AGENDA ITEM NUMBER 2

DRAFT

City of Sebastopol City Council Special Meeting Minutes

Meeting of January 11, 2016

6:00 pm - Convene Special City Council Meeting, Sebastopol Youth Annex/Teen Center, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, Ca

The public is advised that pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5 all writings submitted to the City Council are public records and will be made available for review.

Please note that minutes are not verbatim minutes and are meant to be the City's record of a summary of actions that took place at the meeting.

Notice: All resolutions and ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda are waived of all reading of entire resolution(s) and ordinance(s).

The Sebastopol City Council welcomes you to its meetings that are generally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Your interest and participation are encouraged and appreciated.

A notice of the meeting was posted by the City Clerk on January 5, 2016.

6:00 pm Convene Special City Council Meeting, Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, Ca

Call to Order: Mayor Gurney called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m.

Roll Call

Present:	Mayor Gurney
	Vice Mayor Glass
	Councilmember Eder
	Councilmember Jacob
	Councilmember Slayter
Absent:	None
Staff:	City Manager-City Attorney Larry McLaughlin
	City Clerk Mary Gourley

Salute to the Flag: Mayor Gurney led the salute to the flag.

1. Interviews for Openings on the Design Review Board (City Manager/City Clerk)

The City Council conducted interviews for openings on the Design Review Board as listed below.

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Name of Applicant	Time of Interview
Alexis Persinger	6:00 pm
Lars Langberg	6:15 pm
Bill Shortridge	6:30 pm
Lynn Deedler	6:45 pm

City Council Action: None taken. City Council conducted interviews for openings on the Design Review Board.
Minute Order Number: 2016-014

2. Interviews for Openings on the Planning Commission (City Manager/City Clerk)

The City Council conducted interviews for openings on the Planning Commission as listed below.

Name of Applicant	Time of Interview
Paul Fritz	7:00 pm
Geoffrey Skinner	7:15 pm
Evert Fernandez	7:30 pm
Colin Doyle	7:45 pm
Linda Kelley	8:00 pm

City Council Action: None taken. City Council conducted interviews for openings on the Planning Commission.
Minute Order Number: 2016-015

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (This is an opportunity for the public to address the City Council on items that are not listed on the agenda. This time is set aside to receive comments from the public regarding matters of general interest not on the agenda, but related to City Council business. Pursuant to the Brown Act, however, the City Council cannot consider any issues or take action on any requests during this comment period. Speakers are allowed to speak for a maximum of three minutes so that all speakers have an opportunity to address the City Council. The Mayor has the authority to limit the time allowed for speakers dependent on the amount of speakers in attendance. It is the goal of the Council to conclude the public comments portion of the agenda within 30 minutes. If the public comment period exceeds twenty minutes, the presiding officer, typically the Mayor, reserves the right to reduce the time per speaker or carry over public comments to after all business items are completed.) There were none.

STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBERS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA (This is the time for the Mayor or City Councilmembers to indicate any statements of conflicts of interests for any item listed on this agenda) There were none.

REGULAR CALENDAR AGENDA ITEM(S) (DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION):

3. Appointments for Openings on the Design Review Board (City Manager/City Clerk)

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City Manager McLaughlin presented the staff report recommending the City Council make appointments to openings on the Design Review Board.

Councilmember Jacob requested clarification on categories.

City Manager McLaughlin explained the categories and which categories were open for appointment for tonight's agenda item.

Councilmember Eder questioned the protocol for nominations and questioned if each Councilmember submits nominations and then sees if there is consensus or is the procedure a motion and then a formal vote.

Mayor Gurney suggested taking public comment first and then stated she will ask for Councilmember reflections to get a sense of where Councilmembers are leaning.

Mayor Gurney opened for public comment.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Gurney closed the public comment.

Mayor Gurney stated she likes to hear what everyone is thinking and hearing the different perspectives as those comments can influence Councilmembers without having to take a formal vote. She stated this is an opportunity to consider composition of the whole group, and putting together people who will function dynamically for the whole community.

