

City of Del Rey Oaks

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



Action Minutes

Thursday January 24, 2023 - 6:00 PM

City Council – Regular 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

Interview Qualified Council Vacancy Applicants, Appoint to Fill the Short-Term Council Vacant Seat, and Install the Appointed Council Member

City Manager Guertin: Explains the process and the order of the applicants was determined by the pulling names from the hat before the meeting.

Mike Burger, Applicant: Loves DRO and when folks smile and wave at each other. Been on the planning commission. Safety and sustainability is important. Wants to be available to all 24-7 (gave his phone number).

Gary Kreeger, Applicant: Enjoys Citizens Action Group and Planning Commission. Wants to expand experience and to help in the city. Served 16 years in the Navy. Wants to talk with each other respectfully. Development is concerning, why is the stone creek kitchen area still vacant.

Louise Goetzelt, Applicant: 30-year resident. Thanks all that voted for her in the election. She is open to others' opinions. Health and Safety is her first concern. Served on city council for 3 years and enjoyed it. Wants to set realistic goals.

Andy Clark, Applicant: 20-year resident. Likes the community values. Was on DROCAG and Planning Commission. Specialty is financials and fiscal responsibility is important. Utilizing staff and policies. Health and safety are a priority.

Bill Ragsdale-Cronin, Applicant: Is a centrist. Has experience and his family is like the United Nations. Transparency is perception. Wants to address the debt. It's OK to change your mind and explain why. Look at restrictions on one-time funds.

Dennis Allion, Applicant: Involved in city planning commission and council since 1993. Served 20 years in the Navy. Everyone needs to be treated as individuals. Wants to pay off debt if no restrictions on one time funds. Needs for general population as a whole, need to be met.

Public Comment:

Kathy Palazolo: Thanks all applicants. Impressed by Mike Burger. City has been torn apart; this position is important.

Joanne Davidson: No response from emails. Older folks don't use computers wants a survey mailed out to all residents.

Ballots were handed out to the Council. Handed it to Deputy City Clerk Minami and she read the tallies aloud. 2 votes for Gary Kreeger and 2 votes for Louise Goetzelt.

Mayor Donaldson: Spoke in regard to Jan. 5th motion made by Council Member Shirley, why won't she support Louise now?

Council Member Shirley: Mistaken because it was a motion about the process not direct appointment. Wants Gary because of dedication and core values.

Council Member Uy: Moved by story, open and inclusive. All strong candidates but wants Gary.

Council Member Hallock: Sees Jan 5th differently. Jan 5th motion was to offer the position to Alison Kerr and if she didn't want it, then offer it to Louise Goetzelt. Council Member Shirley backed Louise during campaign, what happened? Supports Louise Goetzelt for a balanced council.

Mayor Donaldson: Even though both are highly qualification, Louise ran in the election and backs her. Running in an election takes effort. She has shown she is willing to work with anyone and has experience. During the Jan. 5th Council Member Shirley supported her by name in the motion. Can you support Louise tonight?

Council Member Shirley: No

Council Member Uy: Rubric was downsized for the sake of compromise.

The Council was not able to come to a consensus on the appointment of the new member.

Mayor Donaldson: Asked for another vote.

Ballots were handed out again to the Council. Handed it to Deputy City Clerk Minami and she read the tallies aloud. 2 votes for Bill Ragsdale-Cronin and 2 votes for Dennis Allion.

Council Member Shirley: Voted for Bill, he is a centrist.

Council Member Hallock: Dennis has the most experience, impressed he applied.

Council Member Uy: Bills responses from the heart.

Mayor Donaldson: Both qualified, the message from January 5th meeting was the city needed experience and Denise has a depth of knowledge.

The Council was not able to come to a consensus on the appointment of the new member.

Mayor Donaldson: Asked for another vote.

Ballots were handed out again to the Council. Handed it to Deputy City Clerk Minami and she read the tallies aloud. 2 votes for Mike Burger and 1 vote for Andy Clarke. Council Member Shirley wrote in Bill Ragsdale-Cronin.

Council Member Shirley: Can't support any of the other applicants.

Council Member Hallock: Impressed with Mike Burger, appreciate his candor.

Mayor Donaldson: Council Member Uy supported Andy Clarke. We are deadlocked, any compromise.

Council Member Uy: No longer supports him, wants Bill Ragsdale-Cronin now.

A motion was made by Council Member Hallock to appoint Andrew Clarke as a City Council Member, Seconded by Mayor Donaldson.

Roll call vote taken pursuant to Government Code 54953:

Mayor Donaldson: Aye

Council Member Shirley: Nay

Council Member Hallock: Aye

Council Member Uy: Nay

The motion did not pass.

