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MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BURLINGTON, IOWA CITY COUNCIL

Special Meeting No. 4
December 14, 2020

Pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8 and the Governor's State of Public Health Emergency Declaration, this meeting is being held electronically because the ongoing public health emergency in the state of Iowa has made it impossible to have a meeting in person. The telephone number for the meeting was posted on December 11, 2020 allowing the public access to participate in the meeting. Due to the COVID-19 situation, all public participation was by phone until further notice. City Hall was closed to the public.

The Burlington City Council met in special session at 4:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall with Mayor Billups, Council Members Critser, Graham-Murray, Maupin and Rinker present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE ACKNOWLEDGED

RESOLUTION:

Introduced By: Graham-Murray Seconded By: Critser

1. Resolution Approving the Appointment of Chief of Police

DISCUSSION: The City Manager stated that the City had hired an outside consultant for the process of selecting Police Chief for Burlington. He stated that there were four candidates initially with one of the applicants choosing to not participate, which left two external candidates and one internal candidate. He stated that the candidates were interviewed by a couple of panels including community leaders and department heads. He stated that the City Council met on Saturday, December 5, 2020 to interview the candidates and at the end of Saturday's meeting they recommended Marc Denney as Police Chief. He stated that it was his selection by State Code but with him leaving it was also the City Council's decision. He stated that the Resolution provides the hiring of Marc Denney as the next Chief of Police for Burlington. Kenny Zahner of Burlington read a letter of support by members of the Burlington Police Department urging the City Council to reconsider the outside applicant for Police Chief and hire Acting Police Chief Jeff Klein. He stated that he would like to be provided with an answer why Acting Police Chief Jeff Klein was not picked for Police Chief since the consultant had said that all three applicants were nearly identical on paper. Mayor Billups thanked Kenny Zahner for his concerns and his comments were noted. Tim Scott of 2017 South 15th Street stated his concern with the process as

the Resolution stated that on December 5, 2020 the applicant was offered the position by the City Manager and he was under the impression the City was without a City Manager. The City Manager explained that he was hired as a contractor to fill all duties as City Manager. He stated that his contract was written by City Attorney O'Connell. He stated that the City Council held a public meeting on Saturday, December 5, 2020 where they went into closed session as all the applicants had requested a closed session. He stated that the final decision was tonight at the City Council meeting. Tim Scott stated that he was disappointed in the process that he could not attend the meeting in person due to COVID-19. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 4 - "AYES" Critser, Graham-Murray, Maupin and Billups
1 - "NAY" Rinker)

ADOPTED

ADJOURNMENT: 4:48 p.m.

APPROVED: December 21, 2020

Kathleen P. Salisbury, MMC
City Clerk

Jon D. Billups
Mayor

(See recording on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)