as shall arise from its use thereof and shall protect and have the city harmless from all damages arising from said use.
Every such public utility may be required by the city to permit joint use of its property and appurtenances located in the streets, alleys and other public places of the city by the city and by other utilities insofar as such joint use may be reasonably practicable and upon payment of reasonable rental therefore. In the absence of agreement and upon application by any public utility, the Council shall provide for arbitration of the terms and conditions of such joint use and the compensation to be paid therefor, and the arbitration award shall be final.

CHAPTER 15

SUPERVISORS

Chapter 15 is hereby deleted and repealed. Election held November 5, 1974.

CHAPTER 16

JUSTICE COURT

Chapter 16 is hereby deleted and repealed. Election held November 5, 1974.

CHAPTER 17

MISCELLANEOUS

City Liability:

Section 17.1. The city shall not be liable for damages sustained by any person either to his person or property by reason of negligence of the city, its officers or employees, nor by reason of any defective highway, street, bridge, sidewalk, crosswalk or culvert, or by reason of any obstruction, ice, snow or other encumbrance upon such highway, street, bridge, sidewalk, crosswalk or culvert, situated in the city, unless such person shall serve or cause to be served upon the Clerk within sixty (60) days after such damages shall have occurred a notice in writing and a statement that the person sustaining such damages intends to hold the city liable for such damages as may have been sustained by him. Such notice shall set forth substantially the time and place of the damages, the manner in which they occurred, the extent of such damages as far as the same has become known, and the names and addresses of the
witnesses known at the time by the claimant. No person shall bring any action against the city for any damages to person or property arising out of any of the reasons or circumstance aforesaid, unless he shall have first presented to the Clerk his claim in writing and under oath setting forth particularly the nature and extent of such injury and the amount of damages claimed by reason thereof, which claim shall be presented to the Council by the Clerk and the Council given opportunity to act thereon either by allowing or refusing to allow such claim.

It shall be a sufficient bar and answer in any court to any action or proceeding for the collection or any demand or, claim against the city under this section that the notice of damages and the verified proof of the claim as in this section required were not presented and filed within the time and in the manner as herein provided.

**No Estoppel:**

Section 17.2. No estoppel may be created against the city.

**Processes Against City:**

Section 17-3. All process against the city shall run against the city in the corporate name thereof and may be served by leaving a true copy with the Mayor, Clerk, or Attorney.

**Vested Rights Continued:**

Section 17.4. After the effective date of this charter, the City shall be vested with all the property, moneys, contracts, rights, credits, effects and the records, files, books and papers belonging to the city.

No right or liability, either in favor of or against the city, existing at the time this charter becomes effective and no suit or prosecution of any character shall in any manner be affected by any change, resulting from the adoption of this charter, but the same shall stand or proceed as if no change had been made. All debts and liabilities of the city shall be the debts and liabilities of the city and all fines and penalties imposed at the time of such change shall be collected.
**Trusts:**

Section 17.5. All trusts established for any municipal purpose shall be used and continued in accordance with the terms of such trust, subject to the doctrine. The Council may in its discretion receive and hold any property in trust for any municipal purpose and shall apply the same to the execution of such trust and for no other purposes, except in cases where the pres doctrine shall apply.

**Vacancies in Appointive Boards and Commissions:**

Section 17.6. Except as otherwise provided in this charter, if a vacancy occurs in the membership of any appointive board or Commission, the authority responsible for the appointment of the person whose position has become vacant shall fill such vacancy by appointment of a qualified person for the unexpired term of such person.

**Quorum:**

Section 17-7. Except as provided otherwise in this charter, a quorum of any board or commission created by or pursuant to this charter shall be a majority of the members of such board or commission in office at the time, but not less than two (2) members.

**Records to be Public:**

Section 17.8. All records of the city shall be public, shall be kept in city offices, except when required for official reasons or for purposes of safe keeping to be elsewhere and shall be available for inspection at all reasonable times.

**Definition of Publication, Mailing of Notices:**

Section 17.9. The requirement contained in this charter for the publishing or publication of notices, ordinances or proceedings shall be met by publishing an appropriate insertion in a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of news of a general character which newspaper shall have had a general circulation at regular intervals in the city for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the time that it is used for such publication purposes. The affidavit of the printer or publisher of such newspaper, or of his foreman or principal clerk, annexed to a printed copy of such notice, ordinance or proceeding taken from the paper in which it was published and specifying the times of publication shall be prima facie evidence of such publication.

