

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Special Meeting – January 28, 2013

Pursuant to due call and notice, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding for the purpose of interviewing applicants to fill the Ward 4 Councilor seat.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Johnson, Hellquist, Erickson, Thompson

Staff Present: City Clerk Kay Murphy

Mayor Albrecht discussed the process for conducting the interviews and noted that there were four applicants for the Ward 4 seat. Consensus of the Council was that the Mayor would ask the questions and allow an opportunity for follow-up questions from the entire Council.

The City Clerk drew names as to the order for interviewing the applicants. The following applicants were interviewed:

Lee Falk, 1712 S. Lake Irving Drive SW
Reed Olson, 711 14th Street NW
Byron Rock, 230 Jefferson Avenue SW
Linda Lemmer, 143 Gemmel Avenue SW

Each candidate was asked why they want to serve on the council, what strengths they would bring, what they hoped to accomplish in their term, civic involvement and how they see themselves interacting with city staff.

After the interviews the Council discussed the merits of each candidate. The consensus of the Council was that any one of the applicants would do well as the Ward 4 councilor.

Johnson opined that Ms. Lemmer is everywhere and that he has been on the opposite side of more than one thing with her, but he still is interested in what she has to say about things.

Hellquist observed that while all candidates had strong points, he felt that Mr. Olson was the best candidate for the position. Councilor's agreed that Mr. Olson's time on the Joint Planning Commission and as a business owner downtown was good experience.

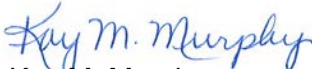
Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Hellquist, appointing Reed Olson to fill the unexpired Ward 4 Council seat term. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There was some discussion about the process for filling vacancies and agreed that the Charter Commission should make some changes.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Meehlhause, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk