



AGENDA

Henderson City Council Special Meeting

Tuesday 1 March 2011, 7:00 P.M.

R. G. (Chick) Young, Jr. Council Chambers, Municipal Building

134 Rose Avenue

Henderson, North Carolina

In order to provide for the highest standards of ethical behavior and Transparency in Governance as well as provide for good and open government, the City Council has approved Core Values regarding Ethical Behavior¹ and Transparency in Governance². The Mayor now inquires as to whether any Council Member knows of any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict, with respect to matters before the City Council. If any Council Members knows of a conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict, please state so at this time.

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- IV. OPENING COMMENTS**
- V. INTERVIEW OF APPLICANTS**
 - a) Iris A. Dethmers
 - b) Glean Henderson, Jr.
 - c) Dorothy Hinton
 - d) James C. Kearney, Sr.
 - e) Lucille Quinitchette-Williams
 - f) Juanita K. Somerville
- VI. CLOSING COMMENTS**
- VII. ADJOURNMENT**

¹ **Core Value 4: Ethical Behavior:** We value the public trust and will perform our duties and responsibilities with the highest levels of integrity, honesty, trustworthiness and professionalism.

² **Core Value 10: Transparency in Governance:** We value transparency in the governance and operations of the City.

**City Council Minutes
Special Called Meeting
1 March 2011**

PRESENT

Mayor James D. O'Geary, Presiding; and Council Members, Sara M. Coffey, Michael C. Inscoc, D. Michael Rainey, Brenda G. Peace-Jenkins, Garry D. Daeke, and Lonnie Davis, Jr.

ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

City Manager Ray Griffin, City Attorney John Zollicoffer, City Clerk Esther J. McCrackin, Assistant City Manager Frank Frazier.

CALL TO ORDER

The 1 March 2011 Special Called Meeting of the Henderson City Council was called to order by Mayor James D. O'Geary at 7:01 p.m. in the R. G. "Chick" Young, Jr. Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 134 Rose Avenue, Henderson, NC.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk called the roll and advised Mayor O'Geary a quorum was present.

APPROVAL of AGENDA

Mayor O'Geary asked if there were any adjustments to the Agenda. City Manager Griffin requested there would be a Closed Session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3) for Attorney-Client matters Mayor O'Geary asked for the pleasure of Council. Council Member Rainey moved to accept the Agenda as adjusted. Motion seconded by Council Member Davis and unanimously approved.

OPENING COMMENTS

Mayor O'Geary welcomed all the applicants and citizens in attendance. Mayor O'Geary explained the applicants would be interviewed in alphabetical order and asked them to spend approximately three (3) minutes introducing themselves and explaining why they were interested in filling the vacant seat of Mrs. Mary Emma Evans. Mayor O'Geary stated there would be a

fifteen (15) minute question and answer period. With that said, Mayor O'Geary asked Ms. Iris A. Dethmers to come forward.

INTERVIEW OF APPLICANTS

Ms. Dethmers stated she was born in Argentina and came to this country not speaking the English language. She currently is a principal.

Council Member Coffey asked if Ms. Dethmers felt she had the time to dedicate to the position.

Has spoken to her superintendent, staff and family regarding the time involved and has their support. Full of passion for the position.

Council Member Inscoe asked about joint funding

Agreed with mutual responsibility in a fair manner

Council Member Rainey asked what she would bring to the table in decision making

Work together – research information. As job counselor in prior position felt job opportunities are highly important to community

Council Member Peace-Jenkins asked what are the City's greatest needs

Wards are all in similar needs – lack of jobs – need to recruit employers

Council Member Daeke asked one subject she would like to become a part of

Recruitment – felt dysfunction is due to lack of jobs

Council Member Davis asked about the horizon

One who sees cup always overflowing

Council Member Daye asked about teamwork

Heart is there

With no further questions, Mayor O'Geary thanked Ms. Dethmers for her willingness to serve and asked Mr. Glean Henderson, Jr. to come forward.

Mr. Glean Henderson Jr. briefly stated he has worked for the Department of Corrections for ten (10) years and sees great needs for the City

Council Member Inscoe asked about whether City should participate with EDC

Goes hand in hand

Council Member Rainey asked what he would serve with calmness and togetherness

Would state if disagreed but have open mind to fair decisions – able to make decisions that would be unpopular for good of community

Council Member Peace-Jenkins asked what would make him a good representative of the Ward

Visits a lot of people in ward

Council Member Daeke stated big shoes to fill – asked what his heart's priority is

Affordable services – water high people can't afford – Parks & Recreation

Council Member Davis asked what Henderson has to offer as a whole

Good place to be – good police department – fire department speaks well of Henderson and good Council

Council Member Daye if team player for all residents not just Ward person

Agreed

Council Member Coffey asked about joint funding.

Henderson is part of County – some things need to be financially shared.

Mayor O'Geary thanked Mr. Henderson for his service to the City and his desire to continue to serve. The Mayor then asked Ms. Dorothy Hinton to come forward.

Ms. Hinton stated she was born in South Carolina and moved to Henderson from NYC. Goes after dreams with a passion – honored to sit before Council – volunteers on Arts Council and Library for Kids.

