

CITY OF SOUTH LYON
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2018

Mayor Pelchat called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
Mayor Pelchat led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Pelchat, Councilmembers; Kivell, Kurtzweil, Parisien, Richards and Walton
Also present: Chief Collins, Attorney Johnson and Clerk Deaton

AGENDA

CM 1-1-18 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Kivell, supported by Parisien
Motion to approve the agenda as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider acceptance of resignation from City Council submitted by Councilmember Joseph Rzyzi

CM 1-2-18 MOTION TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF COUNCILMEMBER JOSEPH RYZYI

Motion by Kivell, supported by Walton
Motion to accept resignation of Councilmember Joseph Rzyzi

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

1. Interview candidates to fill the vacancy on City Council created by resignation of Joseph Rzyzi

Mayor Pelchat explained the framework of how he would like this process to go. He would like the candidates to draw numbers from a hat which will decide what order the interviews will be done. He further explained he would ask that each candidate in fairness to exit the room while the other candidates are being interviewed. He stated no one has to leave the room due to this being an open meeting, but in fairness he would like them to do so. Mayor Pelchat then stated each candidate will have 3 minutes for an opening statement, then Council will have 10 minutes to ask questions. He further stated each Councilmember can ask each candidate 2 questions, then each candidate will have 2 minutes for a closing statement.

Councilmember Kurtzweil stated we have a difference of opinion. The Open Meetings Act states a person shall not be excluded from a public meeting except for a breach of the peace at the meeting. No one should feel under any obligation to leave the room when someone is speaking at the microphone. She then reminded the public we had a Mayor's forum and each had a microphone, they were being filmed and they were asked questions, and they did so in the public view, no one was asked to leave the room.

One way this could have been handled would have been to have candidates come in to be interviewed at different times. She will not participate in any meeting where anyone is excluded from the meeting. Mayor Pelchat stated no one has to leave if they don't want to. He has spoken to other Mayors and Attorneys and they have used this process as well. We are trying to improve on the Mayors forum, it is his opinion there were advantages for the people that were asked the questions after others had already answered.

Councilmember Kivell stated the distinction between us scheduling individual interviews and doing this with the request of leaving the room doesn't seem like such a stretch. Everyone is here, this doesn't extend or shorten the term we will conduct the interviews, just because it is an open meeting, doesn't mean the validity of the request should be recognized, and the request is just until after the candidates interview is concluded. The objective is so no one parrots what someone else says, it gives you the opportunity to create a more substantive answer than you might have if you're on the spot answering the questions from the body.

Councilmember Kurtzweil stated there is no reason to ask anyone to give up their right to attend an open meeting. There is no validity to do so. We are dealing with seasoned adults that can sit here and listen to other people's answers. She spoke with individuals today that were shocked this was even going to be asked. There is no reason to violate the open meetings act and no one should feel pressured to do so.

Councilmember Parisien asked Attorney Johnson because the Open Meetings act uses the word shall, would this be a violation by asking the applicants to do this. She said but if we are asking people to leave and it is their choice, given that they have the right to be here, but if they choose to leave, is that a violation of the OMA. Attorney Johnson stated no, it is not a violation.

Mayor Pelchat then asked the candidates to pull a number from the hat based on the order their applications were turned in.

William Powell of 204 University stated he ran for Council as a write in candidate for Mayor. He began when he found out the previous Mayor wasn't going to run again. He began coming to all the meetings and he understands how City Council works and has come to love coming to the meetings and being engaged. He wants to be a part of the City moving forward in a positive fashion and being another voice that might be different than other peoples. His background is in construction management. He stated he didn't go to college, he has worked from the bottom up. He believes he could provide a different opinion on things.

Councilmember Parisien asked what is the City's top 3 challenges and how would he face them. Mr. Powell stated we are a highly residential community, and getting more businesses downtown would be helpful. He further stated the sorting out of the Police and Fire Department facilities is important. He met with each department and the old City Hall is in rough shape. Thinking of different ways to get more for our tax dollars and to figure out where the give and take is so we don't raise taxes.

