

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE
GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2011
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE held on THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2011 in the DOWNSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM, located at CITY HALL, 201 SOUTH CORTEZ STREET, Prescott, Arizona.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Suttles called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

City Attorney Kidd advised that the meeting should be put on hold until a quorum was present.

Meeting opened back up at 9:07 a.m. by Chairman Suttles.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

Chairman Mary Ann Suttles
Councilman Steve Blair
Councilman John Hanna

Other Attendees:

Gary Kidd, City Attorney
Shawni McAtee, City of Prescott
Don Steele, KYCA
Cindy Barks, Prescott Daily Courier
Lynne LaMaster, Prescott e-News
Frank Scott, applicant
Dwight Jaeger, applicant

City Attorney Kidd advised that the meeting should be adjourned and reconvened in a new location due to space availability.

CHAIRMAN SUTTLES MOVED TO ADJOURN DUE TO SPACE AVAILABILITY AND RECONVENE IN THE CITY HALL DOWNSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HANNA; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Appointment Committee Meeting reconvened at 9:08 a.m. in the City Hall Downstairs Conference Room by Chairman Suttles.

3. Approval of the Council Appointment Committee Meeting Minutes

COUNCILMAN HANNA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 19, 2011 COUNCIL APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN BLAIR; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Review of applications and selection of applicants to be interviewed on July 19, 2011, for the City Council vacant seat.

Chairman Suttles started the discussion by announcing that there were 20 applicants for this interim seat, and said that when discussing the applicants it would be advisable to mention only their names and not to release other personal information for privacy reasons. She asked the other committee members if they had anything to add.

Councilman Hanna said that he was pleased to see so many people that want to work with the community. Councilman Blair said the he would like to determine the criteria that they were looking for to fill this interim seat.

Chairman Suttles asked if someone would read the list of applicant names before they discussed criteria. Councilman Hanna read the 20 names listed below:

Robert Cihan
Daniel Gilliam
Ralph Hess
Melanie Jacobson
Dr. Dwight Jaeger
Edmund Kahn
Robert Luzius
Lucy Mason
Trey Newton
Don Riley

Bob Roecker
Len Scamardo
Frank Scott
Stephen Silvernale
John Stevens
David Stringer
Roger Swenson
Ann-Marie Taylor
Anthony Vilardo
Alex Weber

Councilman Blair said that he looked through the list and narrowed his selections down due to service to the community, service on boards, or government involvement as these experiences would give those applicants knowledge of the process. There was only four months in this interim position and it was post budget and pre-election so he was looking for someone familiar with the processes for this short time period. He mentioned that he saw five lawyers in the list and questioned the possibility of conflict of legal opinion of the City Legal department.

Councilman Hanna reiterated that this interim seat was only for four months and there was a learning curve and a limited time frame. He was looking for someone with experience with City issues, had been on Council, or worked for the City as they were familiar with the avenues that needed to be taken to get things done. He

also looked for other government involvement such as boards, committees, etc. He also mentioned that he was leery of attorneys due to conflict with City legal advice.

Chairman Suttles said that she went through the list a couple times to make sure that she viewed it with new eyes. She said that she had a few questions about a few applicants. She asked about one applicant that currently sits on the Planning and Zoning Board.

After discussing the issue and with some legal advice from City Attorney Kidd it was decided that if the Board member missed more than 30% of the committee meetings the seat would be automatically vacated and the Council Appointment Committee could appoint someone to that spot. The outgoing Board member would be able to reapply at a later date if desired.

Councilman Blair's selections:

Ralph Hess – past City employee
Bob Luzius – former City councilmember
Lucy Mason – former councilmember and State Representative
Trey Newton – past City employee
Bob Roecker – former City councilmember
Len Scamardo – Planning and Zoning Board
Roger Swenson – former manager of Dewey/Humboldt
Ann-Marie Taylor – served on council of another community

Councilman Hanna's selections:

Ralph Hess – past City employee
Trey Newton – past City employee
Bob Roecker – former City councilmember
(Did not select Mr. Luzius as running for office is a conflict)
Len Scamardo – Planning and Zoning Board

Chairman Suttles said that she was looking for someone that was interested in just the interim position not for the long run, and she mentioned that she was disappointed that there were so many willing to sign up for the four month spot but very few willing to get signatures for the two year position. Councilman Blair agreed and removed Mr. Luzius from the list as he was running as a write-in candidate.

Chairman Suttles's selections:

Roger Swenson - was manager of Dewey/Humboldt
John Stevens – Citizens Tax Committee
(serving as a campaign treasurer, possible conflict?)
Len Scamardo – Planning and Zoning
Bob Roecker – former City councilmember, and only interested as a fill in
Lucy Mason – former City councilmember and State Representative
Melanie Jacobsen –United Way, community involvement

Matt Podracky, Senior Assistant City Attorney arrived at 9:46 a.m. when City Attorney Kidd left.

The Committee narrowed the list down to the applicants with votes in common, and agreed that the ones with three votes were automatically on the list and they would narrow the four applicants that had two votes, down to two to make a total short list of four applicants.

Len Scamardo – 3 votes
Bob Roecker – 3 votes
Lucy Mason – 2 votes
Ralph Hess – 2 votes
Roger Swenson – 2 votes
Trey Newton – 2 votes

The Committee agreed to base the selection criteria for the four applicants with two votes on specific government/council experience so that the selected person would be able to jump in and hit the ground running. The Committee agreed that Lucy Mason and Roger Swenson had that specific related experience.

The Committee will meet again on Friday morning to discuss the process of the interviews and the questions for the candidates. Matt Podracky, Senior Assistant City Attorney said that he would notify the selected applicants. Chairman Suttles asked if the Press or the public that were present had any questions.

Dr. Dwight Jaeger, who was an applicant, said that he thought it was a good process and good criteria. He understood that they were looking for specific experience since 4 months was a limited amount of time. Frank Scott, also an applicant, said that the Committee did a good job and thought they used good criteria. He said that Roecker was his choice.

Lynne LaMaster, Prescott e-News asked if the Committee would be opposed to any of those selected for this interim position deciding to take out papers to run. Chairwoman Suttles said that she would, as this process was simply to fill a spot, and running for an office would be a conflict. Councilman Blair agreed, and said that nobody turned in packets for the two year position and this interim position was not a launch pad for that. Councilman Hanna also agreed and said that was the reason that he excluded Bob Luzius.

CHAIRMAN SUTTLES MOVED TO INTERVIEW FOUR CANDIDATES CONSISTING OF BOB ROECKER, LEN SCAMARDO, LUCY MASON, AND ROGER SWENSON ON JULY 19, 2011; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HANNA; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to be discussed, the Council Appointment Committee Meeting of July 14, 2011, adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

MARY ANN SUTTLES, Chairman

Attest:

ELIZABETH A. BURKE, City Clerk