

Home Rule Charter Language "Footnotes of Intent"

The following is a brief line-by-line description of intent for the sub-committee approved Home Rule Charter language.

17. Enables the city to utilize statutory powers granted to Home Rule Charter cities.
 - a. After in-depth discussions, it was agreed to minimally define in the Home Rule Charter what would be covered by the new "street maintenance fee." The subcommittee intends that the ordinance list very specifically defines what the new fee would cover and requires annual unanimous approval of the city commission to go beyond that. The sub-committee will not oppose placing detail lists in the Home Rule Charter if the commission wishes to go that route.
 - b. This line assumes the city commission wishes to pay off the existing street maintenance specials. This line can be redacted if the commission decides not to go down that road. The subcommittee would not oppose such action but would like to make it clear that it would require even more transitional planning. There are no easy or right solutions to this particular piece of the equation.
 - c. The sub-committee placed this requirement in the Home Rule Language to ensure the public has a general idea of what to expect from the city on street maintenance in the near and mid-term.
 - d. The sub-committee agreed that there should be a requirement for policies limiting both minimum ending fund balance and maximum ending fund balance. We did not agree on approach or language but gave further suggestions in the attached "Memo."
 - e. To address concerns by the park district and school district, we want to make it clear that the city will take the lead on fixing state law that affects them on implementing this new fee, OR that the city will negotiate with the schools and parks to find a solution. Burleigh County was not included in this list as it is not subject to the types of mill levy limitations the schools and parks are.