

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the City Council for the City of St. Joseph met in special session on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 5:30 PM in the St. Joseph Government Center.

Members Present: Mayor Rick Schultz. Councilors Brian Theisen, Bob Loso, Kelly Beniek

City Representatives Present: Administrator Therese Haffner, City Clerk Kayla Klein

Approve Agenda: **Theisen made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Schultz and passed unanimously.**

City Council Resignation: Council Member Anne Buckvold resigned her seat and the city is required to fill the vacancy through either an appointment or by ordering a Special Election. Since there is less than two years on the term, a Special Election is not required.

Buckvold thanked the Council for the work and thanked the community for their support. Buckvold believes the Council will make a solid choice for her replacement.

Loso moved to approve Resolution 2021-007 Accepting Resignation and Declaring a Vacancy; seconded by Schultze and passed unanimously.

Discussion was had on how to fill the vacancy. Several members wanted to go through the appointment process by allowing for applications to be submitted. Interviews would be conducted and the council would appoint the top candidate.

Council Member Beniek questioned the article in The Newsleaders and how it portrayed the Council as already making their decision to appoint rather than have a Special Election. Beniek was concerned that her and the rest of the council members did not get to have a voice in that decision.

It was decided to fill the vacancy by appointment through an application and interview process. Applications will be accepted from January 27th – February 12th. Interviews will be conducted on February 18th at 4:00 PM. There may be carryover to February 19th, pending the number of candidates. The top candidate would then be appointed and take the oath of office at the March 1st City Council meeting.

Loso moved to approve filling the vacancy by appointment through an application and interview process; having the interviews be conducted one on one with each council member; have the council vote by secret vote; and have the council appoint. The motion was seconded by Schultz.

Schultz moved to amend the previous motion to include: filling the vacancy by appointment through an application and interview process; having the interviews be conducted one on one with each council member; have the council vote by secret vote; and have the council appoint. The motion was seconded by Loso and passed unanimously.

Adjourn: **Schultz made a motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM; seconded by Loso and passed unanimously.**


Kayla Klein
City Clerk