

City Council
Special Meeting
January 10, 2002

The City Council of the City of Titusville, Florida met in special session in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 555 South Washington Avenue, on Thursday, January 10, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.

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Present were Mayor Ron Swank, Vice-Mayor Jeff Rainey and Council Members Chris Broome and Conrad Eigenmann.

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Mayor Swank called the meeting to order and invited Reverend Sonny Thomas, Pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, to give the invocation. The entire assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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The purpose of the meeting was to interview applicants for the open City Council seat. Mayor Swank explained the following guidelines: Applicants would be interviewed in alphabetical order. Each applicant would be given five minutes to address City Council. Each Council Member would ask questions at the end of each applicant's remarks.

Member Eigenmann expressed concern that questions be asked equally of all applicants. He commented that during the last interview process, at the end of the alphabetical order, it seemed that not as many questions were asked by Council. He was committed to a fair and equitable process.

At Mayor Swank's inquiry, the applicants voice no opposition to presentations being made in alphabetical order.

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Mayor Swank reported that he had met with all of the applicants. It was noted that Jennie L'Argent had withdrawn her application.

The following applicants made a presentation outlining their qualifications, stating their visions for the community, and answering questions posed by individual Council Members.

John Beasley highlighted an idea of providing short-term moorings for yachts as an additional revenue source. Also, he spoke to revitalization of the downtown, water and sewer rates, economic development, and a more independent source of income other than space program. He indicated that he had a flexible work schedule.

Alfonso Gutierrez, commented on the stimulation of growth with an assortment of businesses, investigation of ways to cut taxes, and the need for a business-friendly community. He had family support and a flexible work schedule.

Ralph Hall complimented the city's outstanding emergency response program. He referred to the current youth program, economic growth, ways to bring new businesses into area, and would look into federal and state funding to assist with the water and sewer situation.

Robert Rennie stated that communicating to the public was important, he would represent the elderly, look at ways to cut overhead, commented on the city's auction process, and stated he had family support.

Ramon Rivera supported effort for securing potable water beyond 2020, putting citizens above self-interest, look at the infrastructure, etc. He commented his schedule was flexible.

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The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. and reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

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Paul Secor supported a solution for the water problem, to continue the street repaving program, focus on economic development, and to investigate how to deliver the best service as efficiently as possible.

Joseph Strait, Sr. commented on bringing more businesses into the north area, look at more revenue sources for community, bring in other state colleges into area, and the need to look at long-term solutions.

Kenneth L. Ward supported economic development, expressed concern with future potable water availability, supported the reconstruction of parks, filling vacant buildings, prompting code enforcement for a better curb appeal. He indicated that he had support of his family and a flexible work schedule.

Shawn Williams stated his ambition to serve the community, supported economic development and to be less dependent on the space center.

Cheryl Lawson-Young commented on economic development, willingness to serve public, interest in innovative ideas, and the continuation of a partnership with the area to the west of our community.

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The meeting recessed at 8:20 p.m. and reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

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City Council agreed it was prepared to make a decision this evening. Mayor Swank announced the interview process was completed and opened the floor for nominations. Council Members discussed and decided this was the best procedure to follow.

Vice-Mayor Rainey nominated Kenneth L. Ward to fill the Council vacancy.

Member Broome nominated Cheryl Lawson-Young to fill the Council vacancy.

As there were no other nominations from the floor, Mayor Swank closed the nominations.

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Vice-Mayor Rainey moved to appoint Kenneth L. Ward as the new Council Member. Member Broome seconded the motion and the roll call was:

Member Eigenmann	yes
Mayor Swank	yes
Vice-Mayor Rainey	yes
Member Broome	yes

The motion carried unanimously.

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Attorney Severs advised that effective immediately, Kenneth Ward would resign as a member of the Community Redevelopment Agency. The process for applying to the Agency was announced.

Mayor Swank and fellow Council Members thanked all the applicants, encouraged them to apply for the vacant Community Redevelopment Agency seat, and to stay involved in the governmental process.

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Attorney Severs administered the Oath of Office to Kenneth L. Ward. His term would expire on November 26, 2002.

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The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Ronald G. Swank, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karan J. Rounsavall, City Clerk