



CITY MANAGER
Elaine Leven

City of Fraser

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY

MAYOR
Michael Carnegie

MAYOR PRO-TEM
David Winowiecki

COUNCIL
Amy Baranski
Kathy Blanke
Suzanne Kalka
Michael Lesich
Patrice M. Schornak

MINUTES FRASER CITY COUNCIL – SPECIAL MEETING (VIRTUAL) THURSDAY, May 6, 2021 @ 6.30PM

Special Virtual meeting of the Fraser City Council was conducted on May 6, 2021, at the City Municipal Building, located at 33000 Garfield Rd., Fraser, in the County of Macomb, Michigan.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Carnegie called the Special Virtual Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Amy Baranski, Council Member (remotely from Fraser, MI)
Kathy Blanke, Council Member (City Hall, Fraser, MI)
Michael Carnegie, Mayor (City Hall, Fraser, MI)
Michael Lesich, Council Member (remotely from Fraser, MI)
Patrice Schornak, Council Member (City Hall, Fraser, MI)
David Winowiecki, Council Member (remotely from Fraser, MI)

ABSENT:

Suzanne Kalka

MOTION by Carnegie, second by Schornak to excuse Member Kalka from the meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes – Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, Lesich, Schornak, Winowiecki
Nays – None

Motion carried.

ALSO PRESENT:

Marc Thompson, Interim City Manager
Donald DeNault, City Attorney
David Bisby, Lieutenant
Amy Cell, Human Resources Director
Mary Matuz, Administrative Clerk
Ed Horn, AV Specialist
Vincent Neyland, Finance Director

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Carnagie, second by Winowiecki to approve the agenda as submitted.

Roll Call: Ayes – Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Lesich, Schornak, Winowiecki

Nays – None

Motion carried

V. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Citizen participation was not held at this time.

Mayor Carnagie further advised at the end of the meeting that citizen participation is not held during interviews.

VI. REQUESTS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

a. Interview candidates for City Manager

4:00 pm - Elaine Leven

Elaine Leven is the current City Manager of Marine City and has been in that role since 2015. She was previously the Executive Assistant to the Township Manager and Planning/Zoning Coordinator for Oakland Township. She received her Master's Degree in Public Administration from Oakland University.

With Introduction by Amy Cell, MAYOR CARNAGIE allowed virtual entry to Elaine Leven for interview with full council.

Ms. Leven provided background and interest in the position.

Discussion with Elaine Leven and Council Members Baranski, Blanke, Schornak, Carnagie, Lesich and Winowiecki

Questions on background, experience, City of Fraser familiarity, elections, grants and all aspects of city management.

Interview Ended on Time 4:40 pm

Interview candidates for City Manager

4:45 pm – Debra Peck Lichtenberg

Debra Peck Lichtenberg has served as the Director of Finance and Operations for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms since 2017. Prior to that, she served as Budget Director for the City of Westland and Assistant Treasurer for the City of Novi. Lichtenberg is a Certified Public Accountant and practiced as a member of the Plante Moran Municipal Audit team for nine years. Lichtenberg is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Business Administration.

With Introduction by Amy Cell, MAYOR CARNAGE allowed virtual entry to Debra Peck Lichtenberg for interview with full council.

Ms. Lichtenberg provided background and interest in the position.

Fraser City Council Virtual Special Meeting

May 6, 2021

Discussion with Members Carnagie, Lesich, Baranski, Schornak, Winowiecki, and Blanke
Questions on experience, background, elections, grants, City of Fraser familiarity, and all aspects of city management.

Interview Ended on Time 5:25 pm

Interview candidates for City Manager

5:30 pm – Darwin McClary

Darwin McClary is the Founder, President, and Chief Executive Officer of MuniciPRO LLC, a Michigan company specializing in municipal management consulting. Prior to starting his own firm, McClary spent almost thirty years managing several cities and villages in Michigan, most recently as Interim Village Administrator of the Village of Blissfield. McClary earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in human services with a concentration in public administration from Siena Heights College and an Executive Master of Public Administration degree from Golden Gate University.

With Introduction by Amy Cell, MAYOR CARNAGIE allowed virtual entry to Darwin McClary for interview with full council.

Darwin McClary provided background and interest in the position.

Discussion with Members Carnagie, Blanke, Baranski, Schornak, Lesich, Winowiecki

Questions on Covid-19 matters, City of Fraser familiarity, examples of management style regarding city management, examples of management style on unpopular issues or from council directive, asked his thoughts on issues that need attention and opportunities important to Fraser at this time, grants, contract negotiations and budgets sizes.

Interview Ended on Time 6:12 pm

Interview candidates for City Manager

6:15 pm – Richard Downey

Richard Downey of Kronenwetter, Wisconsin has served as Kronenwetter's Village Administrator since 2012 and has previously served as City Administrator in Illinois and Kansas. Downey holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Central Michigan University and a degree in political science from Kent State.

With Introduction by Amy Cell, MAYOR CARNAGIE allowed virtual entry to Richard Downey for interview with full council.

Richard Downey provided background and interest in the position.

Discussion with Members Carnagie, Baranski, Blanke, Schornak, Lesich, Winowiecki

Fraser City Council Virtual Special Meeting
May 6, 2021

Questions on City of Fraser familiarity, examples of management style regarding city management, asked his thoughts on issues of opportunity important to Fraser at this time, city services, budget development and management, contract negotiations, grant writing and community economic development.

Interview Ended on Time 6:57 pm

Mayor Carnegie opened the floor for any discussion or comments any council members had.

Council discussed they will complete the assessment forms provided earlier and return to Amy Cell with any questions. They would like to have this item on the next agenda to vote and proceed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Carnegie, second by Winowiecki to adjourn at 7:00 pm

Roll Call: Ayes – Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, Lesich, Schornak, Winowiecki

Nays – None

Motion carried

Elaine Leven, Acting City Clerk

Michael Carnegie, Mayor