Councilmember Eder commented as follows:

- Blessed to have strong group of applicants, and stated that has not always been the case
- Stated this is fortunate for the City Council
  Stated there are three openings on the Design Review Board and the City policy clearly lays out the desired composition of the Design Review Board
- Stated the Council is drawing from people's different experiences
- Stated he is concerned of loading up the Design Review Board with professional architects
- Stated he thinks a wide range of experiences and opinions need to be representative
- Stated he would support the following:
  - Lynn Deedler
  - Lars Langberg
  - Bill Shortridge
- Stated Alexis Persinger is a skilled architect but stated Lars Langberg has a better sense of Sebastopol and stated Lars is more down in the trenches
- Stated Mr. Shortridge brings a non-degree of sensitivity to the Board and speaks to the common man
- Stated this composition would comply fully with the categories of the Design Review Board policy and draws people from different areas

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Stated sitting here and interviewing everyone, she was astounded by the quality of the applicants and the commitment to the community that we see in the community
- Stated these applicants are smart people with good ideas and are passionate about their specific area and all of whom really seem to be interested in working together
- Stated she is impressed by the applicants who stated they all agree that they do not hate those meetings
- Stated the applicants stated they feel they are hitting their stride
- Stated she felt that by listening to the applicants that those two entities are functioning much better than they used to in the past
- Stated it is a hard choice tonight
- Really important that the Board is functionally well and hitting their stride
- Stated the Board is really working now
- Stated it if is not broke do not fix it
- Stated she would support the following:
    - Lynn Deedler
    - Bill Shortridge
    - Alexis Persinger
- Stated that she really likes Lars Langberg as well and hopes there is an opening in the future that he can apply for

Councilmember Jacob commented as follows:

- Concurs with comments from Vice Mayor Glass
- Stated he knows Lars Langberg and thinks he is great and amazing and looks forward to working with him and stated he hopes Mr. Langberg applies again
- Stated he concurs with re-appointing the incumbents
- Stated Mr. Persinger is filling Bob Beauchamp's seat and stepped into that role for a short term and deserves to serve a full term

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- Stated previously the City did not have the quantity or quality of applicants that would serve our town
- Stated during the last round of interviews, he suggested not appointing anyone and re-opening the application period and putting a call out to design professionals in the community to increase our pool
- Stated that is anything but the case this evening
- Stated this is a very difficult decision and he is not quite sure where to go
- Stated every applicant brings something whether it is professional, knowledge, history of town, etc., and stated it is important to continue with continuity but to also have a Board who has different opinions and stated that is vital for town
- Stated he would defer on making a choice at this time

Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Discussed one of the remarks from applicant Bill Shortridge regarding his heart and also learning from his time on the Board and stated he could have done things or said things differently
- Stated this is a valuable perspective and she appreciates his candor
- Stated Mr. Shortridge stated he started out one way and matured in his understanding and responsibility of his position on the Board
- Stated it was a learning curve for him
- Stated this showed a lot of reflection on Mr. Shortridge's part
- Stated it is hard to choose when you also have Lars Langberg as a candidate as she has so often wanted him to engage more in the civic process
- Stated she supports having Alexis having a full term on the Board
- Stated he is licensed architect
- Stated it is important to keep him there
- Stated it is a circumstance of timing
- Stated he is a deep thinker of community issues
- Suggested continuing with Lynn Deedler with his long history and commitment to his work
- Stated the group would benefit from that depth of experience

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- Stated his thoughts mirror what was just stated for Alexis Persinger
- Stated Mr. Persinger was brought in to fill a vacant seat and has done very nice work in an extremely limited period of time as well as being the Design Review Board liaison to the Public Arts Committee and is valuable to have him there
- Stated he concurs with Councilmember Eder and would like to see Lars Langberg on the Design Review Board
- Stated Mr. Langberg will do a nice job and does bring a knowledgeable perspective
- Discussed his volunteer efforts in the community and stated they are well noted
- Stated he would support Lynn Deedler in the "C" position as Lynn brings continuity to the Board and that is valuable
- Stated Bill Shortridge brings the non-design professional to the Board and truth be told that is also Lynn Deedler and stated either one will do an outstanding job
- Stated that given Lynn Deedler has a longer history, that would be the tipping point and he would support Lynn Deedler

Mayor Gurney provided a tally of the results and stated the highest three are Lynn Deedler, Bill Shortridge and Alexis Persinger.