Councilmember Parisien asked if he volunteered in our community. Mr. Powell stated he doesn't here in the City, but he does in other areas such as they put on a Christmas event for the children in Detroit. Life Remodeled is something he volunteers with in Detroit as well. Mayor Pelchat asked what he thinks his greatest strength would be on City Council. Mr. Powell stated he loves to problem solve and finding the best answer can be a challenge, but he always looks at where improvements can be made. He is an analytical thinker and he wants to get things done. Councilmember Richards stated he is glad he is showing interest. He further stated he knows his mother and father, but he doesn't know him. He then

asked if he lives with his parents. Mr. Powell stated he is married with 2 children and has a home on University. Councilmember Richards asked if he will be willing to travel. Mr. Powell stated he would, he does often for his current job. Councilmember Walton asked what was the trigger point for him to decide to run for Mayor. Mr. Powell stated in 2011 he pulled petitions to run for Council and the wrong date was published in the paper, so he wasn't able to turn in his petitions. He stated when this happened, it sparked him and he felt the need to run. It has been one of the best things he has chosen to do. He explained he wants to be educated on City government. Councilmember Kivell stated he knows he attends many of our Council meetings, but he then asked if there will be any time constraints for him to attend the meetings. Mr. Powell stated no, there would be no issues. Councilmember Parisien stated there are many ways to contribute, but why City Council. Mr. Powell stated he ran for Mayor, and Joe Rzyzi told him he would like to see him on Council and it just sparked him. He likes this forum. Councilmember Parisien then asked if he ever sat on a Board or Commission. Mr. Powell stated he has not for the City. Mr. Powell thanked everyone for taking their time to listen to him and to open this up for everyone instead of just choosing someone. This seems to be the fair way of doing this. He hopes to work with Council moving the City in the right direction.

Joyce Clohosey of 954 Oxford stated she ran for Council in the November 2017 Election, and she hopes Council will act ethically and choose candidates based on their application, as well as factoring the turnout from the last election because that is still voter input and the voter speaking and not on personal opinions.

Councilmember Parisien asked how many Council meetings has she attended. Ms. Clohosey stated she hasn't kept a total. Mayor Pelchat asked what her greatest strength would be on Council. Ms. Clohosey stated she would be interested in looking at issues with an ethical perspective such as when things are put out for bid. She would want to make sure everyone acts ethically and ask other Councilmembers so we can avoid public relations issue that make the City look unethical. To be proactive in the community and encourage people to step up. Councilmember Walton asked what made her interested in running for Council. Ms. Clohosey stated the food truck issue got her attention and doing research on her own. Mayor Pelchat asked if she has any issues with time for attending the meetings. Ms. Clohosey stated she does not have any issues to meet, she can make it work. Councilmember Richards asked if she just had a baby. Ms. Clohosey stated her last child was born in January of 2016. She stated she doesn't understand what that has to do with anything. Councilmember Parisien stated she just said she could schedule around it. Councilmember Parisien asked if she has any personal or business relationships with anyone currently on Council. Ms. Clohosey stated she does not. Councilmember Parisien asked if she volunteers in the community. Ms. Clohosey stated she volunteered for Brews Blues and Brats a few times and really enjoyed it. She stated most of her volunteering was work related. Councilmember Parisien asked how she handles conflict. Ms. Clohosey stated she doesn't work well with conflict when there are ethical issues being ignored. She finds it very disturbing when a public tax funded body doesn't act ethically. Councilmember Richards asked if she relies on the internet and computers to gain a lot of knowledge. Ms. Clohosey stated most of her degree was in a traditional college setting, but she has taken a few online classes. She does a lot of research online, such as most people do nowadays. Ms. Clohosey thanked everyone for the opportunity to apply not just making a decision that wasn't transparent. She knows there is always a debate on why someone was chosen, and she is happy so many people applied.

