

The Special Council Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Councilmember Mayor Gregg Nelson at the Conference Room, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 230, City of North Oaks, Minnesota. Present were Mayor Gregg Nelson; Councilmembers Marty Long, Katy Ross, Rick Kingston, and Kara Ries, and Recording Secretary Gretchen Needham.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Long moved to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kingston and passed unanimously.

Review of Planning Commission Applicants

Councilmember Kingston and Councilmember Ross interviewed nine applicants for openings on the Planning Commission (one withdrew his application), leaving eight candidates. Highly qualified applicants responded from the community.

Due to vacancies, there are three openings on the Planning Commission. Councilmember Kingston put forth three candidates to fill those positions that he and Councilmember Ross agreed on: Stig Hauge, Sara Shah, and Mark Azman.

Councilmember Ross noted it is important to pick the best qualified candidates. She believes other candidates from the pool of eight may also be worthy candidates.

Councilmember Ries mentioned she had earlier requested to interview candidates and the request was denied. She suggested going through each of the candidates one by one at this meeting.

Councilmember Long made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kingston, to approve the slate of three candidates. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Hara has had a lot of building experience and would be both Councilmember Kingston and Councilmember Ross's fourth choice; fifth choice for Councilmembers Ross and Kingston would be Nick Sandel, who served on Little Canada's planning commission. Councilmember Ries recommended Rich Dujmovic, and Councilmember Kingston pointed out that he may have conflicts and have to recuse himself due to his home being close to the East Oaks PUD and past comments he's made at public hearings.

Mayor Nelson thanked Councilmembers Kingston and Ross for conducting the interviews.

Councilmember Long made a motion to select Stig Hauge, Sara Shah, and Mark Azman for the open seats on Planning Commission. Mayor Nelson and Councilmembers Kingston and Long voted yay; Councilmembers Ries and Ross voted nay. The vote was 3-2 in favor of the motion and passed.

Review of 2019 Council Responsibilities

Councilmember Ross noted that the list of responsibilities for the Council was only released the night of the meeting. She felt there wasn't enough time to consider the responsibilities as they are currently drawn up and discuss them; an example would be City Administrator Mike Robertson listed as an alternate for certain roles rather than a City Councilmember as an alternate so he/she can keep that knowledge and bring it into his/her role on the Council.

Councilmember Long said that in his memory, the responsibilities are not usually released and discussed ahead of time.

Mayor Nelson would like to see alternates rotate every year.

Councilmember Long suggested Mayor Nelson be the alternate for police liaison and that Councilmember Ries be the alternate for fire department liaison.

Councilmember Long made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kingston, that Mayor Nelson become the alternate for police liaison and Councilmember Ries become the alternate for fire department liaison. The motion passed unanimously.

Correction to the Packet Materials

Councilmember Ries asked that a sentence be removed from City Administrator Robertson's memo stating that two Planning Commission meetings were move due to potential lack of attendance. The sentence reads: "The Planning Commission also moved two meetings in an attempt to satisfy those who could not attend on the regular date." Mayor Nelson noted and agreed to the correction.

Other BusinessThere was no other business.

Adjournment

On motion duly made by Mayor Nelson, seconded by Councilmembers Long and Ries and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Attest:

Respectfully Submitted

Mayor Gregg Nelson

Gretchen Needham
Recording Secretary