

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
CONCORD CITY COUNCIL  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER  
1950 PARKSIDE DRIVE  
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

The Concord City Council met in a special meeting in the Council Chamber located at 1950 Parkside Drive at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, with Mayor Hoffmeister presiding. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Obringier. Minutes follow in abbreviated form per Resolution 3361 and Council Minutes of September 26, 1966.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Edi Birsan, Ron Leone, Carlyn Obringier, Laura Hoffmeister

STAFF PRESENT: Valerie Barone, City Manager; Susanne Brown, City Attorney; Joelle Fockler, City Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

WHO ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL: Robyn Kuslits, Concord; Blaine Carter, Concord; Tim Carr, Concord; Joe Partansky, Concord; Paul Poston, Concord; Jeff Koertzen, Concord

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Robyn Kuslits, Concord, requested that the City Council affirm Concord as a sanctuary city.

Blaine Carter, Concord, requested a traffic study be conducted on McKean Drive.

Tim Carr, Concord, referred to a potential conflict of interest memo written by the City Attorney and requested an explanation of what the 500' rule means.

Joe Partansky, Concord, stated that the verbiage on City Council Agendas regarding public testimony of consideration items is vague, the City Clerk is hard to find on the City's webpage, and the City Treasurer and Finance webpages do not link together.

DETERMINE CITY COUNCIL APPLICANT INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

City Clerk Joelle Fockler gave a report requesting the Council to determine interview questions, conduct interviews for the City Councilmember vacancy, appoint a City Councilmember, and ratify the appointment by adopting Resolution No. 17-8. She reported that there were seven applicants scheduled to interview, and the applicants, in interview order, were: Terry E. Kremin, Harmesh Kumar, Ajit K. Kaushal, Susan T. Swift, Andrew J. Dodd, Timothy A. McGallian, and Hope A. Johnson. Ms. Fockler noted that the interview order was determined by the Secretary of State randomized drawing for the November 2016 election. She reported that staff had developed a set of questions that were benched for the Council to use in interviewing the applicants, categorized into four subject areas: Quality of Life Challenges and Opportunities, Economic Development and Land Use Challenges and Opportunities, Community Leadership and Interpersonal Skills, and Fiscal Health and Resource Issues and conveyed that the Council could choose their questions from the provided list, alter the questions on the list, or develop questions independent of the provided list. Ms. Fockler remarked that staff recommended that each applicant be given one minute to introduce her/himself and share why s/he is interested in the position. Council would then each ask two questions of the applicant, and at the end of Council questions, each applicant would have approximately two minutes to provide closing comments, for a total interview time of 15 minutes per applicant.

It was the consensus of the Council to allow each applicant two minutes to introduce her/himself, twelve minutes to answer Council questions, and one minute to provide closing comments, for a total interview time of 15 minutes per applicant.

The Council reviewed the list of questions and determined the following questions be asked of each applicant:

1. Select one example of civic involvement that you have had in Concord, and describe how that experience has prepared you to serve on the Council.
2. What is your vision of what a world class project for the Concord reuse area, the former Concord Naval Weapons Station?
3. Please comment on the concept of the runner-up being automatically appointed to fill a vacancy on the City Council.
4. If you were interviewing Council applicants, what one question would you ask that would give you the information you needed to make a decision?
5. Describe how you would foster teamwork as you serve on the City Council.
6. How would you build consensus during the Council's public discussion on a controversial issue?
7. Have you reviewed the City's budget for this fiscal year? With the fiscal challenges facing our community, what would your priorities be for services that the City provides?
8. What, if any, adjustments should the City make to its multi-family housing approval process? What percentage of affordable housing should the City include in its multi-family housing projects?

Mayor Hoffmeister opened a public comment period.

Tim Carr, Concord, addressed the question regarding affordable housing.

Paul Poston, Concord, asked if the applicants were asked to not watch the meeting at home and asked why appointing the runner-up was a big issue.

The Council held applicant interviews for Terry E. Kremin, Harmesh Kumar, and Ajit K. Kaushal, then Mayor Hoffmeister called a recess at 8:30 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 8:40 p.m. and Council held interviews for Susan T. Swift, Andrew J. Dodd, Timothy A. McGallian, and Hope A. Johnson.

Mayor Hoffmeister opened a public comment period.

Joe Partansky, Concord, stated that the public should be able to comment on their perspective of the Council candidates, and that Tim McGallian was appointed as Treasurer and Mr. McGallian should resign his application for Council and remain Treasurer.

Jeff Koertzen, Concord, thanked the Council and staff for the way the appointment process occurred, and trusted that the Council would make the right decision with regard to appointing a Councilmember.

Mayor Hoffmeister closed the public comment period.

After the first round of voting, the votes were as follows:

Two votes for Timothy A. McGallian (Mayor Hoffmeister and Councilmember Leone), one vote for Harmesh Kumar (Vice Mayor Birsan) and one vote for Ajit K. Kaushal (Councilmember Obringer). No candidate received the required three votes.

After the second round of voting, the votes were as follows:

Four votes for Timothy A. McGallian (Mayor Hoffmeister, Vice Mayor Birsan, Councilmember Leone and Councilmember Obringer).

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 17-8 – Appointment of Timothy A. McGallian to the Concord City Council

Motion was made by Obringer and seconded by Birsan to adopt Resolution No. 17-8 entitled, "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIMOTHY A. MCGALLIAN TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE CITY COUNCIL FOLLOWING AN APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS." Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

OATH OF OFFICE – Concord City Council

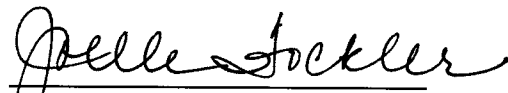
City Clerk Joelle Fockler administered the Oath of Office to appointed City Councilmember McGallian and had him sign a Certificate of Appointment.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. E-mail received from Hope Johnson dated January 26, 2017
- b. E-mail received from Jay Hann dated January 31, 2017
- c. E-mail received from Laura Nakumara dated January 24, 2017
- d. E-mail received from Hope Johnson dated January 27, 2017
- e. Benched Item No. 3.a – Draft Interview Questions
- f. Benched Item No. 3.a – Council Candidates Ballot
- g. Comments submitted from Harmesh Kumar

Mayor Hoffmeister adjourned the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

  
LAURA M. HOFFMEISTER  
MAYOR

  
JOELLE FOCKLER, MMC  
CITY CLERK