Stephen Kennedy stated he has been a resident of South Lyon for over 45 years. He has been a management consultant for almost 40 years. He has worked with many fortune 500 companies helping them improve their operations, performance and profitability. He stated he has worked with all levels of

people within those organizations. He has worked with them to help them to better understand and utilize formal decision-making approaches when addressing issues in each of their areas. This training helped them remove subjectivity from their decisions to help them separate their wants from their needs. He further stated this objective decision-making ability is critical for developing, establishing, managing budgets, prioritizing their daily activities and forecasting their needs. He stated he also helped them improve their overall maintenance operations. Mr. Kennedy stated he has worked with them to reduce operating expenses, as well as maximize asset performance. He stated in the industries he worked, this means a full understanding of how best to spend money maintaining the equipment, infrastructure and other assets owned by that firm. It involved developing a 5-year asset replacement plan, project future needs and to effectively utilize all of their maintenance resources. The resume he provided highlights the benefits he has provided to those companies. He stated it is always a challenge as a consultant to bring about the desired changes and improvements when you have no direct authority to make that happen. It can only happen by establishing an effective rapport and collaborative working relationships with the companies personnel so they can use the changes and provided tools and methods for long-term success. Since becoming retired, he has regularly attended the Council meetings and he has spoken with most of the councilmembers. His attendance has afforded him the ability to understand the challenges facing South Lyon. He further stated this has provided an opportunity for two-way communication with the councilmembers to understand a more in depth understanding of the issues and solutions before us as opposed to just watching the video on tv. He further stated he is applying for the Council vacancy because he believes his interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively with others will be beneficial in working with city officials and employees. Further his background with budgets, expense optimization, maintenance and project management coupled with his desire to see South Lyon evolve can be a benefit to South Lyon City Council.

Councilmember Kivell stated he noticed Mr. Kennedy stated he had no influence as a consultant over the expenditures, which brought to his attention that City Council shouldn't have enough influence on the budget to the point where we dictate what will be purchased and when, do you see any concern that you may blur the line. Mr. Kennedy stated he doesn't. One of the things that happened at the last meeting Councilmember Parisien asked about a purchase for \$25,000 from the wastewater department. The person from the water department explained they were replacement parts, spare and some long-term lead items and that is all well and good, but we don't have a department head to discuss this with right now. He stated the interesting part is the quantity was the same for both departments, but they weren't breaking out between which was the long lead-time items and which was easily available. The suggestion could be to the City Manager is there are different ways to manage critical spares. You could work with the vendor to have them stock the items as needed, or look at the usage rates, and look at neighboring communities and if they are using the same, why don't we trade back and forth with them. It was a lot of money to set on a shelf. These are suggestions that can be passed along. Councilmember Parisien asked what he thinks the 3 priorities and challenges the City is facing. Mr. Kennedy stated the primary challenge is the budget. We need to lock it down and get a balanced budget. He further stated there were challenges made at the 11th hour, but we learned from that. He stated Councilmember Kurtzweil made many suggestions at a meeting in December recommending a variety of information well in advance of the budget creation. He further stated the process needs to be locked down and we need to formalize it and document it. He stated with all due respect, watching from the audience, we make a lot of good efforts, talk about a lot of good things, but things fall through the cracks and there is no follow through. He stated there was a conversation held regarding the succession plan back in December, which was also discussed a few months before that. Standardizing, formalizing and documenting these things are critical. Mr. Kennedy stated getting the right Department Head in place is critical as well as following through

with the downtown development. Councilmember Parisien asked if he volunteered in the community. Mr. Kennedy stated he did not, his job kept him out of town most weeks. There wasn't a lot of time for volunteering. Councilmember Parisien then asked with that schedule will it be a problem to serve on Council. Mr. Kennedy stated he is retired, so there will be no problem. Councilmember Parisien asked if he has ever served on a board or commission. Mr. Kennedy stated he has not.