In any case in which this charter requires the mailing of notices, the affidavit of the officer or employee responsible for such mailing that such notice was mailed
shall be prima facie evidence of such mailing.

Sundays and Holidays:

Section 17-10. Whenever the date fixed by this charter for the doing or completion of any act falls on a Sunday or legal holiday, such act shall be done or completed on the next succeeding day which is not a Sunday or legal holiday.

Section 17-11. The chapter, section and subsection headings used in this charter are for convenience only and shall not be considered as part of the charter.

Interpretations:

Section 17.12. Except as otherwise specifically provided or indicated by the context:

(a) All words used in this charter indicating the present tense shall not be limited to the time of the adoption of this charter, but shall extent to and include the time of the happening of any event or requirement for which provision is made herein

b) The singular number shall include the plural, the plural number shall include the singular and the masculine gender shall extend to and include the feminine gender and the neuter.

(c) The word “person” may extend and be applied to bodies politic and corporate and to partnerships, as well as individuals.

(d) The words “Printed” and “printing” shall include reproductions by printing, engraving, stencil duplicating, lithographing or any similar method.

(e) Except in reference to signatures, the words “written” and “in writing” shall include printing and typewriting.

(f) The word “officer” shall include the Mayor and other member of the Council, the administrative officers, members of city boards and commissions created by or pursuant to this charter, and the Justices of the Peace.

(g) The word “freeholder” shall be defined to include any person and his spouse who is purchasing property on land contract among its meanings.

(h) The word “default” shall be defined to include being delinquent in taxes among its meanings.
(i) The word “statute” shall denote the Public Acts of the State of Michigan in effect at the time the provision of the charter containing the word “statute” is to be applied.

(j) All references to specific Public Acts of the State of Michigan shall be to such acts as are in effect at the time the reference to such act is to be applied.

(k) The words “law” or “general laws of the State” shall denote the Constitution and the Public Acts of the State of Michigan in effect at the time the provisions of the charter containing the words “law” or “general laws of the State” is to be applied, and applicable common law.

(l) All references to section numbers shall refer to section numbers of this charter.

Penalties for Violations of Charter:

Section 17-13. Any officer of the city found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of any act declared by this charter to constitute misconduct in office may be punished by a fine of not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500) or imprisonment for not to exceed ninety (90) days or both in the discretion of the court. The punishment provided in this section shall be in addition to that of having the office declared vacant as provided in Sections 5.2 and 5.3.

Amendments:

Section 17-14. This charter may be amended at any time in the manner provided by statute. Should two (2) or more amendments adopted at the same election have conflicting provisions the one receiving the largest affirmative vote shall prevail as to those provisions.
Severability of Charter Provision:

Section 17.15. If any provision, section, article or clause of this charter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be found to be invalid by a court, such invalidity shall not affect any remaining portion or application of the charter which can be given effect without the invalid portion or application, provided such remaining portions or applications are not determined by the court to be inoperative and to this end this charter is declared to be severable.

CHAPTER 18

SCHEDULE

Status of Schedule Chapter:

Section 18.1. The purpose of this schedule chapter is to inaugurate the government of the City of Greenville under this charter and it shall constitute a part of said charter only to the extent and for the time required to accomplish that end.

Election to Adopt this Charter:

Section 18.2. This charter shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the City of Greenville at a special election to be held on January 10, 1956. This election shall be conducted by the officers under the existing charter charged with the conduct and supervision of elections, and shall follow the election procedure and be canvassed in the manner provided in the existing city charter.

Form of Ballot:

Section 18.3. The form of the ballot for the submission of this charter shall be as follows:

Instructions: A cross (X) in the square o before the word “Yes” is in favor of the proposed charter, and a cross (X) in the square before the word “No” is against the proposed charter.

Shall the proposed charter for the City of Greenville drafted by the Charter Commission elected on November 2, 1954, be adopted?
Effective Date of this Charter:

Section 18.4. For all purposes not otherwise provided for herein this charter shall take effect on January 16, 1956 at 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

First Officers Under Charter:

Section 18.5. (a) The Mayor, each member of the Council and the Justices of the Peace, who held office at the time that this charter became law as the charter of the City of Greenville shall continue in the office so held by them for the balance of the term of office to which they were elected. Thereafter, their successors shall be elected and shall qualify for, assume, and hold offices to which they have been elected or appointed in accordance with the provisions of this charter.

