

City of Southgate

Special City Council Meeting

August 24, 2024

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Southgate was held on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 in the Southgate City Hall Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:30 PM by Council President Zoey Kuspa.

This meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Priscilla Ayres-Reiss, Edward Gawlik, Karen George, Christian Graziani, Zoey Kuspa, Phil Rauch
Absent:
Also Present: Mayor Joseph G. Kuspa, City Attorney Amelia Zelenak, City Administrator Dan Marsh, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Doug Drysdale, City Clerk Janice Ferencz, Recreation Director Julie Goddard

Communications A:

1. Establishment of List of Applicants to be considered for Appointment moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council move to adopt the established list of applicants: Benjamin Patton, Clifford Morris-Miller, Henry Laurent, Heather Pinage-Osmun, Gbade Akinjide, Victoria Araj, Dale Batko, Andrew Moul, W. Kirk Hayhurst, Elizabeth Kerry, Robert Lefief, Suzanne Straub, Adrienne Price, Veronica Giancecchi, Gary Martin.

Motion carried unanimously.

Note: Clifford Morris-Miller and Elizabeth Kerry were not in attendance.

2. Proposed Interview and Appointment Process for the Council Vacancy moved by George, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council Move to adopt the following interview and selection process:
 - After a council resolution to establish the process, qualifies applicants will be sequestered in the Caucus Room and will be called in, one at a time, to be interviewed. After an applicant is interviewed, the applicant may remain in the audience.
 - The City Attorney will ask the previously established questions, and applicants will have no more than three minutes to respond to each question.
 - After all applicants have been interviewed, councilmembers will provide their top three choices in writing to the City Clerk. Each choice will be given a point value: 1st – 3 points, 2nd – 2 points, 3rd – 1 point
 - The City Clerk will read aloud the responses of each councilmember and tabulate the results.
 - If there is a clear winner, the Council will appoint that individual.
 - If there is a tie, each councilmember may ask one additional question to the top placing applicants. Council will then revote in the same method previously used.

Motion carried unanimously.

The following ranking took place:

COUNCIL MEMBER	FIRST CHOICE (3 pts.)	SECOND CHOICE (2 pts.)	THIRD CHOICE (1 pt.)
RAUCH	Andrew Moul	Victoria Araj	W. Kirk Hayhurst
GAWLIK	Gary Martin	Victoria Araj	Dale Batko
GRAZIANI	Andrew Moul	Victoria Araj	Veronica Giancecchi
KUSPA	Gary Martin	Heather Pinage-Osmun	Robert Lefief
GEORGE	Gary Martin	Victoria Araj	Dale Batko
AYRES-REISS	Victoria Araj	Dale Batko	Gary Martin

3. According to the City Council established rules for filling a vacancy, the candidate receiving the most votes will be appointed. The candidate receiving the most votes is Victoria Araj.

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Unscheduled Persons In Audience

Adjournment:

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED THAT this Special Meeting of the Southgate City Council be adjourned at 8:11 P.M. Carried unanimously.

Zoey Kuspa
Council President

Janice M. Ferencz
City Clerk