Councilmember Richards stated we are part of Oakland County which is a vital part of the state. He then asked if he is familiar with Oakland County geographically. Mr. Kennedy stated he is. Councilmember Richards asked if Mr. Kennedy is familiar with our surrounding communities. He stated some are ahead of us and we need to play catch up, how do you feel about that. Mr. Kennedy stated if you look at the 4-story building that is going in Milford is the same type of development Bob Donohue was talking about in our town and those types of developments will help the city. He then stated we have had 16 new businesses come into town, the downtown is thriving and the Ladies Night was great. He further stated the DDA Director has done what he can, but he has run up against road blocks, and we need to help him through the roadblocks so the City can keep moving forward. He explained there have been a lot of changes over the years, and in recent years there have been tremendous changes. Mr. Kennedy stated the City is built out, but we can definitely capitalize on the growth that is surrounding us. Mr. Kennedy thanked Council for the opportunity and he is a life-long resident and he would like to be a part of the City and help it grow and evolve.

Ashley Enstad stated she ran for Mayor in the last Election and came in 2nd by 60 votes or so. She stated she has a double major from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in management science and computer science and engineering. She stated she works for a major Nasdaq company as a software engineer. She further stated she loves this community and she is happy to have the opportunity to fight for this seat. While the last Election didn't turn out the way she hoped, she is happy Dan is the Mayor. Councilmember Walton asked what was the trigger point for her to run for Mayor. Ms. Enstad stated she had some interest before she found out no one was running for Mayor. She further stated she had been watching the City Council meetings and looking into the issues that were affecting her community, and reading into them and they are really important things and we need people that know what they are doing and can solve these problems. She stated she felt she didn't have a chance to run for Council considering the strong candidates that were running and her relative newness to the community. Then the vacancy for Mayor was announced so she decided to go for it.

Councilmember Parisien asked if she has ever served on a board or committee. Ms. Enstad stated she has not. Mayor Pelchat asked what would be her greatest strength as a member of Council. Ms. Enstad stated she is a strong problem solver, she is an engineer with an engineering degree, and that is what she does every day. She meets with people every day and sometimes the problem is solved with software, sometimes it is solved by having a meeting to teach people how to communicate better in meetings.

Councilmember Richards asked if she participated in student government during her college years, such as the honor society, did you have anything to do with student policies. Were you involved with working on things and with people? Ms. Enstad stated she was very involved, most was volunteer based. She participated in many extracurricular activities. She was part of the student advisory board for the management major, figuring out what management major should look like, and since then they have changed it from management science to 3 separate management related majors. She was also part of a serviced based sorority and she was the vice president of event planning.

Councilmember Kivell asked if she has an item that she believes is underrecognized. Ms. Enstad stated future budget planning is important and doing a 5-10-year budget more than doing a 1-year budget then making adjustments as time goes on. Councilmember Kivell asked what event or change has taken place

that caught you by surprise or seemed noteworthy. Ms. Enstad stated Ladies Night Out caught her by surprise, she attended it and it was a fantastic event.

Councilmember Parisien asked if she had met any department heads. Ms. Enstad stated she met the Fire Chief. Councilmember Parisien asked how she handles conflict. Ms. Enstad stated she believes behind conflict is basically well-meaning people who are passionate about what they feel. She stated she listens to what is being said instead of the yelling. Councilmember Parisien asked if she has any business or personal relationships with Councilmembers. Ms. Enstad stated she has met everyone. She further stated she has asked Councilmembers Kurtzweil and Parisien for advice about the election. She handed out Carl and Rose's literature along with her own during the last election. She further explained she has met Councilmember Kivell a few times as well. Councilmember Parisien asked if she will be able to balance work life, volunteering with Kiwanis and Council. Ms. Enstad stated she can handle much more work than she is currently doing, her job is extremely flexible. Councilmember Parisien asked what her top 3 priorities or challenges she feels that the City is facing. Ms. Enstad stated having a well-balanced budget is important as well as setting policies to find how much and when we should be using money from our reserve fund. She further stated the downtown is doing really well and it needs to keep moving forward. Ms. Enstad stated staffing is a problem as well. Ms. Enstad thanked everyone for allowing her to speak today and for opening this up to everyone which makes for a more transparent and fair process.

2. Consider appointment of candidate to fill the vacancy on City Council

Councilmember Kivell thanked everyone for showing up and he thinks it isn't hard to recognize that there are 2 people that have a much cleaner objective of what need will be productive on Council. We need to determine if there is a better fit between one and the other. Mayor Pelchat stated he wants to thank everyone for coming. Councilmember Parisien asked what process we should use to determine that. Attorney Johnson stated he suggests talking about the strong points of the various individuals is probably the best way to handle it. Councilmember Richards thanked everyone for showing an interest, he realizes that it was not well posted to begin with, and following up with the timeframe of the Mayor not announcing that he wouldn't be running, so no one really had a chance to really jump in with a lot of forethought on the matter. He further stated we all feel the same, we wish we had 5-10 people instead of 4. He further stated he wished we could have a run off Election like he participated in in College, but we don't have the time and we can all live with it. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated if we look at qualifications we have to look at the City as an entity. The qualifications of an individual tonight could be very different than what qualifications could be from someone sitting on Council several years from now. She stated she has to look at why she ran for Council and why she continues to raise the issues she does. She further stated the City has refused to move into the 21st century. There have been many issues that have come up, whether it be management, or lack of policies, or lack of planning, there is a lot of things the City has not moved forward with expediency where she thinks they should have.

Councilmember Kurtzweil stated the City is at a serious cross road, there are issues that need to be resolved and they need to be smart decisions. She stated she is looking for someone with a good intellect, someone that is able to solve problems, and move the City forward. She stated she isn't interested in the old pennies that keep coming back and regurgitating what we used to do in the City because it is clear what the City used to do has brought the City to where it is today. She further stated it has only been through aggressive change that the downtown is finally changing, and screaming about the budget for 2 years that maybe we will get a budget that is moving the City forward with planning and not just going from year to year. She further explained the individual has to have a little vision and be current technology wise. She stated there are many things that are happening that could be handled with apps or

certain technological training which for some reason the City isn't using or doesn't have an interest to use. That is the broad scope she is looking for and she thinks there is a candidate here.

Councilmember Parisien stated she feels there is a candidate that is head and shoulders over the rest. Mr. Kennedy has excellent references, such as Bob Donohue, Bob Martin and Phil Wierpert, all credible in the community. She then thanked him for filling out the application completely because some applicants did not. She stated Mr. Kennedy has attended council meetings for years, and he understands the dynamics on Council and he has a complete understanding inside and out. She further stated having 45 years in the community is a long time. She stated he understands the community and you know people by name. He is integral in the community, and that is what she is looking for. She stated his demeanor is very professional and we need someone on Council that clearly understands the issues.

Councilmember Kivell stated Mr. Kennedy has been involved with the Council meetings for years. He further stated he clearly has been following the trajectory of the City and even though it is being projected that everything's is a failure and it is only by the grace of having new members that we are finally seeing the light. Being around for so long is helpful, he knows how things go, he knows what has worked, and what hasn't worked. He further stated the demonstration with the meters and not overextending your influence on budgets, but the informational package could be a benefit package on what we are spending dollars on. That was a great example of being able to think quick on your feet and have impact on our day to day. He further stated this isn't meant as a dig on Ms. Enstad, because he hopes Mr. Kennedy will get the seat on Council, but he hopes the other candidates can become board or commission members. He stated being more integrated in the City so you can speak from the inside. It is easy to take cheap shots from the crowd when you don't understand how things are done. You don't get to just make a proclamation to make things happen. It isn't a simple matter of demanding something is done, you get compliance and buy in from the rest of the board and then things get moving. He further stated there was a discussion on using McHattie Park for the public safety building, and the fact that decision would encroach on Parks and Recreation's long-term planning. They have an approved plan. There are many moving parts to get something accomplished. It isn't as though we couldn't come to more decisions more quickly, the dynamics on Council is different but if the top doesn't follow through with the direction they give, they are still in the same boat. He stated his choice is Mr. Kennedy he will have an immediate impact on assisting to help move things forward.

