CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Study Session

January 6, 2014   Council Conference Room
6:00 p.m.   Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Temporary Chair Wallace and Councilmembers Balducci, Chelminiak, Lee,
            Robertson, Robinson, and Stokes

ABSENT: None.

1.   Executive Session

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m., with Temporary Chair Wallace presiding. He noted
that the Executive Session would be held at the end of the Study Session.

2.   Study Session

      (a)   Election of Mayor

Chair Wallace recalled that he was selected in December to serve as Temporary Chair during this
meeting to conduct the election of the Mayor who will serve for the next two years. The Mayor
is selected by Councilmembers and serves as the Council's presiding officer, represents the City
in a number of forums, and performs a number of ceremonial roles.

During the December 9 meeting, the Council voted to amend the rules to put in place a new
method of conducting the election. The new method is characterized by voting on all nominees
simultaneously, instead of one at a time, and using written ballots rather than a voice vote. The
results of tonight's written ballots will be recorded by the City Clerk, who will provide a Teller's
Report to the Chair. The individual votes will be read aloud. The ballot process will be repeated
until a nominee achieves a majority vote.

Chair Wallace opened the floor to nominations noting that, as Chair, he cannot make
nominations. Councilmembers are allowed to nominate themselves and to vote for themselves if
nominated. Nominations may be reopened by a majority vote of the Council, and any new
nominations will be added to the list of original nominees.

Councilmember Robertson nominated Councilmember John Stokes.

Councilmember Chelminiak nominated Councilmember Claudia Balducci.

Councilmember Stokes nominated Councilmember Kevin Wallace.

Councilmember Lee nominated Councilmember Jennifer Robertson.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair Wallace closed the nominations and asked Councilmembers to vote using the printed ballots.

Mayor Lee read a prayer reflecting the importance of truth, discernment, compromise, and working for the common good. He believes that every Councilmember is capable of serving as Mayor.

Chair Wallace thanked Mayor Lee for his two years of service as Mayor.

Councilmembers cast their ballots and forwarded them to staff.

City Clerk Myrna Basich tabulated the written ballots and passed Teller's Report 1 to Chair Wallace, who read the votes as follows:

Councilmember Balducci voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Chelminiak voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Lee did not vote.
Councilmember Robertson voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Robinson voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Stokes voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Wallace voted for Councilmember Stokes.

Chair Wallace announced a 3-3 tie between Councilmembers Balducci and Stokes.

At 6:14 p.m., Deputy Mayor Robertson moved to take a brief recess. Councilmember Chelminiak seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The meeting resumed at 6:24 p.m. Chair Wallace asked Councilmembers to cast their second ballots for the four nominees.

Chair Wallace read the votes from Teller's Report 2:

Councilmember Balducci voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Chelminiak voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Lee voted for Councilmember Wallace.
Councilmember Robertson voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Robinson voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Stokes voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Wallace voted for Councilmember Stokes.

Chair Wallace announced a 3-3-1 split, with a tie between Councilmembers Balducci and Stokes and one vote for Mr. Wallace.

At 6:27 p.m., the Council agreed to a short break. The meeting resumed at 6:40 p.m. for the third ballot.

The City Clerk tabulated the votes and handed Teller's Report 3 to Chair Wallace, who read it as follows:

Councilmember Balducci voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Chelminiak voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Lee voted for Councilmember Robertson.
Councilmember Robertson voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Robinson voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Stokes voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Wallace voted for Councilmember Stokes.

Chair Wallace announced a 3-3-1 split, with a tie between Councilmembers Balducci and Stokes and one vote for Ms. Robertson.

Councilmember Lee apologized for being the person that seems to be extending the election. He said this is an excruciating process. He assured the audience that this is a difficult deliberation and he wants to do what is best.

At 6:44 p.m., Councilmember Lee moved to take a short break. Councilmember Robertson seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 7-0.

The meeting resumed at 7:04 p.m. for the fourth ballot. Chair Wallace re-read the list of nominees.

Mayor Lee observed that all eyes were on him and he hoped the Council would make the right decision in their best conscience and with full respect of each other. He referenced his earlier comments regarding a prayer, noting that the Bible states there is a season for everything. He said all Councilmembers are competent and capable of serving as Mayor.

Councilmembers marked their ballots.

Chair Wallace read Teller's Report 4 as follows:

Councilmember Balducci voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Chelminiak voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Lee voted for Councilmember Balducci.
Councilmember Robertson voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Robinson voted for Councilmember Balducci.

Councilmember Stokes voted for Councilmember Stokes.
Councilmember Wallace voted for Councilmember Stokes.

Chair Wallace announced four votes for Councilmember Balducci and three votes for Councilmember Stokes. He congratulated Mayor Balducci on her election as Mayor.

      (b)   Election of Deputy Mayor

Ms. Balducci took her place at the table as Mayor. She appreciates that all Councilmembers do their best for the community and are capable and thoughtful in their work. She said this type of situation is often a challenge to get past, but she knows the Council will move forward to work effectively as a team.

Mayor Balducci opened the floor to nominations for Deputy Mayor.

Councilmember Lee nominated Councilmember Wallace. No other nominations were made and Councilmembers completed their ballots.

Mayor Balducci read the results of the Teller's Report reflecting seven votes for Mr. Wallace. She congratulated Deputy Mayor Wallace on his election.

      (c)   Management Brief on Launch of City's Mobile Application

Acting City Manager Brad Miyake opened staff's briefing on the City's new mobile application.

Emily Christensen, Chief Communications Officer, described the City's new mobile application named MyBellevue.

Claude Iosso, Digital Communications Coordinator, presented graphics of the new application which provides mobile access to a broad range of information and services including the ability to report issues (e.g., potholes) and attach a photo; track reported issues; quickly access City news, events and job openings; and easily connect with the City's social media.

Mr. Iosso described the main page with several links and widgets. These enable citizens to report problems, call the City, access news and employment information, access information on services and programs, obtain extreme weather information, and connect to social media. Approximately 100 employees have been trained to date to use the app for responding to requests, and more staff will be trained in the near future.

Ms. Christensen said staff from multiple departments worked together to create the app within a few short months. She thanked the vendor, PublicStuff Pro; Laura Blechen, Project Manager, Information Technology Department; and Laurie Leland, Service First Manager, Civic Services Department, whose staff will be the primary responders to inquiries via the app. Ms. Christensen said a comprehensive communications plan is in place to publicize and generate enthusiasm for

the app including a staff download day. Ms. Christensen said staff is available to assist and/or brief Councilmembers further individually.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Ms. Christensen said the vendor was good to work with, responsive to the City's needs, and allowed the City to contact past customer cities to discuss their experiences.

Mr. Lee expressed support for the project.

Councilmember Robinson suggested outreach to senior citizens, including the SeniorNet group. Ms. Christensen said staff will look into that and will be working with the community and senior centers as well.

4.   Executive Session

At 7:25 p.m., Mayor Balducci declared recess to Executive Session until the 8:00 p.m. Regular Session. She noted that the Executive Session was originally scheduled for approximately one hour to discuss one item of pending litigation and two items of property acquisition. She said the Executive Session would continue following completion of the Regular Session agenda, if needed.

Myrna L. Basich, MMC
City Clerk

/kaw