

Allegan, Michigan

August 1, 2016

Call to Order Mayor Ingalsbee called the special meeting of the Allegan City Council to order at 8:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting Prayer

Roll Call

Present: Gratz, Leverage, Manning, McKenzie, Morgan, Tripp, Mayor Ingalsbee

Absent: None

Others

Present: Deputy City Clerk L. Vander Clay

Approval of Minutes

Mayor's Report Mayor Ingalsbee had a lovely experience last week, she was able to perform a marriage ceremony at City Hall.

City Manager's Report

Petitions and Public Comment Keith Behm, 3396 River Ridge commented that Rob Hillard guided this City with integrity, was so conscientious and it was a mistake letting him go.

Betty McDaniel, 502 Marshall asked what is happening now? Who is taking care of things? Who on City Council has any human resource experience? She is very concerned about how much this will be costing the City.

Cindy Thiele, 319 River, commented that Rob's evaluations were always good and feels the public should know why he resigned.

Cyndi Reed, 257 Marshall, commented that Rob is a great person and she would like to know why he resigned.

Paula Mintek, 350 Kalamazoo, was very shocked to hear of Rob's resignation and the City was very lucky to have him and the public needs to know why he resigned.

Mayor Ingalsbee stated that Rob Hillard is a very wonderful person and he has done a lot of good things for Allegan.

Communications Councilmember Tripp, supported by Councilmember Gratz, made a motion to appoint Lori K. Vander Clay to Clerk. Motion passed with Councilmember Morgan voting no.

Mayor Ingalsbee gave the Oath of Office to Lori K. Vander Clay, as Clerk.

Councilmember Leverage asked Mayor Ingalsbee if the resignation and release agreement for Robert Hillard is the same one that was provided to Council on Friday, July 29th. Mayor Ingalsbee stated yes.

Councilmember Tripp, supported by Mayor Ingalsbee, made a motion to approve the resignation and release agreement for Robert Hillard. A roll call vote was taken: Gratz-yes; Leverage-yes; Manning-yes; McKenzie-yes; Morgan-yes; Tripp-yes; Mayor Ingalsbee-yes.

Mayor Ingalsbee talked about the next steps. She would like to have a Liaison Committee of herself and Councilmembers Gratz and Tripp. This committee will keep City Council informed and work with City staff. Councilmember Leverage commented her opposition to this proposed committee. Councilmember Manning, supported by Councilmember Tripp, made a motion to approve creating a Liaison Committee of Mayor Ingalsbee and Councilmembers Gratz and Tripp. A roll call vote was taken: Gratz-yes; Leverage-no; Manning-yes; McKenzie-no; Morgan-no; Tripp-yes; Mayor Ingalsbee-yes. Motion passed 4-3. Councilmember Tripp further stated that this committee would only be reviewing resumes for the next City Manager.

Mayor Ingalsbee stated that City Attorney S. Smith can reach out to retired City Managers and could make recommendations and also using Michigan Municipal League as a resource.

Councilmember Leverage asked if Chief R. Hoyer could step in as the Interim City Manager.

Councilmember McKenzie stated the current vote to create this Liaison Committee doesn't represent the City well. There needs to be more qualified individuals than just the three named for that committee.

Councilmember Manning stated he voted yes for the committee because communication is needed. He asked Chief R. Hoyer about being the interim. The City needs a point person.

Finance Director T. Stull stated that an interim City Manager is important and needed.

Mayor Ingalsbee asked Chief R. Hoyer if he would consider being the Interim City Manager for the City of Allegan.

Chief R. Hoyer responded that he would consider but would need to speak with his family and his department. He stated that City Council needs to be working as a whole and confident with their direction.

Councilmember Leverage hopes that Chief R. Hoyer is willing to step in, because he would be her choice.

Councilmember Morgan stated that if Chief R. Hoyer were to decline the offer of interim City Manager that we would work with the Michigan Municipal League to find one.

Councilmember Tripp, supported by Councilmember Manning, made a motion to ask Chief R. Hoyer to be the interim City Manager and to let Mayor Ingalsbee know his decision. Motion passed by acclamation.

Fred Schubert, 406 N. Main would hope the next City Manager would have an accounting background.

Marsha Behm, 3396 River Ridge asked who is running the City. Mayor Ingalsbee stated that right now we have no point person but department heads and staff continue to do their jobs.

Douglas Langhorst, 309 N. Sherman, commented that the Michigan Municipal League needs to be contacted immediately.

Councilmember Leverage, supported by Councilmember Morgan, made a motion to work with the Michigan Municipal League and to contact them immediately to secure an interim City Manager. Motion passed by acclamation.

Brad Burke, 119 Park Avenue, offered the number of 734-669-8326 for Heather Van Poucker at MML.

Mayor Ingalsbee commented she is doing the best she can and is helping out where needed. She asked Council for suggestions and reminded them that the majority voted to remove the current City Manager.

Councilmember Manning commented that everyone is looking for stability right now.

Keith Behm, 3396 River Ridge stated that if stability is a concern then Council shouldn't have taken the action that they did.

Councilmember Tripp commented that Mayor Ingalsbee has put in a lot of hours during the last week dealing with this situation.

Councilmember Gratz requested the current City Manager's job description be made available to City Council. Finance Director T. Stull will send.

Mayor Ingalsbee wanted everyone to know that they may call her at 269-673-9995 as that is the best way to participate during this difficult time. She said that Rob Hillard is a good person and he did a lot for this community.

Hearings

Programs

Resolutions

Ordinances

Permits/Licenses/Agreements/Grants

Requests for Payments

Requests for Purchases, Services and Equipment

Reports/Minutes of City Boards

Appointments

Approval of Payroll and Accounts

Department Supervisors Report

Council Comments

Mayor Ingalsbee adjourned the meeting at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Lori K. Vander Clay
City Clerk**