City Manager Guertin: Take action on one candidate and move forward.

Council Member Shirley: Feels strongly about Bill, and won't compromise.

Council Member Hallock: Confused because Council Member Uy originally voted for Andy

Clarke, isn't that a compromise? But now he won't vote for him.

Council Member Uy: The last round was confusing.

Mayor Donaldson: Both "sides" aren't getting what they want, so it's compromise on both sides. Both applicants are qualified. Will we leave this position unfilled.

Council Member Shirley: Will not waiver and asks Mayor to compromise since the city is in this situation because of him winning the election.

Mayor Donaldson: Is compromising with Andy Clarke.

A lengthy discussion regarding choices and compromise ensued between the Mayor and Council Members.

*The following applicants withdrew their application from the appointment process:

Andrew Clarke

Dennis Allion

Gary Kreeger

Mike Burger

City Attorney Lorca: Options can be to continue to deliberate or recommend a special election. This must be done by February 10th.

City Council Member Shirley: Louise Goetzelt has difficulty in leadership at the Oaks.

City Council Member Hallock: Sorry to see the withdrawals, doesn't want the special election.

Mayor Donaldson: Doesn't want to spend the money for election.

City Council Member Shirley: Already compromised and Mayor is not compromising.

City Council Member Uy: Wants to do better and one of the other council members to support Bill Ragsdale-Cronin.

Mayor Donaldson: Will schedule a special meeting to find a path forward, one last effort.

Recess for 10 minutes

Back in session

Public Comment:

Jim Clark: What happened to core values? The Jan 5th meeting was horrible. Reads his letter regarding Council Member Shirley's behavior to incite citizens to line up and make statements to direct appoint Former Alison Kerr.

Kathy Palazolo: Council Member Shirley and Uy's behavior during the Jan. 5th meeting was underhanded and wrong.

Mike Hayworth: Appalled by the behavior of certain Council Members, no bearing on what we are trying to accomplish.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Action Items

- A. MINUTES: (CEQA: as to all, not a project per Guidelines Article 20, Section 15378)
 - 1. December 13, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
 - 2. January 5, 2023, Special City Council Meeting Minutes
 - 3. January 11, 2023 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. MONTHLY REPORTS: (CEQA: as to all, not a project per Guidelines Article 20, Section 15378)

1. Financials, December 2022
 2. Fire Department Response Report, December 2022
 3. Police Activity Report, December 2022
- C. MISCELLANEOUS (CEQA: as to all, not a project per Guidelines Article 20, Section 15378)
1. Approve the Purchase of six (6) APX Next Radios to Support Public Safety Communications
 2. Approve Agreement Decommissioning and Returning Donated 2009 Ford Crown Victoria
 3. Approve Employment Contract for Acting Chief of Police
 4. Approve Reimbursement Agreement with DEA for Police Staff time
 5. Approve FY22/23 Cannabis Tax Fund Police Grant Program
 6. Accept Meeting Calendar for 2023

A motion was made by Council Member Hallock, seconded by Council Member Shirley to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll call vote taken pursuant to Government Code 54953:

Mayor Donaldson: AYE
Councilmember Uy AYE
Councilmember Shirley: AYE
Councilmember Hallock: AYE

The Consent Agenda passed 4-0

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consider City Council Boards and Committees Appointment List

Council Member Uy: Would like to give the opportunity to someone else to be on Seaside County Sanitation District.

Mayor Donaldson: Assigned Council Member Hallock as the primary for Community Human Services. **Council Member Shirley:** Wants to be primary on Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster.

Council Member Hallock: Also wants it.

A motion was made by Council Member Hallock, seconded by Council Member Uy to approve a partial Appointment List with changes and tabling until there is a full council for the Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster..

Roll call vote taken pursuant to Government Code 54953:

Mayor Donaldson: AYE
Councilmember Uy AYE
Councilmember Shirley: AYE
Councilmember Hallock: AYE

The Consent Agenda passed 4-0

Closed Session Items:

CLOSED SESSION: As permitted by Government Code Section 54956 et. seq. the Council may adjourn to a Closed Session to consider specific matters dealing with certain litigation, personnel, or labor/real property negotiations.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items: Anyone wishing to address the City Council on an item to be discussed in closed session may do so now. There will be a time limit of not more than three minutes for each speaker. No action will be taken on matters brought up under this public comment period.

None

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (California Government Code § 54957 (b)(1)): Title: City Manager

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (California Government Code § 54957 (b)(1)): Title: City Attorney

City Attorney Lorca: No reportable action taken.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT: 10:40pm

Attest:

Date:
