

NORTH OGDEN CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2018

The North Ogden City Council convened in a special meeting on January 11, 2018 at 8:02 p.m. at the North Ogden City Office at 505 East 2600 North. Notice of time, place, and agenda of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the municipal office and posted to the Utah State Website on January 10, 2018. Notice of the annual meeting schedule was published in the Standard-Examiner on December 31, 2017.

PRESENT: Brent Taylor Mayor
 Blake Cevering Council Member
 Sara Fawson Council Member
 Cheryl Stoker Council Member
 Phillip Swanson Council Member
 Carl Turner Council Member

STAFF PRESENT: Jon Call City Administrator/Attorney
 Annette Spendlove City Recorder/HR Director
 Dave Espinoza Public Works Director

VISITORS: Lyman Stoker Ryan Wilcox Bob Buswell
 Don Waite Dave Hulme Randy Winn
 Gary Belton Sandy Heiner Cal Heiner
 Brent Chugg Monte Smith Julie Smith
 Glenn Donnelson

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order. Randy Winn offered the invocation and Dave Hulme led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

2. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO SELECT A TEMPORARY MAYOR AND SET EMOLUMENTS.

Mayor Taylor reviewed Section 20A-1-513 of Utah Code Annotated, which provides elected officials the ability to request a leave of absence for military service; this same Code Section also provides the process for a city to follow to fill the temporarily vacant position. The qualifications an individual must meet in order to be appointed to the position are the same qualifications any individual wishing to hold elected office must

meet: the person must be over 18 years of age, a registered voter, and reside within the boundaries of the City. The selected appointee should be appointed with their term to begin on the day Mayor Taylor deploys, which is slated to be January 19, 2018. If this were a permanent replacement due to vacancy on the Governing Body created by a resignation, the process would be much more lengthy and involved, but given that this is a temporary leave of absence, the process to fill the vacancy is much simpler. The appointee shall have all the powers and duties prescribed to the office for which the temporary replacement was appointed for the duration of the elected official's military leave. The elected official shall not exercise any of their powers of office while on leave. If the appointment is not made before elected official departs for leave, no person may be appointed to the office and the position will remain vacant until the leave of absence ends. Finally, the Governing Body shall establish the distribution of the emoluments, or compensation, for office between the elected official and the temporary replacement.

Council Member Turner asked what would happen if the Council did not appoint someone to the temporary position prior to Mayor Taylor's deployment. He asked if the Council could have the appointed Mayor Pro Temp fulfill the duties of the position during the leave of absence. Mayor Taylor answered yes. He then reviewed the following memo regarding his recommendation for the appointee to the position:

"The City has had some outstanding applicants of highly qualified leaders who would do an excellent job as the temporary Mayor of North Ogden City for the next year. Of those wonderful citizens, he recommended Brent Chugg for Council consideration; Mr. Chugg has a great history of service with the City and is known and respected by Council Members and staff. He has a long track record of effective executive leadership in the private sector and is now retired and available to serve. Mr. Chugg served as the volunteer Project Manager for the Public Works facility that North Ogden City constructed from 2013-2014. Before construction began, he was also the Chairman of the Public Works Committee, which did incredible work in reviewing the need for the project, establishing parameters and scope for the project, and then preparing the project specifics for construction. This was a challenging time in City history, with strong opinions about the project and divisions on the City Council. Brent was a consensus pick of "both sides" to run the project, and his charismatic and friendly personality significantly reduced tensions and ensured that everyone on the Committee felt their voice was heard. Bringing people together at that time seemed nearly impossible, but Mr. Chugg was able to do just that. He gave hundreds of hours of service during the planning and construction of our incredible facility, and was a primary driving force behind the project being delivered under budget and on time. Mr. Chugg also has many years of executive experience, culminating as a Manger of Production for the LDS Church Welfare Department, with oversight of 54 large agricultural operations and budgets of up to \$40 million dollars. He has led hundreds of employees in his career, and has shown himself in past interactions with our employees to be a positive and visionary leader. Because of

his background with the city, I know Mr. Chugg will be able to enter right into service as mayor and that he will be able to continue the positive climate currently in North Ogden City. I am confident that he will be an excellent manager for our city employees and that he will interface respectfully and positively with the City Council. My personal knowledge of Mr. Chugg's personality and his track record here at North Ogden City gives me complete confidence of leaving my responsibilities in his hands. I ask that you consider this recommendation as you deliberate on who to appoint."

