



SPECIAL BEXLEY CITY COUNCIL
Friday, March 9, 2012
9:00 AM

City Council President – Rick Weber
Council Members Steve Keyes, Matt Lampke,
Tim Madison, Mark Masser, Richard Sharp

Mayor, Ben Kessler
Auditor/Clerk – Gary Qualmann
City Attorney – Lou Chodosh

MINUTES

- I. Call to order – 9:00 a.m.**
- II. Roll Call: All Council members present.**
- III. Others in Attendance: Beecher Hale, Bill Harvey and Bruce Langner.**
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance**
- V. Discussion and Appointment of New Council member to fill vacant seat of former Council member Ben Kessler.**

President Weber gave a brief recap to explain why there is a vacant Council position available. He said due to the sad passing of John Brennan, a member of Council was voted to fill the Mayoral vacancy. Council began accepting resumes from interested residents. As of the final application date of February 24th, there were nine applicants. These applicants were interviewed at a public meeting on March 5th and March 6th. Council adjourned into Executive Session on March 6th at the conclusion of all interviews to discuss the applicants' strengths and weaknesses.

Following the Roberts Rule of Order he will ask Council members for nominations. Those nominations must be seconded. The audience will have an



opportunity for discussion and a vote will be taken from all Council members. In order for the nomination to pass, the motion must receive four or more votes. If the motion fails, I will ask for another motion. If no motion is passed, Council will adjourn. There is a 60 day time period in order to fill this position and at that point, the Mayor would appoint a Council member.

Mr. Keyes said this process has been wonderful and all nine candidates have outstanding qualifications and would serve Council well. Mr. Keyes made a motion to nominate Anne Lewis. Mr. Lampke seconded the motion.

Mr. Masser made a motion to nominate Jan Zupnick. He said he ran for election to City Council and received votes from the residents. He thinks he is the most qualified. Motion was seconded by Mr. Lampke.

Mr. Lampke said with the full understanding that only person can be appointed, he would make a motion to nominate all of the candidates and wanted to recognize them for their efforts in applying. President Weber explained you are not permitted to make a motion for a "group" of individuals. It would have to be made individually. Mr. Lampke made a motion for Ms. Feibel, motion was seconded by Mr. Sharp. Mr. Lampke made a motion for Mr. Lyman. President Weber stated Council members are only allowed to nominate one individual each. Mr. Lampke said he would rely on the President's research.

Mr. Sharp made a motion to close the nomination portion of the meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Madison. President Weber said there were a total of three nominations:

Anne Lewis
Jan Zupnick
Lori Ann Feibel

Mr. Madison said there are nine very qualified people and this is a humbling process and he hopes the other eight will consider running for office in the future. He said this has been one of the hardest decisions he has had to make.

Mr. Keyes said he echoes those sentiments. He found all applicants to be genuine and authentic. It has been a very difficult decision.

Mr. Sharp said he agrees with the previous comments and it is especially difficult only being able to select one applicant. Each person had unique talents to offer to the City and he is hoping they will decide to become involved in some committees and other projects as well.

Mr. Masser said he felt the Council members owed an explanation regarding their individual nominations. He said he nominated Jan Zupnick because he



thinks outside the box. He also parallels why he is here. He said 2,500 people voted for Mr. Zupnick during the election. He said all of the applicants are very qualified and he said it is people like them that make Bexley the special place that it is to live.

Mr. Lampke said there is nothing to add that has not already been stated about the outstanding qualifications of these candidates. Mr. Madison said this has been a very hard process because he is good friends with some of the candidates. He did want to state that Anne Lewis had served on the Bexley Celebrations Association for years and said she did not want to be in charge the following year. No one else wanted to do it so she graciously accepted the responsibility again. He has worked with Anne on both the BCA and other avenues and does think she is the very best person for this position.

Mr. Masser said he would be remiss to explain that a "no" vote toward the motion to appoint Ms. Lewis is certainly no reflection on her abilities or qualifications. He just thinks Mr. Zupnick is more qualified.

President Weber said he echoes everyone's comments about the quality of applicants and it never ceases to amaze him how many residents are willing to step forward to help the City.

President Weber said since there were no further comments, they would proceed to vote on the nomination for Anne Lewis to serve as City Council member. **Vote was 5-1 (Mr. Masser voted no). Motion Passed.**

President Weber congratulated Ms. Lewis and said she would be sworn in at the next Council meeting on March 13, 2012.

VI. Adjourned: 9:20 a.m.

