

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2024

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Berge called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Brewster, Felton, Johnson, Jones, Mboga, Miller, Schoen, Serrano, and Werthmann.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

The Honorable Judge Beverly Wickstrom administered the Oath of Office to City Council Members Schoen, Anderson, Brewster, Serrano, and Werthmann.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Council President Berge stated that three Council Members had expressed interest in serving as City Council Vice President, including Council Members Anderson, Miller, and Werthmann. Interest was expressed on a form which Council Members submitted prior to the Organizational Meeting.

Council Members Anderson, Miller, and Werthmann delivered short speeches promoting their selection. Upon conclusion, the Council voted for Council Vice President via secret ballot.

In the first round of voting, Council Member Anderson received 4 votes, Council Member Miller received 3 votes, and Council Member Werthmann received 3 votes. Council Member Werthmann withdrew his name from consideration.

In the second round of voting, Council Member Anderson received 6 votes and Council Member Miller received 4 votes. Council Member Anderson was elected Vice President.

SEATING ARRANGEMENT

The Council drew for their Chamber seating arrangement.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Council Members had previously submitted their committee preferences and a chart had been prepared. Council President Berge said in cases where more Council Members had expressed interest in a particular committee than there are positions available, the Council would vote on the membership.

There was one position on the Housing Authority Board. Council Member Anderson had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board.

There were two positions on the Waterways and Parks Commission. Council Members Miller and Werthmann had expressed interest in serving on the Commission. Council Member Werthmann withdrew his name from consideration. Council Member Felton nominated herself to serve on the Commission. By unanimous consent, Council Members Miller and Felton will serve on the Commission.

There was one position on the Sustainability Advisory Committee. Council Members Schoen and Werthmann had expressed interest in serving on the Committee. The Council voted by a show of hands. Council Member Schoen received 3 votes. Council Member Werthmann received 7 votes. Council Member Werthmann will serve on the Committee.

There was one position on the Housing Opportunities Commission. Council Members Anderson, Brewster, Schoen, and Serrano had expressed interest in serving on the Commission. Council Members Anderson, Brewster, and Serrano withdrew their names from consideration. By unanimous consent, Council Member Schoen will serve on the Commission.

There was one position on the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Council Member Miller had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Committee.

There was one position on the Transit Commission. Council Members Miller and Serrano had expressed interest in serving on the Commission. Council Member Miller withdrew his name from consideration. By unanimous consent, Council Member Serrano will serve on the Commission.

There were three positions on the Advisory Committee on Appointments. According to City Code, the Council President serves on the committee by virtue of the office. Council Members Miller and Werthmann had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board along with Council President Berge.

There were three positions on the City Manager Evaluation Committee. According to City Code, the Council President and Vice President serve on the committee by virtue of the office. Council Member Schoen had expressed interest in serving on the Committee and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Committee along with Council President Berge and Council Vice President Anderson.

There was one position on the Chippewa St. Croix Rail Commission. Council Members Berge and Serrano had expressed interest in serving on the Commission. The Council voted by a show of hands. Council President Berge received 7 votes. Council Member Serrano received 4 votes. Council President Berge will serve on the Committee.

There was one position on the Chippewa Valley Innovation Center Board. Council Member Serrano had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board.

There was one position on the Eau Claire Confluence Arts Inc. Board of Directors. Council Member Johnson had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board.

There were two positions on the Putnam Parks Commission. Council Member Miller had expressed interest in serving on the Commission. Council Member Werthmann nominated Council Member Brewster to serve on the Commission. Council Member Brewster accepted the nomination. By unanimous consent, Council Members Brewster and Miller will serve on the Commission.

There were two positions on the Visit Eau Claire Board. Council Members Johnson and Mboga had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board.

There were two positions on the Visit Eau Claire Tourism & Cultural Arts Grant Program Committee. Council Members Johnson and Mboga had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Committee.

There was one position on the City / County Board of Health. Council Member Miller had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board.

There was one position on the Library Board. No Council Members had expressed interest in serving on this Board. During the Organizational Meeting, Council Members Jones and Serrano nominated themselves to serve on the Board. The Council voted by a show of hands. Council Member Jones received 7 votes. Council Member Serrano received 4 votes. Council Member Jones will serve on the Board.

There was one position on the Redevelopment Authority. Council Members Brewster and Schoen had expressed interest in serving on the Committee. The Council voted by a show of hands. Council Member Brewster received 5 votes. Council Member Schoen received 6 votes.¹

There were two positions on the Board of Review and one alternate. Council Member Anderson had expressed interest in serving on the Board. During the Organizational Meeting, Council Members Johnson and Jones nominated themselves to serve on the Board. By unanimous consent, Council Members Anderson, Johnson, and Jones (alternate) will serve on the Board.

There was one position on the Landmarks Commission. No Council Members had expressed interest in serving on this Commission. Council Member Werthmann nominated Council Member Brewster to serve on the Commission. Council Member Brewster accepted the nomination. By unanimous consent, Council Member Brewster will serve on the Commission.

There was one position on the Loan Administration Board. Council Member Mboga had expressed interest and by unanimous consent, will serve on the Board.

¹ Appointments to the Redevelopment Authority require a 4/5 majority, or 9 votes. As this was not attained during the 4/16/2024 Organizational Meeting, the Council will need to revote on the appointment.

There were two positions on the Plan Commission. According to City Ordinance, Council Members appointed to the Plan Commission are to be elected by a two-thirds vote, meaning eight affirmative votes of the Common Council. Council Members Brewster, Felton, and Werthmann had expressed interest in serving on this Committee. The Council voted by a show of hands. Council Member Brewster received 1 vote. Council Member Felton received 10 votes. Council Member Werthmann received 10 votes. Council Members Felton and Werthmann will serve on the Committee.

There was one position on the Utility Appeals Board. Council Members Anderson and Schoen had expressed interest in serving on this Board. Council Member Schoen withdrew her name from consideration. By unanimous consent, Council Member Anderson will serve on the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Time: 5:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Emily K. Berge
Council President

/s/ Kristina M. Kuzma
City Clerk