Council Member Swanson stated he was very impressed and astounded by the qualifications of the individuals that applied for this position. However, he agreed with the Mayor's suggestion to appoint Mr. Chugg. His background with Mr. Chugg includes working with him on the Public Works Committee and witnessing how he operates and his leadership style. He saw Mr. Chugg work with City employees and other parties on what was a very contentious issue at one point in time and it was no small task to bring diverse sides together to ultimately agree upon the design and construction of the great Public Works Facility the City now has. He reiterated the qualifications of both candidates are 'off the charts' and it is no discredit to the other candidate that he supports Mr. Chugg based upon his own personal experience.

Council Member Fawson stated she was also very impressed with the qualifications of the two candidates for this position; their leadership qualities would help the City move forward during Mayor Taylor's absence. She was impressed by the organizational skills of Gary Belton. She discussed the process the City has followed to advertise the vacancy and recruit applicants. She was happy that the Mayor supported the idea of opening the position for applications rather than simply recommending someone be appointed to fill his position, though she understands the open period was very short. The response was great and she is happy that there are good people in the City that are willing to serve. She then noted Mayor Taylor has been elected to the position of Mayor and he has some objectives set out for his term and out of respect for the Mayor, she would like to support his recommendation to appoint a candidate that may seek to fulfill his objectives and maintain a favorable position for him to come back to after his deployment concludes.

Council Member Turner stated he does not know Mr. Chugg very well and will need to defer to his fellow Council Members and the Mayor regarding the quality of his skills. However, he does know Mr. Belton very well and when he saw that he had applied for the position he was very excited. He is confident that Mr. Belton would do a great job for the City during Mayor Taylor's absence. He stated he would nominate Mr. Belton to be appointed, but he will support whomever the Council chooses to fill the position as he trusts the Mayor and his fellow Council Members. He thanked both candidates for applying and indicated he would like to hear from both of them this evening. He also encouraged both of them to be involved in the City regardless of the decision that is made tonight. He stated that when he was first elected to the City Council because he wanted to get more involved and he has enjoyed it and has met so many great people.

Council Member Stoker stated it is commendable for anyone to have applied for this position; serving as an elected official is very rewarding and she is appreciative that others were willing to apply to fill the vacancy. She stated she was also impressed by the resumes of both Mr. Chugg and Mr. Belton. She was also involved in the Public Works Facility project and was impressed with the manner in which Mr. Chugg was able to bring everyone together to ultimately support the project that was completed in the City. She stated she will also support the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Mr. Chugg.

Council Member Cevering stated that when he first decided to seek election to the position of City Council, he was amazed by the number of people who asked him if it was something he really wanted to do. He had the opportunity to serve as a member of the Planning Commission, and though it was very rewarding, there were also moments that were very tense and difficult as important decisions were being rendered in the City. When Mayor Taylor talked to the City Council about his vacancy, he wondered who would be willing to serve as Mayor for one year and as he reviewed both of the applications he felt that both men are absolutely incredible and would do an amazing job. He has had more experience in his lifetime with Mr. Chugg and he is aware of the involvement he had in the Public Works Facility project. Because that was a difficult time in the City, he is aware that he was able to bring people together and mend feelings that had been hurt. Because of that, he supports Mayor Taylor's recommendation, but he emphasized that has nothing to do with Mr. Belton's qualifications as he would be a great candidate as well.

Mayor Taylor invited comments from the two candidates.

