

City of Willoughby Hills

Special Council Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2017

All Council Meetings shall be recorded by audio recording device and will be held in perpetuity and shall be part of the official records and minutes. Written minutes of Council shall be shortened whenever possible.

The Special Meeting of Council was called to Order at 6:02 p.m. by President Nancy E. Fellows

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Council

Members Present: Vice President John Plecnik, Councilman Christopher L. Biro, President Nancy E. Fellows, Councilman David M. Fiebig, Councilwoman Janet R. Majka

Absent: Councilman Christopher Hallum

Also Present: Clerk of Council Victoria Ann Savage

PUBLIC PORTION

President Fellows: The first order of business tonight is Public Portion. There is no one in the public so, I will open Public Portion at 6:03pm there is nobody present, so I will close Public Portion at 6:03pm.

The next is a motion of Council to adjourn to go into Executive Session to consider the appointment of a public officer.

Councilwoman Majka: I'd like to make a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for a period of no later 9:00pm for the purpose of reviewing and interviewing the appointment of a public official.

Councilman Fiebig: Second.

President Fellows: I have a motion from Councilwoman Majka and a second from Councilman Fiebig to adjourn into an Executive Session to consider the appointment of a public official, to be no longer than 9pm. Any discussion on the motion?

Roll call: YEAS: Plecnik, Biro, Fellows, Fiebig, Majka
Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Fellows: The motion passes and we will go into Executive Session at 6:04pm.

The meeting reconvened at 9:09pm with the following members present: Plecnik, Biro, Fellows, Fiebig and Majka.

MOTION TO APPOINT

Councilwoman Majka: Madame President. May I please make a motion to appoint Laura Pizmoht as our choice and candidate for Council Seat District 1.

Councilman Fiebig: Second.

President Fellows: I have a motion from Councilwoman Majka and a second from Councilman Fiebig to appoint Laura Pizmoht to fulfill the vacated District 1 Council Seat. Is there any discussion on the motion?

Vice President Plecnik: Madame President. If I could just say, on behalf of the body, we reviewed an incredible list of resumes, so many strong candidates, this has truly been a difficult decision that reflects a consensus and I think that there's an enormous amount of potential in the many candidates that we were unable to choose because we were blessed with eight applicants and only one opening and I have a lot of confidence that many of the people who may not be appointed tonight, would nonetheless serve on Council and on many other capacities in our community. And I want to encourage the Mayor to liberally appoint them. I want to encourage Council to appoint them as openings present themselves because we need these people involved in our community. They are the heart of our community and this was one of the most difficult decisions, if not the most difficult one I've ever been faced with on Council.

Councilwoman Majka: Madame President. I'd like to echo what Councilman Plecnik said and I just want to add that during the course of these two evenings, last evening and tonight, I just want to say how much fun and how interesting it has been to meet some of these residents from our City and to see their amazing resumes and diverse backgrounds. To hear their thoughts and their ideas, it's been a real pleasure and a very difficult decision. It took us, what, a full hour of discussion to come back out and get to this point. So, thank you so much to everyone who came and expressed interest in serving the community in this way.

Councilman Fiebig: Madame President. Likewise, we had a difficult decision to make, there were some great discussions that we had given each of these eight candidates, about a half-hour at least a piece. There were some great ideas that came out of this process that we would be able to implement and we just, we have a wonderful community with very talented people here and I see this appointment as a chance for a new beginning with some fresh ideas with Laura joining us here on Council right after the vote and I would encourage that we reach out to her after the vote and invite her up and have this appointment happen immediately as possible.

Roll call: **YEAS: Plecnik, Biro, Fellows, Fiebig, Majka**
Motion passed.

President Fellows: The motion passes and Laura is now appointed to the District 1 position. Thank you very much.

Vice President Plecnik: Madame President. In congratulations to Laura Pizmoht, I want to acknowledge that in speaking with residents, one of the biggest issues facing our City is Loehmann's Plaza and economic development. And in reviewing the resumes to see that Laura Pizmoht not only has a law degree Magna Cum Laude from Case and a tax degree, a tax LLL.M from New York University, the number one graduate tax program in the United States, that she spent time working on economic development and on tax abatements, tax incentives for Sherwin-Williams. Negotiating with cities like Fort Wayne, Indiana. Bringing that economic development experience to City Council so that we could tackle the issue of Loehmann's directly and may be even call it something other than Loehmann's Plaza. Bring in new businesses and new ideas. I'm really excited with what Laura Pizmoht is going to bring to Council not just her energy but her remarkable experience in

economic development. So, congratulations and I'm looking forward to a much brighter future for Willoughby Hills.

President Fellows: Thank you.

Councilman Fiebig: Madame President. Would it be appropriate to ask for a recess for approximately ten, fifteen minutes to regroup to do the swearing in process? Or should we simply adjourn our meeting?

President Fellows: We can adjourn. We don't need to do the swearing in at the Council meeting. We've had swearing ins where we haven't had Council meetings, but we need to call her to see if she can come up.

Councilman Fiebig: Okay, well then, I'll make the motion...

President Fellows: We have let individuals know to sort of be on standby for the end of this meeting for the appointment to occur.

Councilman Fiebig: If there is no other business, then I'll make a motion, or any other discussion at this time, then I'll make a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Majka: Second.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilman Fiebig to adjourn. Councilwoman Majka seconded.

Roll call: YEAS: Plecnik, Biro, Fellows, Fiebig, Majka

Motion passed.

The Special Council Meeting of August 14, 2017 was adjourned at 9:15pm.

APPROVED: September 14, 2017
Date

Nancy E. Fellows
Nancy E. Fellows
President of Council

ATTEST: Victoria Ann Savage
Victoria Ann Savage, CMC
Clerk of Council