



CITY OF NEWARK CITY COUNCIL

City Administration Building, City Council Chambers

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Minutes Special Meeting Thursday, June 27, 2024 6:30 P.M

A. ROLL CALL

Mayor Hannon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Vice Mayor Freitas and Council Members Jorgens were present. Council Member Collazo was noted absent.

B. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

1. Provide direction regarding how to fill City Council Member vacancy

City Attorney Kokotaylo announced that Council Member Bucci resigned from the City Council effective on June 27, 2024, at 5 p.m. He gave a presentation outlining the City Council options to leave the seat vacant and call an election to fill the unexpired term or to appoint an individual to fill the vacated seat until the election. Presentation on file with City Clerk.

Jason Miguel stated his support for leaving the seat vacant until the election. He stated the appointee would have an unfair advantage if they ran for the seat.

Mayor Hannon stated that at least 3 council members were needed for a quorum and known future absences made that difficult. He recommended the application process, interviews on July 8, and appointment to fill the seat until the November election results were certified for the remainder of the term.

Council Member Jorgens stated that he struggled with an appointment at this late date. If they appoint someone who runs for the seat, incumbents typically do not

lose elections in Newark. He thought it would benefit the potential candidate.

Vice Mayor Freitas stated his preference to interview candidates on July 8th.

Council Member Jorgens stated they had a quorum for this meeting and anticipated that they would continue to have quorums.

Mayor Hannon moved, Vice Mayor Freitas seconded to hold an application process from June 28 to July 7 at 5 pm., interview qualified candidates on July 8 and make a decision that night to fill the vacancy until the November election results were certified. The motion passed, 3 AYES, 1 ABSENT.

Council Member Jorgens explained that he voted affirmatively to allow this process to move forward, but that 3 affirmative votes would be needed to appoint someone.

City Manager Benoun requested that the Council Members submit any potential questions for the interviews to staff.

c. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hannon adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Sheila Harrington
City Clerk