

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, December 7, 2020

Regular Meeting

Item Minutes4

Council to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2020 Special Meeting.

Staff Contact: Kim Wright, City Clerk

Special Meeting
November 30, 2020

The Scottsbluff City Council met in a Special Meeting on Monday, November 30, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff, NE. The meeting was requested by a written call therefor by Interim City Manager Kuckkahn. A notice of the meeting had been published on November 27, 2020 in the Star Herald, a newspaper published and of general circulation of the city. The notice stated the date, hour and place of the meeting; that the meeting would be open to the public and that anyone attending was encouraged to wear a mask and to respect social distance guidelines. It also stated that anyone with a disability desiring reasonable accommodation to attend the council meeting should contact the city clerk's office and that an agenda of the meeting kept continuously current was available for public inspection at the office of the city clerk in City Hall; provided, the city council could modify the agenda at the meeting if it determined that an emergency so required. A similar notice, together with a copy of the agenda, also had been delivered to each council member, made available to radio stations KNEB, KMOR, KOAQ, and television stations KSTF and KDUH, and the Star Herald. The notice was also available on the City's website on November 27, 2020. Mayor Raymond Gonzales presided and City Clerk Wright recorded the proceedings. Mayor Gonzales welcomed everyone and informed those in attendance that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for the public's review. The following Council Members were present: Raymond Gonzales, Jeanne McKerrigan, Scott Shaver, Nathan Green and Terry Schaub. Absent: None. Also present were Interim City Manager Rick Kuckkahn and City Attorney Kent Hadenfeldt.

Mayor Gonzales stated no other business shall be transacted at the special meeting unless all Council Members are present to consent and the City Council declares the existence of an emergency. He then asked if there was such an emergency. There was none.

Mayor Gonzales began discussion regarding the vetting process for City Manager Candidates to get a final pool. Council Member Schaub made a motion, seconded by Council Member McKerrigan to move City Manager finalists Scott McClure, Dustin, Rief, and Seth Sorensen forward to interview with City Council, "YEAS," McKerrigan, Shaver, Green, Schaub, and Gonzales. "NAYS," None. Absent: None.

Mr. Dustin Rief was then welcomed by Council, with each member given the opportunity to ask questions they thought were of importance. Questions asked ranged from what Mr. Rief appreciated about Scottsbluff, what he saw were significant opportunities and challenges for the City, and what he thought were potential impacts to City operations resulting from the pandemic. He was also asked how he views the City Manager position and how he sees himself making the transition from City Administrator with respect to staff and what he expects from Council to be successful.

Mr. Rief addressed Council and explained how happy he is to have this opportunity. He cited that a community's biggest asset is its people and commented how friendly the people of Scottsbluff have been to him. He added he is willing to stay in the position as long as Council would have him and emphasized that communication and support is the key to a good working relationship. He believes in treating all Council Members equally and also believes the consensus is for the City to move in the right direction. Regarding staff and his role, Mr. Rief addressed transition and succession planning as ways to address potential issues. His would like to focus on a long term vision as far as business; hospitality; and tourism are concerned commenting with the pandemic, our biggest challenge is to find a way to support their efforts as much as we can so they can have sustainability in the future.

At the conclusion of the interview, Council thanked Mr. Rief for taking the time to visit Scottsbluff, meet the community and interview for the position of City Manager

Council Member Schaub moved, seconded by Council Member Shaver to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m., “YEAS,” Green, McKerrigan, Shaver, Gonzales, and Schaub. “NAYS,” None. Absent: None.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

“SEAL”