

City Council Proceedings

1427

State of Minnesota
Counties of Scott & Le Sueur
City of New Prague

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Special City Council Meeting
Tues., Mar. 23 & Wed., Mar 24, 2021

Conducted via GoToMeeting due to the COVID-19 Pandemic which is preventing attendance at the regular meeting location.

Mayor Duane Jirik called the online meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Jirik, Bass, Seiler, and Wolf

Absent: Councilmember Ryan

Staff Present Online: Mike Johnson, Ken Ondich, and Matt Rynda

Others Present Online: Patty Heminover - Baker Tilly US, LLP; James Miller - The Mercer Group, Inc.; Liza Donabauer - David Drown Associates Co.

The City encountered technology start-up issues with the electronic Special City Council meeting and was unable to start the meeting until about 5:24 p.m.

Mayor Jirik called the meeting to order at 5:24 p.m. Motion by Councilmember Seiler, seconded by Councilmember Bass to approve the agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried (4-0).

Mayor Jirik indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to interview three (3) firms to provide Executive Recruitment assistance in the search for the next City Administrator.

The first firm was Ms. Patty Heminover from Baker Tilly US, LLP. The interview went from approximately 5:25 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.

The second firm was Mr. James Miller from The Mercer Group, Inc. The interview went from approximately 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The third firm was Ms. Liza Donabauer from David Drown Associates, Inc. The interview started at 6:35 p.m.

The City again encountered technology problems with the GoToMeeting program. After several repeated tries to get the program to work, it was discussed to continue the meeting and interview to the next night. Councilmember Seiler was disconnected off the meeting link. That left Mayor Jirik and Councilmember Wolf on the virtual meeting connection and Councilmember Bass connected in by telephone.

After discussion, motion by Councilmember Wolf, second by Councilmember Bass to continue the March 23, 2021 meeting to March 24, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Voting in favor were Jirik, Wolf and Bass. Motion carried (3-0).

Mayor Jirik reconvened the March 23, 2021 meeting on March 24, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Those present included Mayor Jirik, Councilmembers

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Bass, Seiler and Wolf. Councilmember Ryan was absent. Staff present were Johnson, Ondich and Rynda.

Patrick Fisher was also present.

The third firm to be interviewed again (started over) was Ms. Liza Donabauer from David Drown Associates, Inc. Her interview began at 5:30 p.m. and concluded at about 6:00 p.m.

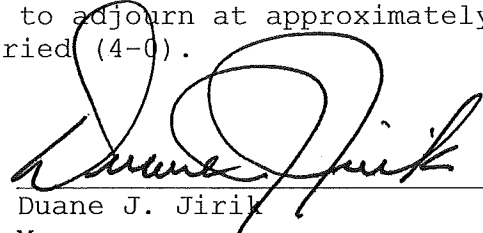
At the conclusion of the interview, each of the Councilmembers and Mayor Jirik shared their personal thoughts and opinions of the three (3) firms. After discussion, motion by Seiler, second by Wolf to hire the David Drown Associates, Inc. firm (Liza Donabauer) to provide the Executive Search assistance for the City Administrator position in accordance with the DDA proposal submitted to the City Council dated March 4, 2021. All voted in favor. Motion carried (4-0). The Council asked that the proposed "Timeline" be updated and indicated a willingness to hold additional Special City Council meetings if that would help speed up any part of the search and hiring timeline.

It was moved by Bass, seconded by Seiler to adjourn at approximately 6:15 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion carried (4-0).

ATTEST:



Michael J. Johnson
City Administrator



Duane J. Jirik
Mayor