Mr. Belton stated that no one is more surprised than him that he is a candidate for this position; it has been an interesting three days as he considered submitting an application for the position and he is confident that whoever is selected will be successful at the position. He briefly reviewed his professional experience in the military and in the private sector and noted that at this point in time he has no ambitions to begin a new career, in politics or otherwise; however, he does believe in the concept of service. His parents immigrated to the United States from Canada when he was eight years old and he has always had a strong sense that this is his Country and he wants to be part of it. As he was growing up during the Vietnam era, he could have chosen to move back to Canada as he had dual citizenship, but he chose to enlist in and serve in the military instead. He stated he feels the Council will make the best choice for the community at this time and he appreciates the opportunity to have applied and be considered for this position. He stated that if he can serve in some other capacity, he is willing to do so.

Mr. Chugg stated that he appreciates the comments made this evening. When reflecting on this opportunity, he felt that if Mayor Taylor is willing to serve the Country in his military capacity, there ought to be something that he could do to help out. That is the reason he applied. He stated he was raised in Cache Valley on a farm and he is now married and has five boys and 16 grandchildren. He graduated from Utah State

University and has had a long career – 50 years experience – working in many large operations. He looks forward to applying his talents and helping however he can. He stated he will be praying for Mayor Taylor’s safe return and he has enjoyed working with Mayor Taylor and the entire City Council. Things are going great in North Ogden and things are moving forward in a very progressive way and that has been great to see. It would be his desire to keep things going in that direction. He thanked the Council for their consideration and indicated he looks forward to the opportunity to work with them.

Council Member Swanson motioned to appoint Brent Chugg to serve as Temporary Mayor pursuant to Utah Code 20A-1-513. Council Member Stoker seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Fawson	aye
Council Member Stoker	aye
Council Member Swanson	aye
Council Member Turner	aye

The motion carried.

Mayor Taylor recommended that discussions regarding the salary to be afforded to Mr. Chugg be discussed and acted upon during the Council meeting scheduled for next Tuesday as he will still be present as the Mayor.

Council Member Swanson indicated that Senator Mike Lee has sent Ryan Wilcox to provide a presentation and he asked that he be given a few minutes to provide that presentation. He stated he would also like to add an item to the agenda to allow for public comments given that this is a public meeting.

Council Member Swanson motioned to amend the agenda to allow for a presentation from Ryan Wilcox on behalf of Senator Mike Lee, and to add public comments. Council Member Fawson seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Fawson	aye
Council Member Stoker	aye
Council Member Swanson	aye
Council Member Turner	aye

The motion carried.

2. **PRESENTATION FROM SENATOR MIKE LEE'S OFFICE**

Ryan Wilcox presented the City Council with a letter from Senator Lee's Office; he read the letter for the record of the meeting:

"Dear Mayor Taylor,

I would like to present you with this flag and thank you for your service, not only for our Country, but also to the City of North Ogden. My hope is that this flag will serve as a reminder of love, support, and prayers coming to you and your fellow soldiers from the people of Utah. I am grateful for Utahans like yourself who carry our flag into harm's way for the cause of freedom. This flag was flown over the United States Capitol in honor of Brent Taylor, Utah Army National Guard.

With deep respect,

Senator Mike S. Lee"

Mr. Wilcox presented Mayor Taylor with the letter, the flag, and also a certificate that certifies the flag was flown over the United States Capitol. He then added he helped to write the Utah law that is being referenced tonight that allows an elected official to take a leave of absence for military service. To be able to have a friend use that law to be able to serve the Country and his community simultaneously is personally gratifying. He stated many people will be praying for him during his deployment and he looks forward to Mayor Taylor's safe return.

