



Meeting Minutes City Commission

Monday, December 19, 2022
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Bonsall, Davis, Hanley, Mayer, Smith, Stonehouse

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Mayer read the upcoming holiday schedule for City Hall offices, which will be closed Dec. 23, 26 and 30, as well as on Jan. 2.

Boards and Committees

1. Appointment(s)

Lauren Tilma, Public Art Commission, for an unexpired term ending 02-26-23 and term ending 02-26-26

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to Approve the appointment of Lauren Tilma to the Public Art Commission for the terms listed, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously.

Public Comments - Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments.

There were no members of the public to make public comment.

Presentation(s)

2. Election Board, by City Clerk Kyle Whitney

City Clerk Kyle Whitney offered an update on the activities of the City Election Board, as well as a review of the election season in the City. Some discussion with the City Commission followed, with Commissioners and the Clerk talking about the average cost of a City election and possible impacts of changes spurred by Proposal 2. Commissioners voiced a sincere appreciation for the local work done in elections, especially by the scores of workers that help in the precincts on Election Day.

3. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

3.a. Approve the minutes of the December 12, 2022 regular Commission meeting

3.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$ 1,025,375.85

3.c. Community Development Block Grant Certifying Officer Authorization

3.d. Schedule Public Hearing- Community Development Block Grant

3.e. Superior Watershed Partnership - Lease

New Business

4. Charter Study Group

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the appointment of a Charter Study Group comprised of the City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney and direct the group to determine the need for amendments to the City Charter within one year; also direct the City Manager to plan for and schedule at least one public hearing in 2023 to obtain public feedback on this topic, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

5. City Commissioner Appointment

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to utilize paper ballots to arrive at a consensus in order to appoint a new City Commissioner, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis.

Prior to calling for a vote on the motion, Mayor Mayer provided a privileged comment period to the applicants that were in attendance at the meeting.

Perry David Allen, John Braamse, Peter Frazier, Tom Hogan, Jerney Ottaway, Tony Tollefson and Sarah Wiensch were each provided with three minutes during which they told the City Commission why they felt they would make a good choice as the next City Commissioner. Applicant Alexi Koltowicz was not present at the meeting.

Following these comments, the Commission voted on the motion to use a paper balloting process, which carried unanimously.

Commissioners then utilized paper ballots to indicate their top choice among all applicants. On the first vote, Jerney Ottaway received 6 votes.

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to Approve the appointment of Jermei Ottaway to the vacancy created by Jenn Hill's resignation, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously.

The City Clerk then administered the oath of office to incoming Commissioner Ottaway, who joined the rest of the City Commission.

Public Comments - Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments.

There were no members of the public to make public comment.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Smith wished everyone a happy holidays, and recommended the laser light show on the ore dock. She reminded everyone that the Commission does not have another meeting until Jan. 9, and congratulated Commissioner Ottaway.

Commissioner Stonehouse congratulated Commissioner Ottaway, and said this is the fourth time he has taken part in the selection process to fill a Commission vacancy. He said it is important that the applicants that were not appointed tonight remain involved with the City. He wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Commissioner Ottaway thanked the City Commission for his appointment. He said he is better for being involved with the City and he urged people to get involved in any way they can.

Commissioner Bonsall congratulated Commissioner Ottaway and thanked him for his service to the community to this point. He thanked all applicants and urged them to stay involved. He stated a hope that the Commission would be able to have a special meeting next month to discuss housing issues.

Commissioner Hanley congratulated Commissioner Ottaway. She said the options were great and the decision was tough, but that she is pleased with the outcome. She wished everyone a happy holiday and urged safety, especially with the incoming winter weather.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis welcomed Commissioner Ottaway and stated that the DDA board will now be without his services.

Mayor Mayer thanked all applicants tonight, and said he hopes everyone stays involved. He noted that there are three seats up for election in the next year, and he looks forward to seeing people file.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Kovacs thanked the first responders and public works employees that will be dealing with the impending winter storm. She said staff will be reaching out to Commissioner Ottaway in order to do an orientation for his new role.

Adjournment

Mayor Mayer adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Cody O. Mayer, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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