

Special City Commission Meeting - Interim City Manager Selection (Tuesday, March 7, 2023)

Generated by Amanda Brown on Tuesday, March 7, 2023

A. MEETING OPENER

Procedural: 1. Call To Order - Roll Call

- Meeting Called to order by Mayor Redman at 6:00 PM.
- Present: Commissioner Sirmones, Commissioner Hendrix, Vice Mayor Stegall, Mayor Redman, City Attorney Maines, and Interim City Clerk Sapp

Procedural: 2. Opening Prayer

- Opening Prayer led by Mayor Redman.

Procedural: 3. Pledge of Allegiance

- Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Redman.

Action: 4. Approval of The Agenda Format

- **Motion to approve the agenda format was made by Vice Mayor Stegall and seconded by Commissioner Sirmones.**
 - **Unanimous Approval**

B. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER

Discussion: 1. Review of Interim City Manager Applications

- The Commission was presented with one resume from a Union County resident and one from Bradford County.
- Mayor Redman questioned if the Commission would be interested in extending the search beyond Union County and extending the date for submission. Commissioner Hendrix countered that there is an immediate need for leadership to solve staffing issues and continue the ongoing audit and that there is a solid candidate that has applied and would like to move forward with the selection.
- **Motion to approve Richard Tillis as the Interim City Manager was made by Commissioner Hendrix and seconded by Vice Mayor Stegall.**
 - **For: Commissioner Sirmones, Commissioner Hendrix, Vice Mayor Stegall**
 - **Against: Mayor Redman**
 - **Motion Carried**

Discussion: 2. Negotiating Compensation for Interim Manager

- Commissioner Hendrix invited Mr. Richard Tillis to speak regarding his requested salary.
- Mr. Tillis addressed that he was City Manager for the City when the current City Hall was being built and was the contracted builder to complete the trim work in the Commission Chambers. He is currently retired but is concerned about the financial footing of the City. There was \$1.4 million in unreserved funds upon his retirement from the City. He believes it is the Commission's duty to make laws and establish policy and, as an administrator, it is the manager's job to manage it in the manner intended by the Commission and that the Commission has the general oversight of the community. He stated that if an issue is brought to the manager and cannot be resolved, new management should be found.
- Mr. Tillis is aware of the amount paid to the previous manager and would like to be paid the same for his interim. He would not require the hospitalization stipend, retirement benefit, or housing allowance.
- Mr. Sapp explained that he investigated the requirements of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) at the request of Mr. Maines. Mr. Tillis would not have to be personally enrolled, but FRS distinguishes the person from the position. Though the employee will not have to pay in and would not receive anything, the City would be liable to pay a percentage of the employee's pay to FRS. He will research the exact percentage.

- The proposed rate of pay for the Interim City Manager position is \$75 per hour at 40 hours per week. A contract will be negotiated between Mr. Tillis and Mr. Maines for employment to begin on March 8, 2023, with the contract presented to the Commission at the March 21, 2023, regular meeting.
- **Motion to appoint Richard Tillis as Interim City Manager at \$75 per hour not to exceed 40 hours per week was made by Commissioner Hendrix and seconded by Vice Mayor Stegall.**
 - **Unanimous Approval**

Action: 3. Appointment of Interim City Manager

- **Motion to appoint Richard Tillis as Interim City Manager, effective immediately, and for Mr. Tillis and Mr. Maines to negotiate a contract and bring it before the Commission at the next regular meeting was made by Commissioner Hendrix and seconded by Vice Mayor Stegall.**
 - **Unanimous Approval**
- Mr. Maines will meet with Mr. Tillis, Mayor Redman, and City staff at 1:30 PM in the Commission Chambers at City Hall on March 8, 2023. This is mandatory for all employees.

C. ADJOURNMENT

Action: 1. Adjourn

- **Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Mayor Stegall and seconded by Commissioner Hendrix.**
 - **Unanimous Approval**
 - Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.