

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey City Council conducted a City Council Work Session on Tuesday, October 24, 2017, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Sarah Strommen (arrived at 6:02 p.m.)
Councilmember Jill Johns
Councilmember Mark Kuzma
Councilmember John LeTourneau
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Melody Shryock

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Asst. City Administrator/Economic Development Manager Patrick Brama
Police Chief Jeff Katers
Human Resources Manager Colleen Lasher

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor LeTourneau called the City Council Work Session to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

2.01: City Board and Commission Interviews

Human Resources Manager Lasher reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember Kuzma asked if these positions are partial terms or full terms.

Human Resources Manager Lasher replied that these would all be partial terms.

The Council asked the standard questions to the applicant and he provided his answers.

Human Resources Manager Lasher asked for more information on a potential conflict of interest.

Councilmember Riley asked if there is a preference of which Commission or Board the applicant would like to join.

Human Resources Manager Lasher confirmed the applicant's ranking preference for the open positions on the Boards and Commissions.

The Council asked the standard questions to the next applicant and he provided his answers.

Councilmember Kuzma asked if the applicant would resign his position on a Board/Committee that the applicant currently holds in Elk River. He stated that he believes that there would be a conflict of interest and if a position is offered to the applicant for a Board/Commission in Ramsey, he would feel that the applicant should resign from the Elk River Board/Commission position.

Mayor Strommen arrived at 6:02 p.m.

The Council asked the standard questions to the next applicant and he provided his answers.

The Council asked the standard questions to the next applicant and he provided his answers.

Mayor Strommen asked for a list of the available positions.

Human Resources Manager Lasher provided details on the two available terms on the Economic Development Authority and the Park and Recreation Commission, noting that there is one available position on each Commission. She advised of another applicant she was in contact with that had trouble submitting his application, noting that she does have the application information with her should the Council be interested in reviewing the information. She provided additional details on an applicant that was interviewed who previously sat on the Planning Commission but had to resign because he moved out of the City noting that the applicant has moved back to Ramsey.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he believed Andrew would be a great fit for the Park and Recreation Commission.

Councilmember Johns agreed.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated that he would not disagree with appointing Andrew to Parks, but believed he would be a good fit for the EDA position.

Councilmember Riley noted that he had marked down Andrew for the available EDA position.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated that Ryan appears to have the best business background and asked for input from the Council.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that Ryan has a real estate background and currently works with Elk River and the use of their TIF. He stated that he did not believe that

Mayor Strommen stated that she does believe there would be a conflict with the position Ryan holds in Elk River and noted that there is already a family member of Ryan on the EDA.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he believed that Dominic's background would be helpful for the EDA.

Councilmember LeTourneau agreed that Dominic interviewed well and liked his overall approach to the world and building community.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that Dominic was also a good listener which is an asset.

Councilmember Shryock stated that the background and experiences that Dominic has had would make him a strong and honest person that would be a great asset to the EDA.

Mayor Strommen stated that Dominic does not bring the traditional experience to the EDA but would provide a different aspect and is a very thoughtful person who appreciates community and would be a refreshing perspective.

Councilmember LeTourneau asked for input from Councilmember Riley as he has been a member of the EDA and has seen the different contributions that members provide.

Councilmember Riley stated that he is looking for a stronger personality that would willingly participate. He stated that he did not hear business experience but would provide fresh perspective from an area that is not currently represented. He was unsure that this would be the perfect candidate but noted that he did not see his perfect candidate for the position tonight.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he believes the last candidate would be a good candidate for the future.

The consensus of the Council was to select Andrew for the Park and Recreation Commission and Dominic for the Economic Development Authority.

Mayor Strommen noted that the electronic applications asked for personal information that should not have been included in the process.

Human Resources Manager Lasher noted that the City is using new software and are still learning how to tweak the questions and will ensure that those questions are not included.

Mayor Strommen stated that there should be additional discussion in the future on the questions that are asked to each applicant.

2.02: Discussion Regarding the 2018 Contract Negotiations with Law Enforcement Labor Services (LES) Captains Group (Discussion Closed to the Public)

Human Resources Manager Lasher reviewed the staff report.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

Motion by Councilmember LeTourneau, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to recess the Work Session meeting to Closed Session at 6:48 p.m.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers LeTourneau, Riley, Johns, Kuzma, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

The Work Session reconvened at 6:59 p.m.

2.03: Discussion Regarding the Process for the City Administrator's Next Annual Performance Evaluation

It was the consensus of the Council to postpone discussion of this item to the next Work Session because of the time constraint.

3. TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

3.01: Review Future Topics/ Calendar

Noted.

4. MAYOR / COUNCIL / STAFF INPUT

None.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Work Session of the City Council was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jo Ann M. Thieling
City Clerk

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.