

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 19, 2007

The Special City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Muschell in the Council Chambers in the City Hall at 7:00 p.m. The proceedings were as follows:

Present: Council Members Lepp, Muschell, Riddle, Boardman, Charboneau and Tebo

Mayor Muschell indicated that the purpose of the Special City Council Meeting is to interview candidates for the vacated City Council seat, adding that this is a temporary appointment until the November 2007 Special Election.

Mr. Scott Ingersoll

Mr. Scott Ingersoll introduced himself, and provided background information on his qualifications for Council Member including his current law practice and Masters Degree in Public Policy which would be helpful to Council in policy-making matters and decisions. He commented on his Bachelors Degree of Applied Arts in Industrial Technology with a strong emphasis in construction, also noting the two local construction companies he co-founded. Mr. Ingersoll also explained his business background and administrative skills, as well as his family status and vested interest in this community. He commented that it would be his privilege to serve as Councilman. Council questioned Mr. Ingersoll's position on relating to the citizens of Cheboygan, providing personal opinions that may or may not coincide with the rest of the Council and whether he would be able to move on without malice after a lost vote. Mr. Ingersoll replied that he believes in a common sense approach that looks toward the future. He commented that he would have no problem conveying his opinions whether in agreement or disagreement with Council and that he is a team player. Council also asked Mr. Ingersoll's position on nit-picking issues. Mr. Ingersoll added that there are some situations that require nit-picking; however, other situations would require that Council reach a decision and move on. Councilwoman Lepp questioned if there is information available such as a job description that would provide guidelines on what is expected of City Council Members. City Manager McNeil noted there is no job description available. Councilman Tebo mentioned that the City Manager, Clerk/Treasurer, and Chief of Police manage the City and that Council is not here to micro-manage the City. Mr. Ingersoll replied that having a background in public policy provides a broad perspective that can be helpful such as being a member of the City Council. Council questioned if Mr. Ingersoll would be willing to serve on various Committees of the City other than Council. Mr. Ingersoll commented that he would be willing to consider serving if that would assist the City.

Mr. Richard Sangster

Mr. Richard Sangster introduced himself, and provided background information such as his life long residency in Cheboygan, family status and professional associations he has served on including the Michigan Auto Parts Association Board, Downtown Development Authority, Cheboygan Jaycees and various Advertising and Marketing Councils. He also commented on his property ownership and vested interest in this community. Council questioned Mr. Sangster's position on relating to the citizens of Cheboygan and whether he could provide opinions that conflict with the rest of Council. Mr. Sangster replied that he treats people equally and believes everyone has a say, and would feel free to respectfully disagree with opinions of other Council members if the need arose but would not undermine Council's position on any particular matter. He commented that he is a team player. Council also questioned Mr. Sangster on how he would persuade someone to relocate to Cheboygan.

Mr. Sangster replied that he would point out the fine schools, medical facilities, churches and an overall great community in which to reside. Council also questioned Mr. Sangster’s availability for Council meeting attendance and his willingness to serve on various Committees of the City. Mr. Sangster commented that he would make every effort to attend every meeting and is willing to serve on various Boards and Committees, and is currently a member of the DDA Board. Councilwoman Riddle mentioned two Special City Council meetings being held next week from 1-5 p.m. each day, and asked Mr. Sangster and Mr. Ingersoll if they would be available to attend meetings such as those during regular working hours. Mr. Sangster stated he would have no problem attending meetings and has good control of his businesses and can make his own schedule. Mr. Ingersoll commented that he would be available for meetings and has a very flexible schedule; however, he has a vacation scheduled for next week, but would be available by telephone for the Special City Council meetings regarding strategic planning.

Mayor Muschell asked the status of any further candidates. City Manager McNeil noted that a candidate was informed of the date and time, and was advised to contact Mayor Muschell.

Councilman Charboneau moved to nominate Mr. Richard Sangster to fill the vacancy on the City Council. Seconded by Councilman Boardman. Mayor Muschell asked three times if there were any other nominations. There being no further nominations, Councilman Charboneau moved to close the nominations. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ingersoll questioned the protocol with regard to submitting a letter of interest for the City Council vacancy, commenting that he provided his letter before the deadline and as of yesterday, there were no other candidates. Mayor Muschell explained that the candidacy is open to the public regardless of whether a letter of interest has been submitted or not. Council must recognize everyone who is in attendance that would like to be considered a candidate, and fully expected there would be others in attendance tonight. Mayor Muschell further explained that this is not similar to a bid process and that there is more latitude and flexibility.

City Manager McNeil stated than an orientation package will be provided to Mr. Sangster.

Adjournment

Councilman Charboneau moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Boardman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor James Muschell

City Clerk Kenneth J. Kwiatkowski

Councilwoman Winifred L. Riddle

Councilman Gerald R. Boardman

Councilman Charles Charboneau

Councilwoman Theo Lepp

Councilman Leslie A. Tebo