Councilmember Walton stated she finds it interesting 3 out of the 4 ran for Council in November. She further stated Mr. Kennedy is the only one that didn't run. He came to every meeting, but she doesn't understand why he didn't run. Mayor Pelchat stated things change in people's lives, the chemistry of this team changed which is why they opened it to the community. He appreciates everyone that applied. He further stated what changed. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated she is a big election person and she will stick with the voters. She is committed to the democratic process, she doesn't always agree with the voters, but you move on. She further stated the results of the last election the spread was very thin. She wants to thank the individuals that spent 5 months of their life campaigning, knocking on doors. She thinks anyone can do this job. She doesn't think Mr. Kennedy's skills are that necessarily unique, they are good, but necessary. This is more about reading and analyzing. She stated if you look at the credentials of other Councilmembers that have been here before they didn't have his credentials and they did fine. She further stated she is going to stick with the voters, she doesn't want to disenfranchise the voters. We have a candidate that received 379 votes. That is the public saying this is someone they want to see on Council. Councilmember Parisien stated she disagrees because the candidates ran for Mayor, this is a seat for Council Not Mayoral seat. She stated if we were going the vote route, Joyce would have been next in line. The Charter doesn't specify the process to do this. She stated we chose to look at the candidates to see what people can offer to the community. Councilmember Parisien further stated this is not a race, this is an interview, the voters voted us in to make the decisions. Councilmember Kurtzweil

stated she doesn't think you should ever disenfranchise the voters, it is disruptive. She doesn't think they are collectively that wrong. She wonders what it would be like if Carl Richards was interviewing to sit on Council and how would he feel and maybe he was being disenfranchised because he didn't have the resume people were looking for even though his vote was very high. You can't ever discount what the voters say. This is just a difference of opinion. Councilmember Richards stated he wished we could elect a 7-man council in at this point in time, but that isn't the case and we have to make a choice and he is going to choose who he thinks will be the best person to finish Rzyzi's expiring term in the crisis we are in. He further stated he has to vote for who will help the City the most.

CM 1-3-18 MOTION TO APPOINT STEVE KENNEDY AS REPLACEMENT FOR COUNCILMEMBER RYZYI'S TERM

Motion by Kivell, supported by Parisien

Motion to appoint Steve Kennedy as replacement for Joe Rzyzi's term on Council

ROLL CALL VOTE: Kivell- Yes
 Parisien- Yes
 Richards- Yes
 Walton- No
 Kurtzweil- No
 Pelchat- Yes

Clerk Deaton then swore in Mr. Kennedy as Councilmember Steve Kennedy.

Councilmember Kennedy then thanked Council, he stated he is humbled and will do his best.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council thanked everyone for coming and congratulated Mr. Kennedy.

Councilmember Kurtzweil stated there were great candidates and she hopes they get involved with the City and get involved with other Boards and Commissions. She then invited Steve Kennedy to the meeting on Saturday regarding governmental funding.

Councilmember Richards stated we have an opportunity to come up with new ideas. He stated he has a back log of things he has talked about the last few years. From time to time when he spoke at the podium and he has brought some before Council and we have a wonderful opportunity to discuss them. He further stated something is coming at us down the road where we will have to make a decision and he will go along with what they want, but he will have strings attached. He then stated he will brief everyone and the goal is to save the city a million to 2 million dollars. If we accomplish 80% we will rewrite the course of history.

Mayor Pelchat thanked everyone as well as Attorney Johnson.

ADJOURNMENT

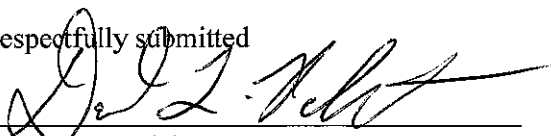
CM 4-1-18 MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion by Kivell, supported by Richards

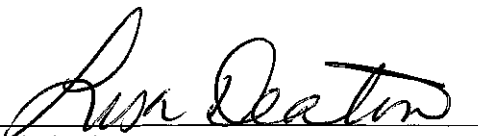
Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:52 p.m.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted



Mayor Dan Pelchat



Clerk Lisa Deaton