

LEAVENWORTH SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
April 20, 2016

Mayor Farivar called the April 20, 2016 Leavenworth City Council Special meeting to order at 1:00 PM and Councilmember Francis led the City Council in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar, Robert Francis, Elmer Larsen, Carolyn Wilson, Gretchen Wearne, Mia Bretz, and Margaret Neighbors.

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Walinski, City Attorney Tom Graafstra, and Chantell Steiner.

Council Candidate Sharon Waters thanked the Council for the opportunity to participate in this process; however, she is withdrawing her application due to recent surgery and medical recovery needs. She feels that it is in the best interest of the City for her to remove herself as she is not sure of the level of commitment she could provide in the near future and it is important to her to do a quality job; she stated that there are several other qualified applicants.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. Motion to Select Process for Candidate Appointment

City Administrator Joel Walinski reviewed the options presented for the process for making a candidate appointment. He stated that the main difference between the two alternatives is whether or not the council members' names are included during the ballot process to reduce the number of candidates from six to the top two. He said that the votes made are public information and will be included in the minutes of the meeting. Council discussed options for stating the votes aloud as they occur and the various options available. Administrator Walinski stated that either process will meet the Open Meetings Act and Public Records Act.

Councilmember Larsen motioned to select Alternative B as the process to interview and select the candidate to appoint to the Position #6 vacant council seat. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilson and passed unanimously.

2. Conduct Candidate Interviews for Open Position No. 6 City Council Seat

Beginning at 1:17 PM interviews began with the following interviews occurring:

Jason Lundgren	1:17 PM – 1:34 PM
John Bangsund	1:36 PM – 1:54 PM
Joel Martinez	1:56 PM – 2:08 PM

Council recessed for a 5-minute break.

Robert Parrish	2:13 PM – 2:33 PM
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Councilmember Francis motioned to recess the interviews until the next applicant arrives on schedule with the interviews continuing at 3:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Neighbors and passed unanimously. Council reconvened at 3:15 PM.

Richard Brinkman 3:17 PM – 3:33 PM
Gary Thebault 3:35 PM – 3:55 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION: RCW 42.30.110 (1)(h) Evaluate Qualifications of Candidates for Appointment to Elective Office

Mayor Farivar stated that she will need a motion from Council to enter into Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(h) to evaluate qualifications of candidates for appointment to elective office for 20 minutes with action to be taken.

Councilmember Francis motioned to enter into Executive Session at 3:57 PM under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(h) to evaluate qualifications of candidates for appointment to elective office for 20 minutes with action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wearne and passed unanimously.

At 4:17 PM City Attorney Tom Graafstra announced to the public that the Executive Session will be continued for an additional 10 minutes.

Council reconvened into regular session at 4:27 PM.

Council members proceeded with Alternative B to first select the top two candidates. It was noted that in the event of a tie (except a tie among the top two), that the process would be repeated until two candidates only are identified with the most votes. Once the top two candidates are selected then the Mayor could vote in the case of a tie.

The tallied votes for the first round of voting resulted in 4 votes for Jason Lundgren, 3 votes for John Bangsund, 1 vote for Joel Martinez, 1 vote for Robert Parrish, and 3 votes for Richard Brinkman; due to the tie for the 2nd top candidate the Council repeated the voting process.

The tallied votes for the second round of voting resulted in 4 votes for Jason Lundgren, 3 votes for John Bangsund, 1 vote for Robert Parrish, and 4 votes for Richard Brinkman; Jason Lundgren and Richard Brinkman were identified as the top two candidates.

The tallied votes for the third round resulted in 3 votes for Jason Lundgren and 3 votes for Richard Brinkman. Due to the tie on the final vote Mayor Farivar announced that she will vote to break the tie; she stated that this is very difficult but based on the experience factors of the candidates she will cast her tie breaking vote for Richard Brinkman.

3. Motion to Appoint Candidate to Open Position No. 6 City Council Seat

Mayor Farivar and the Council thanked all of the candidates for participating today and encouraged them to continue seeking participation into public office positions.

Councilmember Francis motioned that the Leavenworth City Council moves to appoint Richard Brinkman to fill the vacancy Position Number 6 of the Leavenworth City Council effective April 20, 2016 through the term of office, December 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilson and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Councilmember Neighbors motioned to adjourn the April 20, 2016 Special meeting of the Leavenworth City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Francis and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

APPROVED



Cheryl K. Farivar
Mayor

ATTEST



Chantell Steiner
Finance Director / City Clerk