

Meeting of: COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL  
Date of Meeting: March 2, 2017  
Time of Meeting: 4:00 PM  
Location of Meeting: Council Chambers  
Purpose of Meeting: Interview of Candidates for Vacancy on the City Council

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL - The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

Present: Mayor Schmitt, Councilmembers Murzyn Jr, Williams and Buesgens  
Also Present: Kelli Bourgeois; Human Resource Director/Assistant to the City Manager,  
James Hoeft; City Attorney

Mayor Schmitt announced the first order of business would be to discuss whether or not to broadcast the interviews live. Kelli Bourgeois, Human Resource Director/Assistant to the City Manager stated that the council can decide as a group if they want the interviews video recorded for live broadcast, future broadcast, internet playback, audio recorded or not recorded at all.

Councilmember Buesgens stated she would feel comfortable with video recording for future playback. Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. stated he would prefer it not be videotaped for live broadcast.

Councilmember Williams agreed with Murzyn, Jr. City Attorney Hoeft explained the legal record of the meeting is the minutes.

Mayor Schmitt explained the interviews are subject to the open meeting laws, and she would prefer the meeting be broadcast live.

*Motion by Councilmember Buesgens, seconded by Mayor Schmitt to audio and video record the meeting for rebroadcast at a future date. 2 Ayes: 2 Nays, Motion Failed. Ayes: Schmitt and Buesgens. Nays: Williams and Murzyn, Jr.*

Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. stated he is not in favor of videotaping at all. Mayor Schmitt stated it would be helpful to the council to have a video to look back on as they deliberate. Councilmember Williams indicated that open meeting laws do not require video recording. Councilmember Buesgens indicated people look to the internet for their information. Mayor Schmitt said she has had numerous requests from the public to have the interviews available via video.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Buesgens to video record for playback on Channel 16 and video on demand. 2 Ayes: 1 Nay: 1 Abstention, Motion Failed. Ayes: Schmitt and Buesgens. Nays: Williams. Abstention: Murzyn, Jr.*

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Buesgens to video record for playback for Council Review. 3 Ayes: 1 Abstention, Motion Carried.*

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Buesgens to amend the schedule, moving Ted Landwehr to 7:20 PM. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Mayor Schmitt explained each applicant will have 15 minutes to respond to the following eight questions, and ask additional questions if time permits.

1. What two issues would you like to see addressed during your term on the City Council and why?
2. Describe the duties of a City Council.
3. Tell us what your top three City priorities are. Why are these priorities for you?
4. At what level do you see your leadership style?  
Ground level (day to day).....10,000 feet.....20,000 feet.....30,000 feet (policy creation)
5. On a scale of 1 to 20 years where do you think the City's planning horizon should be?  
1 year.....5 years.....10 years.....15 years.....20 years
6. Rate your personality style on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 being very passive & 5 being very aggressive.
7. Imagine you are at the local grocery store when a resident stops you to discuss their displeasure with the fact that the City allowed a business they feel is inappropriate to locate in their neighborhood. The resident wants to know why the City did this and what you can do to make it go away. You are aware of the business and the licensing process but do not have the details on why the business was allowed to locate there. What do you say to the resident? What, if anything, do you do next?
8. Why should the City Council appoint you to this vacancy?

Tim Fitze

The interview began at 4:20.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Tim Utz

The interview began at 4:40.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Stan Hoium

The interview began at 5:01.

*Motion by Councilmember Buesgens, seconded by Councilmember Williams to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Denelle Bing

The interview began at 5:20.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Buesgens to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Jerome Klein

The interview began at 5:41.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Frost Simula

The interview began at 6:01.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Buesgens to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Tammera Diehm

The interview began at 6:21.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Christine Nelson

The interview began at 6:41.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Murzyn, Jr. to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Catherine Vesley

The interview began at 7:02.

*Motion by Mayor Schmitt, seconded by Councilmember Buesgens to recess. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Ted Landwehr

The interview began at 7:22.

Mayor Schmitt requested Public Comments be limited to three minutes.

Amada Simula-1700 49<sup>th</sup> Ave NE spoke in support of Frost Simula, stating he is passionate about Columbia Heights, and will follow through on ideas.

Corey Benson-4021 5th St NE described Frost Simula as honest, creative and willing to help.

Gregory Sloat-4731 6<sup>th</sup> St NE reported Tim Utz wants the people of Columbia Heights to be heard. He worked on the library referendum in 2014.

Ramona Andreson-4132 Stinson Blvd described Tim Utz as a phenomenal problem solver, who is dedicated to smart use of the taxpayer dollars.

*Motion by Councilmember Murzyn, Jr., seconded by Councilmember Williams to adjourn. All Ayes, Motion Carried.*

Meeting Adjourned at 7:48 PM

Respectively Submitted,



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Katie Bruno, Council Secretary/City Clerk