

City Council Special Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2024
4:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Crestview City Council was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mayor JB Whitten. Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Doug Capps and Council members: Ryan Bullard, Brandon Frost, and Shannon Hayes. Also present: City Manager Tim Bolduc, City Clerk Maryanne Girard, City Attorney Jonathan Holloway, and various staff members. Mayor JB Whitten mentioned the interviews are to replace Joe Blocker who resigned effective the 30th of November.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor JB Whitten asked former Citizen of the Year, Mike Carroll, to lead the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approve Agenda

Mayor JB Whitten called for action.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Doug Capps and seconded by Councilmember Ryan Bullard to approve the agenda, as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Doug Capps, Ryan Bullard, Shannon Hayes, Brandon Frost. Nays: None. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. Overview of the Ground Rules

4.1. Council Selection Process

Mayor JB Whitten went over the ground rules for the selection process stating the councilmembers ranked the top three candidates of the applications received.

City Manager T. Bolduc stated that the candidates who are not being interviewed will be seated in the hallway. Kristen Sallberg drew the first place in the process.

Motion by Councilmember Brandon Frost and seconded by Councilmember Shannon Hayes to approve the process.

Roll Call: Ayes: Doug Capps, Ryan Bullard, Shannon Hayes, Brandon Frost. Nays: None. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember R. Bullard and seconded by Councilmember Shannon Hayes to swear in the new Council member at the end of the meeting.

Discussion ensued on whether the selectee should be sworn in at the end of the meeting or wait until after the regular meeting because the candidate will not have time to review the materials.

Motion by Councilmember R. Bullard and seconded by Councilmember Brandon Frost to approve the amendment to swear in the new councilmember at the end of the

regular Council meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: Doug Capps, Ryan Bullard, Shannon Hayes, Brandon Frost. Nays: None. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Candidate 1 Presentation

Kristen Sallberg came forward to discuss her decision to serve. She said she is a public servant at heart. She plans to bring the voice of the people forward and focus on communication and feedback.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps asked how she would handle the blight removal. Kristen Sallberg replied she works in public safety stating blight does need to be addressed and gave an example of assisting a person in cleaning up his yard.

5.1 Councilmember B. Frost asked what the three greatest strengths of Crestview are, and Kristen Sallberg replied safety, assisting the elderly and homeless, and the housing shortage.

Councilmember S. Hayes asked what the major challenge is presently, and Kristen Sallberg replied that we need to get programs in place for the homeless.

Councilmember R. Bullard asked about the criticism of the city manager, as well as law enforcement and fire safety. Kristen Sallberg replied she will support them by educating the public.

Kristen Sallberg provided a wrap up stating she likes the "Choose the View" slogan.

6. Candidate 2 Presentation

Darice Allison came forward stating her nickname is Dusty. She went over the history of her time in Crestview, her law enforcement background and stated she is an advocate of youth sports. Her heart's desire is to be a part of the trajectory of where our city is going. She mentioned the city's keeping God first direction and welcomes the growth.

Councilmember R. Bullard asked how she sees the city evolving and she replied that it will continue to grow with the current leadership.

6.1 Councilmember S. Hayes asked about what the major challenge is for the city. Dusty replied that the biggest challenge is the rate of growth and keeping up with the provisions such as water and sewer.

Councilmember B. Frost asked about the three greatest strengths, and Dusty replied our leadership, unity among city officials and churches, and the availability of what we have to offer, such as a recreational complex.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps asked about the blight program, and Dusty replied that she supports Code Enforcement. In order for the city to be in a positive light, the blight has to be removed.

Councilmember B. Frost also asked what she would like to accomplish in the next two years, and Dusty replied she favors enriching the youth programs.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps asked about her thoughts on the millage rate reduction, and Dusty replied that the higher millage rate could be utilized toward infrastructure.

Dusty Allison wrapped up that she would love to give back to her community.

7. Candidate 3 Presentation

The last candidate, Lorenzo Robbins, came forward. He stated he is a lifelong resident. He is an Officer of the Court and has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He is familiar with the Sunshine Law. He would love to be the voice of the people. He will garner more participation with citizens with morality, integrity and professionalism.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps asked about the blight concerns, stating Mr. Blocker was very concerned. Mr. Robbins replied that we need to assist the elderly, so they can comply with code enforcement.

Councilmember B. Frost asked about the three greatest strengths, and L. Robbins replied transparency, communication, and the citizens' concerns.

Councilmember S. Hayes asked what he thinks is the most important challenge and a solution for it. Mr. L. Robbins replied that we need more community involvement, improved traffic flow and making people more aware of what we are trying to do.