(b) The Mayor and the Councilmen of the City of Greenville who held such offices at the time this charter became law as the charter of the city, shall constitute the Council of the City of Greenville, subject to the provisions of this charter, until such time as the terms of office to which they were elected or appointed shall expire and their successors in office have been elected or appointed and have assumed the duties of such office as provided in this charter.

(c) The City Clerk, Treasurer, Supervisors and Constables who held office at the time this charter became law as the charter of the City of Greenville shall continue in the office for the balance of the term of office to which they were elected. Thereafter, their successors shall be appointed in accordance with the provision of this charter.

Continuation of Appointed Officers and Employee:

Section 18.6. Except as otherwise provided herein, after the effective date of this charter all appointive officers and all employees of the city shall continue in that city office or employment which corresponds to the city office or employment which they held prior to the effective date of the charter as though they had been appointed or employed in the manner provided in this
charter, and they shall in all respects be subject to the provisions of this charter; except that the terms of office of all members of the Board of Review shall terminate as provided in Section 18.7. and except that any officer or employee who holds a position which this charter provides be held at the pleasure of the appointing officer or body shall hold such position only at such pleasure, regardless of the term for which originally appointed.

First Board of Review:

Section 18.7. The terms of all members of the Board of Review existing under the previous charter of the city shall expire on January 10, 1956. On January 16, 1956, the Council shall appoint a Board of Review of three freeholders who meet the qualifications for such office provided in this charter, and shall fix their compensation. one such member shall be designated to serve for a term expiring in January, 1957, one for a term expiring in January, 1958, and one for a term expiring in January, 1959.

Interim Financial Provision:

Section 18.8. The Council shall, at its first meant on January 16, 1956, by resolution continue as city appropriations the unencumbered balances of the appropriations made pursuant to the previous charter until March 31, 1956, and these appropriations shall then be deemed to be city appropriations and the fiscal year under the previous charter shall be completed by the city as though no governmental change had been made. At the close of business on March 31, 1956, the balances of all appropriations no encumbered shall, subject to statutory restrictions, revert to the general fund of the city for reappropriation during the next fiscal period.

The period from April 1, 1956, to June 30, 1956, inclusive, shall constitute a special interim fiscal budget and tax period to accomplish the transition from the previously existing fiscal period. A budget for such special fiscal period shall be prepared, adopted and administered in accordance with Section 8.2 to 8.5 inclusive, except that the City Manager shall submit the budget to the Council on or before March 1, 1956. At the time of the adoption of the budget, the Council shall appropriate the money needed for municipal purposes for the three month interim fiscal period and shall provide a tax levy of the amount necessary to be raised by taxes upon real and personal property for such purposes. Such levy shall not exceed one-fourth of the annual limit of one and one-half percent of the assessed value of all real and personal property, subject to taxation in the city. Such levy shall be spread on the tax roll which becomes due and payable on July 1, 1956, in addition to the regular
taxes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1956, and the amounts of taxes for these two levies may be combined for the purpose of convenience in spreading of the roll
and preparation of the tax bills. Taxes for the interim period shall be collected in all respects as provided in this charter for the collection of city taxes. There shall be an audit of this interim fiscal period in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.7.
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

At a regular meeting of the Charter Commission of the City of Greenville held on the 29th day of September, 1956, the following resolution was offered by Commissioner Daane:

RESOLVED: That the Charter Commission of the City of Greenville does hereby adopt the foregoing proposed charter for the City of Greenville and the Secretary of this Commission is directed (1) to transmit copies of this charter to the Governor of the State of Michigan for his approval in accordance with statute, (2) to file with the City Clerk a copy of this charter on November 10, 1956 and (3) to cause this proposed charter to be published in The Daily News of Greenville, Michigan, on December 27, 1955.

The resolution was seconded by Commissioner Highfield, and adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Walker, Roell, Highfield, Daane, Jaehnig, Edsall.

Nays: None.

Abstained: Root, Robinson, Irish.

The Chairman declared the foregoing resolution carried and requested the members of the Charter Commission to authenticate said resolution and also the copies of the Charter to be presented to the Governor and filed with the City Clerk by attesting their names thereto in the following manner:

C. B. Root
Lawrence Robinson
Arthur Roell
Lloyd Walker
Homer Daane
Robert Edsall
Paul Irish
Walter Jaehnig
Jack Highfield

Amended by vote of the people on November 5, 1974. Amended by vote of the people on November 6, 1979.