Councilmember Eder moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to appoint the following applicants to the Design Review Board:

- Lynn Deedler - Category C
- Bill Shortridge – Category C
- Alexis Persinger – Category A

Discussion:
Mayor Gurney extended her thanks to the applicants and stated she is grateful to have qualified applicants apply.

Councilmember Jacob stated he would like to reiterate that the appointment of Lars Langberg is not happening because of circumstances and that in his opinion there is room on any Board or Commission for Mr. Langberg.

Mayor Gurney stated that the Board will have openings December 2016.

Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Eder, Jacob, Slayter, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Gurney
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

City Council Action: Appointed applicants to the Design Review Board as follows:
Lynn Deedler - Category C
Bill Shortridge – Category C
Alexis Persinger – Category A
Term Ending Dates: December 31, 2017
Minute Order Number: 2015-016

4. Appointments for Openings on the Planning Commission (City Manager/City Clerk)

City Manager McLaughlin presented the staff report recommending the City Council make appointments to openings on the Planning Commission. City Manager McLaughlin stated that the City of Sebastopol received a letter of resignation from Scot Stegeman and stated that the City Council could choose to fill the opening tonight or announce the opening and schedule for interviews and appointments at a later City Council Meeting date.

Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Stated she wanted to look at the process that highlights the outer community who associate themselves with Sebastopol but does not live in town or have a business.
- Stated she would support announcing the vacancy although the Council is not required to fill the vacancy that way
- Stated the City can solicit applications from people who may satisfy that particular criteria
- Stated her preference would be to make the appointments tonight and announce the vacant position

Councilmember Jacob stated he spearheaded the 95472 Planning Commission seat and stated that the Council may see applications from people if they knew that this seat was open and may have applied and stated he understands the need to notice this specific seat and not appoint to that seat tonight.

Mayor Gurney questioned if the Council would be limited to appointing someone to that particular seat with that definition.

City Manager McLaughlin commented that the City Council does not need to appoint to that seat with that particular definition and that the Council could appoint any applicant to that seat if they meet the residency or business in town criteria.

Mayor Gurney clarified if someone is not selected tonight, and the Council wished to consider one of the applications for that seat, the Council could choose to do that.

Councilmember Eder commented as follows:

- Stated he is in favor of appointing to all four positions
- Stated he does see the nuance of ensuring we include the larger geographic area and reaching out to the larger community
- Stated the Council may or may not receive additional applications
- Stated he would support noticing this vacant position

Mayor Gurney stated that this would mean another interview and appointment process.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- Stated he would like to remain consistent with City policy and practices
- Stated it is good to have an open mind
- Stated he was not in favor of the additional seat of the 95472 seat when this came forward
- Stated there is a County Planning Commission seat that could be applied for
- Stated that is his view point when this was discussed years ago and still is
- Stated he is in favor of appointing all four seats tonight from the current pool of applicants

Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Stated she tends to concur with Councilmember Slayter
- Discussed the 95472 seat and stated the Commission was modified to have this seat of the 95472 zip code as the Council could not find enough good qualified applicants during the recruitment process previously
- Stated now there are many, good, qualified applicants in town
- Stated she is not feeling that she would like to open this again to obtain more applicants
- Stated she is not sure that there would be interest if it was re-opened to that specific segment of people

Vice Mayor Glass stated she would prefer to appoint to all four seats tonight.