Hope
Obedient
Necessary
Opportunity
Reward

Minute Book 42

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Council Member Rainey asked what brought her to Henderson from Raleigh

Comfortable/safe/loving and warm community/nourishing life/picket fence/revitalize-enhance live

Council Member Peace-Jenkins asked about joint funding - what would she delete if anything

Live in error of innovation – best not to delete anything

Council Member Daeke asked about her strengths

Health care provider/educator/research. Felt education is foundation for everything.

Council Member Davis asked what Henderson lacks

Nothing lacking – would like to serve to make better

Council Member Daye asked if no one agreed with her point of view, would she pout.

Is a team player as health care provider – adults learn to disagree

Council Member Coffey stated there is a difference between necessities and niceties – what should be funded or not funded

Nothing should change

Council Member Inscoe asked about shortfalls specific to waste treatment plant

Willing to do what is best

With no further questions, Mayor O’Geary thanked Ms. Hinton for her interest and asked Mr. James Kearney to come forward.

Mr. Kearney has lived in Henderson for almost 30 years, served in the military and USDA. No elected experience but does have experience in finding funding.

Council Member Peace-Jenkins asked rigidity of military and how flexible he would be

Looks at pros/cons – advantages/disadvantages. Has principles that will stand up for but disagreements come during discussion – uphold final decision

Council Member Daeke asked about weakness

Public Speaking – can do but not comfortable

Council Member Davis asked about scheme of Council and where fit in

Personnel/infrastructure

Council Member Daye asked about working together.

Looks at pros/cons – advantages/disadvantages. Has principles that will stand up for but disagreements come during discussion – uphold final decision

Council Member Coffey asked about low income housing

Sees changes being made by City – demolition – homes improving. Sees building of pride in home ownership

Council Member Inscoe asked about contributions City should make to EDC

City has large amount of land – sees growth 10-15 jobs at a time from private businesses – people is strength/promote 90% good not 10% bad

Council Member Rainey asked about reservations in making hard decisions at budget time

Not as long as not “cherry picking” Should be fair, credible, balanced process

Mayor O’Geary thanked Mr. Kearney for his desire to serve and asked Ms. Lucille Quinitchette-Williams to come forward and introduce herself to Council.

Ms. Quinitchette-Williams is a native of Henderson, sister to Mary Emma Evans/understands about Council through sister, started Headstart/Job Corp, is a pastor and GAL. Feels would be asset to Council.

Council Member Daeke asked shared passion with Mary Emma Evans

Little people – voice for voiceless/help for helpless

Council Member Davis asked about quick response

Would not respond quickly – problems of years will not be solved quickly

Council Member Daye asked about raising taxes.

Hats thought but if necessary would consider and do what is best

Council Member Coffey asked about housing in the City

Need more/better/have good new existing – better for low income and seniors

Council Member Inscoe asked about utilities and raising fees

Yes to increase if water treatment system is not up to par - Safe water necessary for all

Council Member Rainey asked what Ms. Quinitchette-Williams has in mind

Offer expertise to help make Henderson better place

Council Member Peace-Jenkins asked why she felt Ms. Evans named someone else for her seat

Someone bold to stand up and speak. Felt Ms. Evans was “David” in family

With no further questions, Mayor O’Geary thanked Ms. Quinitchette-Williams and asked Ms. Juanita Somerville to come forward.

Ms. Somerville thanked Council for the opportunity. Stated she was first black police officer in Henderson and first in DMV. Currently working at Gateway CDC

Council Member Davis asked about her comment about strength of Ward

Closest to US1 and I-85 – strategically placed for businesses-access

Council Member Daye asked about “Ms Henderson” and what help was needed for the City.

Look with pride – potential progress

Council Member Coffey asked how will fit in

Serves on Clean Up Henderson and Human Relations Commission – where complaints are heard – meet people where they are – walk through issues – no man is an island – work with people to understand reality

Council Member Inscoe asked about EDC

Yes worked in past to attract businesses – pro-rate/whatever is needed

Council Member Rainey asked micromanaging

Go to individual and find out how to resolve - People see micromanaging as asking questions – whether elected or not will work to resolve problems

Council Member Peace-Jenkins asked about accessibility for special meetings

Council would take president over other issues – punctual and good steward of time

Council Member Daeke asked about joint funding with library (city paying more than County)

Agree with joint funding – not as easy for County people to access as City

Mayor O'Geary thanked Ms. Somerville for her service and desire to serve.

Council Member Peace-Jenkins thanked each applicant for their interest and interviews with Council this evening. All Council Members agreed.

Mayor O'Geary reminded the applicants that a public vote would take place at the next regular session which is scheduled for 14 March at 7:00 p.m. He also thanked all the applicants again for their desire to serve the citizens of Henderson in this capacity and told them he would look forward to working with the selected applicant.

Mayor O'Geary asked if Council was ready to move to Closed Session and if there would be any statement following the session. City Manager Griffin stated no. Motion was made by Council Member Inscoe and seconded by Council Member Rainey. Council moved into Closed Session at 8:18 p.m.

Council reconvened at 9:17 p.m. with a motion made by Council Member Coffey which was seconded by Council Member Rainey.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Rainey moved for adjournment. Motion seconded by Council Member Inscoe and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

James D. O'Geary
Mayor

ATTEST:

Esther J. McCrackin
City Clerk