



MINUTES OF THE **SPECIAL MEETING** OF THE
SOLVANG CITY COUNCIL

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

January 8, 2019
Tuesday
6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Toussaint called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Toussaint, Council Members Clarke, Djernaes, and Waite

STAFF: Rick Haydon, Interim City Manager; Dave Fleishman, City Attorney; and
Lisa S. Martin, City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Staff report by Rick Haydon, Interim City Manager., who explained the interview and appointment by voting ballot ranking process.

Mayor Toussaint indicated his desire to change the wording of the interview questions.

There was Council consensus to change the interview questions to the following:

1. If you were to run a campaign for Solvang City Council tomorrow, briefly describe what your platform would be.
- 2, How would you handle strong public opposition to a policy you had intended to support?
- 3, What is your vision for the future of Solvang?
- 4, What experience do you have in public service?
5. Why didn't you run for the office in the recent election?

Mayor Toussaint opened the item to public comment at 6:41 p.m.

Carey McKinnon, Solvang Resident

- Disappointed that Council chose to use an appointment process as it is not transparent and shows political maneuvering to form a Council to their liking
- Takes issue with the questions and glad that they were revised

Gay Infanti, Solvang Resident

- Being a business owner or even on a board or commission doesn't really qualify a person to be on the City Council, please appoint someone who has the appropriate experience
- The new City Manager selection is a very important issue and she hopes the Council makes the right decision

Gabe Rosetti, Solvang Resident

- The citizens overwhelmingly voted for a change in the guard, out with the old, in with the new
- Would suggest that the Council not take a step backwards by appointing a person who ran in the last election and was defeated

Aaron Peterson, Solvang Resident and Business Owner

- Cities have to have a driving economic force, Solvang's is tourism
- Would like to see the Council select one council member who is a local business owner so that tourism has a small voice

Tim Thompson, Solvang Resident

- Has been involved in marketing of Solvang businesses for over 12 years

Chuck Stacy, Solvang Resident

- Consider the Danish heritage when making this appointment

Mayor Toussaint closed the public comment period at 6:58 p.m.

There is Council consensus to utilize the interview and ranked voting process proposed by staff.

Mayor Toussaint made a random drawing of names to determine the order of interviews.

All applicants for City Council gave their presentations and answered interview questions individually, in the following order:

Michael Mendizza
Justin Rodriguez
Patrick Henry
Gregory Millikan
David Bergsvik
Kenny Esko Newyork
Joan Jamieson
Christopher McCool
Edwin Skytt
Daniel Johnson
Kim Jensen

Interim City Manager Rick Haydon explained the next phase of the process, the ranking of each council member's top five choices by ballot.

Mayor Toussaint announced a five minute break during which the Council prepared their ballots.

The City Council meeting resumed at 8:51 p.m. with an explanation by Rick Haydon as to the points assigned to each ranking and the final tabulation process.

The City Clerk Martin announced the ballot results of each Council Member. Interim City Manager Haydon entered the ballot results into a tabulation spreadsheet displayed visually on the screen.

Final point tabulation results were:

Applicant Name	Ranking Points Received
Michael Mendizza	9
Justin Rodriguez	11
Patrick Henry	0
Gregory Millikan	6
David Bergsvik	0
Kenny Esko Newyork	5
Joan Jamieson	5
Christopher McCool	2
Edwin Skytt	0
Daniel Johnson	13
Kim Jensen	9

Interim City Manager Haydon announced that based on the final points, Daniel Johnson would be the appointment to the City Council.

Motion to adopt Resolution 19-1070 appointing Daniel Johnson to the vacant City Council seat made by Council Member Clarke, seconded by Council Member Djernaes, and carried with a roll call vote of 4-0.

2. **ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Toussaint adjourned the City Council meeting at 9:06 p.m.



Lisa S. Martin, City Clerk