Mayor Taylor thanked Mr. Wilcox. He stated that two days ago he got a call from an unknown phone number and it was Senator Lee; the Senator took the time to call him during what is the busiest time of year for him and that was very impressive to him. He stated that Mr. Wilcox has been a great representative of the community as he has served in Senator Lee's office and he thanked him for his kind words.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Julie Smith, 835 E. 3350 N., stated she wanted to take the opportunity to thank Mayor Taylor and the City Council for their service. Often the citizens just bring their problems to the City Council and don't often take the time to thank them. She stated she loves it when the Mayor publishes videos to the City's website and his Facebook page in an effort to educate the citizens about what it takes to keep the City safe and beautiful. She feels that he goes above and beyond and she thanked him for his efforts and his great love for this City and the Country. She also thanked him for caring about all residents, including those in need of a champion.

Bob Buswell, 962 E. 3025 N., stated that he has known both Mr. Chugg and Mr. Belton and both candidates for the position are exceptional. He is sure Mr. Belton will be available for another position the City may need filled. He then thanked Mayor Taylor for his work and wished him the best during his deployment.

Dave Hulme, 513 E. 1700 N., jokingly stated he was somewhat hoping the City may have its first female Mayor with the appointment of Mayor Taylor's wife to fill his position during the vacancy. He then stated that he hopes that Mayor Taylor and his family know that Mr. Hulme and other residents of the City are willing to help out with whatever the family needs. He then stated that Mayor Taylor is a good officer that gives credit to his subordinates and takes the blame when something goes wrong. He has appreciated the way Mayor Taylor and his wife have represented the City and provided service to other members of the military and their families as well those less fortunate than them. He thanked Mayor Taylor for his service at home and abroad and he offered the motto of the United States Marine Corps – Semper Fi. Mayor Taylor thanked Mr. Hulme for his service as a member of the Marine Corps.

Glenn Donnelson, 874 E. 2100 N., stated that he had the opportunity to meet with a childhood friend of his lately and he asked Mr. Donnelson to tell Mayor Taylor hello and thank you for his service and that he was the best Mayor in the State of Utah; that friend was Mayor Willard Cragun from Roy. He stated that serving one's Country is a great opportunity that not everyone gets the chance to experience. He stated that he served in the National Guard during the Korean War and he considered that to be a great opportunity; he was never sent to battle, but it was a great opportunity. He stated he respects Mayor Taylor's position and he invoked the Lord's blessing upon Mayor Taylor that he will be out of harm's way and return back to North Ogden unscathed. Mayor Taylor thanked Mr. Donnelson for his service and for representing North Ogden in a government capacity as well.

Council Member Fawson stated she would like to express her appreciation to Mayor Taylor as well; she has been in the same position as Mayor Taylor's wife in the past when she sent her husband off to where Mayor Taylor is being sent and having a community that is willing to put its arms around the family makes a big difference. She stated that this is a big opportunity for the residents of North Ogden to provide a great service. When her husband was deployed, she was the benefactor of that type of service and it taught her and her children patriotism in a way that they never could have learned otherwise. She stated she will be praying for Mayor Taylor and his family and she will help to take care of them while he is gone; she hopes that brings Mayor Taylor some comfort and helps him to perform his mission well.

Council Member Turner stated that he read some comments on Mayor Taylor's Facebook page about the announcement of his deployment and his favorite comment was from a person that actually resides in another City; the comment was "come back and run for President". He thanked Mayor Taylor for his service.

Mayor Taylor thanked everyone for their kind comments, prayers, and commitment to help his family in his absence. He stated he is in a public position so his service may be more noticeable, but there are many other great Americans that are doing the same thing as him and it is good to remember and pray for them all.

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Stoker motioned to adjourn. Council Member Fawson seconded the motion.

Voting on the motion:

Council Member Cevering	aye
Council Member Fawson	aye
Council Member Stoker	aye
Council Member Swanson	aye
Council Member Turner	aye

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Cheryl Stoker
Cheryl Stoker, Mayor Pro Temp

S. Annette Spendlove
S. Annette Spendlove, MMC
City Recorder

March 6, 2018
Date Approved