- 7.1 Councilmember R. Bullard asked how he feels about our current city leadership and public safety. Mr. L. Robbins replied that the city manager is doing a good job, although he has not interacted with the city manager adding he has not heard anything about the police chief.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps asked about the reduction of the millage rate and asked about improving the infrastructure. L. Robbins replied he could not answer without research.

Councilmember S. Hayes asked about the traffic and a solution, and Mr. L. Robbins replied that he would need to do research.

Councilmember R. Bullard asked what he would like to achieve in the next couple of years, and Mr. L. Robbins replied he would to improve Allen Park.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps asked about how he handle criticism, and Mr. L. Robbins replied that he would listen and gain understanding.

Mr. L. Robbins provided a wrap up stating he will uphold the motto, "One city One mission" by providing professional exceptional services. He would have a

commitment to the Council and community and thanked the Mayor and Council and those who showed up to support the candidates.

Mr. Holloway excused himself at 5:03 p.m.

8. Council Follow Up Questions

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment.

Councilmember R. Bullard asked K. Sallberg what sets her apart from the other candidates, and she replied that she will serve the community, improve communication with the public, and keep the city a family-centric community.

Dusty Allison replied that what she brings to the table is her history in Crestview, passion for the people, as she is active in her church. She added she is a relationship person, and she worked with the state for 27 years. She also trained over 200 employees.

Lorenzo Robbins replied that he will bring his industrious, self-motivated experience in the justice department for 27 years forward. He can interact to bring people on board.

Councilmember S. Hayes asked each candidate asked what the primary function of the city Council is, and Lorenzo Robbins replied it is to serve, make policy, and procedures to run the city.

Kristen Sallberg replied that the Council is responsible for making ordinances and agreements that benefit the city, represent the city and represent the citizens and ensure they are aware.

Dusty Allison replied it is to serve with integrity, give hope for growth with the youth, and represent the city.

Councilmember B. Frost asked what they think is the way to reach out to other city residents and how will they push the information out. Kristen Sallberg replied that the councilmember will need to communicate by means of a newsletter and work on communications for the entire city.

Dusty Allison replied that she would like to meet with the employees and supervisors and disperse the information back to the Council.

Lorenzo Robbins said he would reach out to other Council members on how they are reaching out to their residents.

9. Public Comments

Mayor Pro-Tem Doug Capps called for comment.

Rex Fitzgerald stated he supports Dusty Allison saying she has hours with Project Hope and Saving Grace. She loves the people of the city.

Troy Peaden spoke on behalf of Dusty Allison, stating she has a passion for youth and athletics, and she wants to give a voice to those who cannot advocate for themselves.

Kent Robbins, brother of Lorenzo Robbins, stating Lorenzo is a member of the Housing Authority and a great fit.

Dane Posey said he is an Air Force resident and has grown to love the city. He spoke for Dusty as a servant leader adding she will want to serve the community. He says she serves as a moral compass and will connect the past with the future.

April McDaniel spoke on behalf of Lorenzo Robbins stating he has demonstrated a sincere commitment.

Bryan Lewis came forward to support Lorenzo Robbins stating he has served on their Board and stated he has helped him out personally.

City Attorney J. Holloway returned at 5:24 p.m.

Kelly from Project Hope spoke for Dusty Allison. She stated that Dusty would represent the city and do what is best for the city. Dusty provides wisdom and understanding.

Alex Barthé came forward stating we have affordable housing needs, forging military partnerships, and infrastructure concerns. He stated he supports Dusty and Lorenzo.

Reverend Cecil Williams stated he supports Lorenzo Robbins, as he knows the needs of the community.

Mayor JB Whitten closed public portion at 5:29 p.m.

10. Council Discussion

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment.

Councilmember R. Bullard said each candidate brought something forward and stated Lorenzo Robbins is his top candidate, as his presentation was dynamic. Kristen was his second choice.

Councilmember S. Hayes said the Council legislates, approves the budget and elects the city manager. Dusty Allison spoke from the heart, but Mr. Robbins came prepared.

Councilmember B. Frost mentioned that Dusty spoke about the youth, and Mr. Robbins spoke on the need for improvement at Allen Park.

Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps stated they all did very well.

Mayor JB Whitten thanked the candidates for their participation.

11. Selection and Vote

Mayor JB Whitten called for comment.

After discussion, the City Council concurred on the choice.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem D. Capps and seconded by Councilmember Brandon Frost to nominate Dusty Allison for City Council.

Roll Call: Ayes: Doug Capps, Ryan Bullard, Shannon Hayes, Brandon Frost. Nays: None. All ayes. Motion carried.

12. Adjournment

Mayor JB Whitten adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

Minutes approved this 13th day of January 2025.



JB Whitten

Mayor



Maryanne Girard

City Clerk

Proper Notice having been duly given