

MINUTES
WEST ST. PAUL CHARTER COMMISSION
Thursday, July 28, 2022
5:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL CENTER
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS:

Chair Doug Fromm, Commissioners Tim Valento, Aaron VanMoorlehem, Matthew Schempp, Andrea Friesen, Jim Probst, Kae Jae Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioners Mark Tessmer, Tim Haubrich

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Manager Nate Burkett, City Attorney Kori Land, Councilmember Liaison Eng-Sarne.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fromm called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Schempp/Johnson to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

4. ADOPT MINUTES

Motion by Johnson/Probst to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Interviews

The Commission interviewed Michelle Ball, Chris Gevara, James Heaney, Carol Keyes-Ferrer and Andrew Olson

The Commission discussed the process for voting and decided to do a paper ballot for one candidate at a time with the Commissioner's name listed on each ballot. Chair Fromm tabulated the votes.

Round 1: Chair Fromm announced that Carol Keyes-Ferrer received 4 votes; Chris Gevara received 2 votes and Michelle Ball 1 vote. The votes were cast as follows:

- Probst voted for Gevara
- VanMoorlehem votes for Gevara
- Valento voted for Ball
- Johnson voted for Keyes-Ferrer
- Fromm voted for Keyes-Ferrer
- Schempp voted for Keyes-Ferrer
- Friesen voted for Keyes-Ferrer

Round 2: Chair Fromm announced that Chris Gevara received 5 votes; Michelle Ball received 1 vote and Andrew Olson received 1 vote. The votes were cast as follows:

- Probst voted for Gevara
- VanMoorlehem votes for Gevara
- Valento voted for Ball
- Johnson voted Olson
- Fromm voted for Gevara
- Schempp voted for Gevara
- Friesen voted for Gevara

Round 3: Chair Fromm announced that Michelle Ball received 4 votes; Andrew Olson received 3 votes. The votes were cast as follows:

- Probst voted for Ball
- VanMoorlehem votes for Ball
- Valento voted for Ball
- Johnson voted Olson
- Fromm voted for Ball
- Schempp voted for Olson
- Friesen voted for Olson

Motion by to recommend to the Chief Judge that the Judge appoint Carol Keyes-Ferrer, Chris Gevara and Michelle Ball. Motion passed unanimously.

Commission generally discussed retaining applications and reaching out to past applicants the next time an opening occurs.

The Commission determined to assign the terms in order of how they were selected in each round, awarding the vacant seats expiring in 2026 to Keyes-Ferrer, and Gevara and the vacant seat expiring in 2025 to Ball.

B. Election of Officers

Motion to nominate Doug Fromm as Chair Schempp/Valento. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to nominate Matt Schempp as Vice Chair Friesen/Probst. Motion passed unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. SET NEXT MEETING DATE BETWEEN JULY/DEC.

Upcoming Agenda items: Chair Fromm mentioned some ideas for upcoming agendas including whether they want to fundamentally change the Council pay and redistricting far in advance in the time we have to do it. Commissioner Friesen suggested the Commission discuss the issues raised by Andrew Olson. The Commission suggested Attorney Land conduct the training of the new members before the next meeting.

The Commission decided to hold its next meeting on Oct. 13, 2022.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by VanMoorlehem/Probst. Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.