Councilmember Jacob commented as follows:

- Stated this town is different from other cities

- Stated this City has a service area of 55,000 people who are affected by planning decisions that are made in this town
- Stated this seat was created for people who live on the south side of Fircrest and are engaged in our town every day
- Stated they are affected heavily by the decisions made by the Council
- Stated increasing the pool shows respect to the community who contributes to Sebastopol and does not support Vice Mayor Glass or Councilmember Slayter's position

Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Stated the community is served by those people who do not live here, but shop here, their kids go to school here, eat here, volunteer here, etc.
- Stated without these people Sebastopol would fail
- Stated our community connections are valid

Vice Mayor Glass stated that by appointing tonight, she does not believe the Council is being exclusive.

Councilmember Jacob stated there is only one seat available.

Vice Mayor Glass commented that a person can have a business in town, or live in town and the City is not prejudiced against people who do not live in town.

Councilmember Jacob commented as follows:

- Stated a business owner who does not live in City limits is on the Commission
- Stated there is only one seat for the 95472 zip code
- Stated this is filled by Mr. Stegeman and is now vacant due to his resignation
- Stated any person who has an interest of halo of Sebastopol or ring of fire can apply, but stated that seat was not noticed as open for those people to apply, and that maybe therefore they did not apply because of that

Councilmember Slayter moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to authorize the Council to appoint to the four seats tonight on the Planning Commission.

VOTE:

Ayes	Councilmember Slayter and Vice Mayor Glass
Noes:	Councilmembers Eder, Jacob and Mayor Gurney
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

Motion fails.

City Council Action: None. The motion failed.

Minute Order Number: 2016-017

Mayor Gurney moved and Councilmember Eder seconded the motion to announce the vacant position on the Planning Commission and interview and appoint at a later meeting.

VOTE:

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Ayes: Councilmembers Eder, Jacob and Mayor Gurney
Noes: Councilmember Slayter and Vice Mayor Glass
Absent: None
Abstain: None
City Council Action: Directed staff to notice the Planning Commission vacancy.
Minute Order Number: 2016-018

Mayor Gurney opened for public comment on appointments for the three openings on the Planning Commission.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Gurney closed the public comment.

The Council discussed the appointments for the three openings on the Planning Commission.

Councilmember Eder commented as follows:

- Stated he would support the following applicants:
  - Paul Fritz
  - Linda Kelley
  - Evert Fernandez
- Stated Mr. Fritz is an architect who has new and fresh ideas
- Stated he has followed Mr. Fritz's blog on urbanism
- Stated he likes what he sees that Mr. Fritz has done and it is appropriate for Sebastopol
- Stated Linda Kelly has provided a great service on the Planning Commission
- Stated he sees eye to eye with her on a lot of things
- Stated all her decisions are in the best interest of Sebastopol
- Stated the same comments can be made for Evert Fernandez

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Stated this is a great group of people
- Stated she is hearing from the Planning Commission applicants that this group is also hitting their stride and are working well together as a group
- Stated she would support the following applicants:
  - Linda Kelley
  - Evert Fernandez
  - Colin Doyle
- Stated she appreciates seeing the new applications
- Stated she hopes that the Council will appoint to the fourth seat soon
- Stated both applicants are wonderful
- Stated she would support incumbents because:
- Linda Kelley has an incredible institutional memory and pays a lot of attention to issues that other people have not even thought of such as aging in place

- Stated Colin Doyle is great guy to work with; stated he was her architect on her remodel; stated they disagree politically but stated he has always been polite; and thinks he does an extraordinary job of being extremely well prepared and brings the crystallization of what the issues are for everyone; and stated that he brings a special skill of being able to say that this or that should be done and stated it is a valuable asset to have on the Commission
- Stated Evert Fernandez brings a less set of building industry or architectural type of view point and is great to work with; stated he works very hard and thinks of procedural issues
- Stated the other two applicants are excellent candidates

Councilmember Jacob commented as follows:

- Stated he is also on the incumbent train
- Stated he has worked with Paul Fritz
- Stated he sees Geoffrey Skinner on many committees
- Stated both Paul and Geoffrey are great and do a lot for our community
- Stated their role is important for the community
- Stated Colin Doyle and himself have almost never agreed and thought they would never vote together, but time and time again, Colin came across to try to find a compromise that worked
- Stated no one came to the Planning Commission more prepared or knew the rules of the zoning code better than he
- Stated Colin can reference it and cite it on demand
- Stated Colin provides a foundational function to the Planning Commission and he appreciates his service to the Commission

Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Stated she did disagree with some comments that Colin Doyle stated in the interview
- Stated however she found other comments really insightful
- Discussed his answer to "disconnect"
- Stated she disagrees on his opinion of the Urban Growth Boundary
- Stated it is healthier to have wider views
- Discussed the level of respect that he offers people
- Discussed the level of preparation that he brings to the process
- Discussed recognizing his level of experience and great sophistication of work
- Stated he is a great value to the Commission
- Stated she would like for Colin to stay on the Commission and glad that has worked with the community for so long
- Stated she has served on the City Council with Linda Kelley
- Discussed this experience shown how Linda Kelley's mind works and level of preparation and ability to catch what is missing that has been added to the conversation and that is significant
- Discussed Linda Kelley's institutional memory

- Stated the circumstances with the General Plan and seeing continuity is very important
- Stated Evert Fernandez is a careful speaker and is always studied up on the issues
- Stated he is thoughtful and reflective in his decision making
- Stated the two applicants in front of the Council tonight if not selected tonight may indicate an interest in the fourth position

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- Stated each Board, Commission or Council has a stack of yellow pads that they go through
- Stated Colin Doyle is this person on the Planning Commission
- Discussed his level of preparedness and his knowledge is exemplary
- Discussed that he is a design professional and a long time community member
- Stated he has been in the trenches and understands the system
- Stated it is important to make this appointment and continue continuity
- Discussed in the non-scientific and wonky way members were appointed to General Plan Advisory, Paul Fritz received the highest number of points
- Stated Paul brings a quality of insight
- Stated Geoffrey Skinner is knowledgeable and this would be valuable in the Parks Commission which is a duty of the Planning Commission
- Stated Evert Fernandez has a long length of service, discussed continuity, discussed Evert as Chair of the CDA, stated his service to the City is long and distinguished
- Stated the same can go for Linda Kelley
- Stated she brings a humanistic voice and perspective which is valuable
- Stated he would support the following:
    - Linda Kelley
    - Paul Fritz
    - Colin Doyle

Mayor Gurney suggested changing her vote from Evert Fernandez to Paul Fritz. She stated that Paul brings a professional, modern, contemporary perspective, and discussed the fourth position vacancy.

Councilmember Jacob commented that it is important to remember and realize that Evert Fernandez is the only Latino or person of color who serves on a Board and he does not want that overlooked in the decision making process.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Stated she was going to bring that up as well
- Stated there is stock in what has been said
- Stated she would like to add that Mr. Fritz was the only applicant who discussed "strong town" and was the only applicant that brought up the issue of financial viability
- Stated she appreciated those comments

- Stated she appreciated Mr. Skinner's manner in his gentle persuasion of point of view in addition to the other side which is his ecological perspective and deep ecology
- Stated she still feels that the City just got done with the General Plan process and that the continuity and institutional memory of the Planning Commission existing members is valuable

Councilmember Jacob moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to appoint the following individuals to the Planning Commission:

- Linda Kelley
- Colin Doyle
- Evert Fernandez

Discussion:
Mayor Gurney questioned if Mr. Fritz and Mr. Skinner would be interested in continuing their applications to the next vacancy period for the fourth seat. Both were in concurrence to have their applications reviewed for the fourth seat when discussed.

Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Eder, Jacob, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Gurney
Noes: Councilmember Slayter
Absent: None
Abstain: None

City Council Action: Appointed the following individuals to the Planning Commission:

- Linda Kelley
- Colin Doyle
- Evert Fernandez

Term Ending Dates: December 31, 2019
Minute Order Number: 2015-019

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: Mayor Gurney adjourned the regular City Council meeting of January 11, 2016 at 9:29 pm to the Joint City Council/Planning Commission Meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm, at the Sebastopol Youth Annex/Teen Center, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Gourley, CMC. City Clerk