

City of Del Rey Oaks

**City Hall
650 Canyon Del Rey Blvd
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940**



Action Minutes

Thursday January 5, 2023 - 6:00 PM

City Council – Special Meeting

Del Rey Oaks City Council

**Scott Donaldson – Mayor
Kim Shirley – Councilmember
Jeremy Hallock – Councilmember
John Uy – Councilmember**

6:00 PM – Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Donaldson.

Roll Call:

Present: Mayor Donaldson, Councilmember Shirley, and Councilmember Hallock and Councilmember Uy

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Donaldson led the Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

Mary Solseng: Asks for the tree to be trimmed at Hwy 218 & Canyon.

Scott Laxier: Former Mayor Alison Kerr is the most qualified to be appointed to Council.

New Business:

Receive a Report and Provide Direction to Staff on the Process for Filling the City Council Vacancy.

City Manager Guertin shares screen with options outlined in staff report for application processes. Explains past practice of appointment to the City Council and Planning Commission. Further explains the cost of an election would be between \$15,000 and \$30,000. Appointment is the fastest way to have a full council.

Council Member Uy: Listens to his neighbors and wants to hit the ground running.

City Attorney Lorca: Explains process.

Mayor Donaldson: Reviews advantages.

Council Member Shirley: There should be three options but only two on staff report. Direct appointment isn't on staff report.

Public Comment:

The following people spoke in favor of direct appointment of Former Mayor Alison Kerr to the vacant city council seat.

Ann Auburn
Dennis Wardel
Patrice Viceoni
Susan Ragsdale-Cronin
Mary Solseng
DRO resident (missed name)
Oaks resident (missed name)
Fredrica Jones
Carol Kaplan
Elizabeth (missed name)
Gary Kreeger
Wayne Marion
Gus Leonard
Helen Birdsong
Denise Leonard
Rick Rodwald

The following people spoke in favor of the application process in which the city has had success.

Jim Clark
Dennis Allion
Bill Ragsdale-Cronin

Public Comment is Closed

Council Member Hallock: A direct appointment is not on the agenda so it isn't an option for tonight, there are two good options. Option 2 to have an application process to appoint is quick and fair. Might want to establish guidelines for the future, but not now.

Council Member Shirley: Thanks the public. Having the applications in the packet will reflect core values, an election would be expensive. Must be responsive to the public.

A motion was made by Council Member Shirley, for City Manager Guertin to ask Alison Kerr wants the appointment, if not ask Louise Goetzelt and if she doesn't want it, go forward with the application process for appointment. Gave an outline of what is needed to be included with the application. Seconded by Council Member Uy.

Roll call vote taken pursuant to Government Code 54953:

Mayor Donaldson: Nay
Council Member Shirley: Aye
Council Member Hallock: Nay
Council Member Uy: Aye

The motion did not pass.

Council Member Hallock: The application process the city has in place is equitable.

Mayor Donaldson: Thanks the speakers and all that listened. Election doesn't make sense. Whether it's direct appointment or application process, the time frame will be the same. Others might be interested in applying and other qualified voices can be heard. Application process is fair.

Council Member Shirley: Likely that will end up a 2-2 vote. Asks Mayor Donaldson to please change his mind.

A motion was made by **Council Member Hallock** to open applications on January 6th, time to review application and be heard at the Jan. 24th meeting. Keep consistent with past practices of the city. Seconded by Mayor Donaldson.

A friendly amendment was offered by **Council Member Uy** to use a rubric that is approved by Council to score applicants qualifications, so applicants won't be judged by gut instinct.

Council Member Hallock accepted friendly amendment to keep the January 6th publish of application, staff will schedule a special meeting to establish criteria. Accepted by **Council Member Uy**

Roll call vote taken pursuant to Government Code 54953:

Mayor Donaldson: Aye
Council Member Shirley: Aye
Council Member Hallock: Aye
Council Member Uy: Aye

The motion passed unanimously

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6:00pm

Adjournment: 8:25 pm

Attest:

Date:
