Minutes
City of Cocoa
Special City Council Meeting

August 4, 2020

A Special City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, in Cocoa City Hall, in City Council Chambers, located at 65 Stone Street, in Cocoa, Florida, 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Opening Matters:

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Mayor Williams led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The Assistant City Clerk took the roll.

PRESENT:	Jake Williams, Jr.	Mayor
	Don Boisvert	Councilmember (attended via phone)
	Lorraine Koss	Councilmember
	Brenda Warner	Councilmember
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney
	Matt Fuhrer	Interim City Manager
	Carie Shealy	City Clerk
ABSENT:	James Goins	Deputy Mayor (arrived at 5:04 p.m.)

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tammy Gemmati, Administrative Services Director; Michael Cantaloupe, Chief of Police; Nancy Bunt, Community Services Director; and LeShawn Hinton, Helpdesk Support Tech.

II. Items to be Discussed:

Ms. Gemmati advised that Ms. Higginbotham was in attendance to provide an update on the recruitment process and to provide an update on the next steps.

Ms. Higginbotham noted that an update was received prior to this meeting and one candidate has withdrawn. Mr. Stockton Whitten is the only candidate she has for consideration. She presented a packet to Council and pointed out that on the first page the three finalists selected at the last meeting prior to reopening the search.

During the window that the application process was reopened eight applications were received and out of those eight she recommended two and the one has withdrawn. In fairness she suggested another virtual meeting so that they can make an informed decision as to whether or not they bring that candidate back or not.

Ms. Higginbotham further provided a tentative schedule for bringing back the candidates and mentioned that they could host a virtual town hall, and allow each candidate to have approximately forty-five minutes. They are typically scheduled one hour a part.

On day two they could do a round robin where they could meet Council, staff, and tour the City. A special meeting could be held that night as well to make their selection.

Councilmember Koss understood her suggestion to do an online interview with Mr. Whitten but felt that the reason they did it with the others was because they were not familiar with them, however, they all know Mr. Whitten. She asked if they could go ahead and select three. She suggested Ms. Gardner-Young, Mr. Moffett, and Mr. Whitten be the final three.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to move forward with the final three candidates: Ms. Gardner-Young, Mr. Moffett, and Mr. Whitten.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Discussion was held on when candidates would be brought back. It was determined that August 13th and 14th would be the dates that they were brought back.

Ms. Gemmati asked Ms. Higginbotham to provide a biography for each candidate to post on the website.

Further discussion was held regarding the timeline that it would take for the City Attorney to draw up a contract for the candidate selected.

Mayor Williams advised that there was a lot of activity at Fern and Prospect Park and with numbers continuously rising, asked if action should be taken or should it be left alone. He suggested that all Council members drive by to see what is going on at the parks if they have not already. He added that there are a lot of people not wearing masks.

Chief Cantaloupe assured Council that they have continued patrols but the problem is that they cannot keep people from coming to the parks. They have tried providing masks, etc. They cannot be in all parks at all times but would continue to do their best to drive through and monitor them. He will put together an overtime detail during daylight hours.

Deputy Mayor Goins pointed out that this was why cameras were needed. In response, Chief Cantaloupe advised that the JAG Grant will be on the upcoming City Council agenda and they have a meeting with a vendor to go to all parks to see which systems would work the best.

III. Adjournment

* **MOTION by Deputy mayor Goins; SECONDED Councilmember Koss, to adjourn the Special Council Meeting of June 30, 2020.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Jake Williams, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Carie Shealy, MMC, City Clerk
(Transcribed by M. Arsenault, Asst. City Clerk)

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