

CITY OF NORFOLK, NEBRASKA

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Norfolk met in special session in the Council Chambers, 309 Madison Avenue, Norfolk, Nebraska on the 5th day of December, 2005, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Following a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America, Mayor Gordon Adams called the meeting to order. Roll call found the following Councilpersons present: Lange, Kaspar-Beckman, Wilson, Brenneman, Fauss, and Saunders. Absent: Van Dyke.

Staff members present were: City Administrator Mike Nolan, Director of Public Works Dennis Smith, City Clerk Beth Deck, Finance Officer Randy Gates and Prevention Manager Scott Cordes.

The Mayor presided and the City Clerk recorded the proceedings.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Norfolk Daily News, Norfolk, Nebraska, the designated method of giving notice, as shown by affidavit of publication.

Notice was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Councilperson Lange moved, seconded by Councilperson Saunders to approve the consent agenda as printed. Roll call: Ayes: Councilpersons Lange, Kaspar-Beckman, Wilson, Brenneman, Fauss and Saunders. Nays: None. Absent: Van Dyke. Motion carried.

Councilperson Kaspar-Beckman moved, seconded by Councilperson Lange to adopt the regular agenda as printed. Roll call: Ayes: Councilpersons Lange, Kaspar-Beckman, Wilson, Brenneman, Fauss and Saunders. Nays: None. Absent: Van Dyke. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The City Council approved the minutes of the November 21, 2005 City Council meeting as printed.

REGULAR AGENDA

The Mayor requested consideration of the appointment of Ron Stauffer, 604 Hespe Drive, as the Ward 1 representative replacing Howard Leshovsky who resigned effective December 1, 2005. Five applicants submitted for the position: Rick Benson, 817 North Birch Street; Patrick Carney, 407 North 11th Street; Dale Coy, 409 Klug Avenue; John Pieper, 1005 Eastridge Drive; and Ron Stauffer, 604 Hespe Drive. The Mayor and Finance Committee members interviewed the applicants at the December 5, 2005 Finance Committee meeting.

Councilperson Lange moved, seconded by Councilperson Saunders to approve the Mayor's appointment of Ron Stauffer as the City Council representative for Ward 1 with the term expiring December 2006.

Councilperson Kaspar-Beckman raised concerns with the Mayor's appointment because Stauffer helped with Gordon Adams' last mayoral campaign. Kaspar-Beckman feels the vote taken at the Finance Committee meeting didn't include Stauffer as a top nominee. Kaspar-Beckman will not support the appointment of Stauffer to the position.

Mayor Adams stated the “straw vote” taken is confidential and Kaspar-Beckman’s facts may or may not be correct but was only advisory information for the Mayor. Adams stated that by law the appointment is for the Mayor to make. Mayor Adams received a “great deal” of public input, “probably much more so than any other issue” during Adams’ term as mayor, in favor of appointing Stauffer to the vacant position.

Councilperson Fauss stated Ron Stauffer “is a good friend”, but Fauss is disappointed “the system didn’t work”.

Councilperson Saunders received overwhelming support from constituents for the appointment of Ron Stauffer to the vacant Council seat.

Councilperson Brenneman wanted reassurance from Stauffer as to willingness to complete the term of office (December 2006) and run for another term.

Ron Stauffer reassured the Mayor and City Council members that, if appointed to the position, the term will be completed and Stauffer will run for reelection in 2006 for another four-year term of office.

Councilperson Wilson is “disappointed with the process”.

Councilperson Lange appreciates all of the applicants interviewed; however, two of the applicants “were better than the other three”. Lange stated Stauffer’s experience with city government is a great asset and should be considered.

Roll call: Ayes: Councilpersons Lange, Brenneman, and Saunders. Nays: Kaspar-Beckman, Wilson and Fauss. Absent: Van Dyke. There being a tie vote, the Mayor voted “Aye” on the motion to approve the appointment of Ron Stauffer. Motion carried.

Councilperson Lange moved, seconded by Councilperson Kaspar-Beckman to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Roll call: Ayes: Councilpersons Lange, Kaspar-Beckman, Wilson, Brenneman, Fauss and Saunders. Nays: None. Absent: Van Dyke. Motion carried.

Gordon D. Adams
Mayor

ATTEST:

Elizabeth A. Deck
City Clerk

(S E A L)

I, the undersigned Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is the full, true and correct original document of proceedings of the Special City Council meeting held on Monday, December 5, 2005, had and done by the Mayor and Council; that all of the subjects included in the proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four

hours prior to the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Elizabeth A. Deck
City Clerk

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