

MINUTES
City of Cocoa
City Manager Candidate Meetings

July 15, 2020

City Manager Candidate Meetings were held on Tuesday, July 15, 2020, in Cocoa City Hall, in City Council Chambers, located at 65 Stone Street, in Cocoa, Florida, 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Opening Matters:

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

The City Clerk took the roll.

PRESENT:	Jake Williams, Jr.	Mayor
	James Goins	Deputy Mayor
	Don Boisvert	Councilmember
	Lorraine Koss	Councilmember
	Brenda Warner	Councilmember
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney (left at 6:07 p.m.)
	Matt Fuhrer	Interim City Manager
	Carie Shealy	City Clerk

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Cantaloupe, Chief of Police; Jack Walsh, Utilities Director; Bryant Smith, Public Works Director; Lorne Stinnett, HR Manager; Rebecca Bowman; and Mitch Lawyer, Technical Services Supervisor.

Mayor Williams explained the procedure of the meeting. Each member of City Council asked the same question of each candidate. Each candidate was present via GotoMeeting and/or the telephone.

The following questions were asked of each candidate:

Mayor Williams asked each candidate to take a second and explain your interest in Cocoa.

Deputy Mayor Goins: What is your ideal plan to spark growth and development in our most impoverished areas without displacing the current residents?

Councilmember Warner: How do you vision day #1, your first day, and what would be your plan for meeting and starting your relationship with your staff?

Councilmember Boisvert: What strengths do you bring that will contribute to meeting the expectations of this position?

Councilmember Koss: Do you have an example of where you have had to be courageous or advise/guide your counsel to be courageous?

Mayor Williams: What do you feel is the difference between a good manager and a good leader?

1. Keith Moffett: began at 5:33 p.m. Ended at 5:52 p.m.
2. Dan Porta: began at 6:07 p.m. Ended at 6:22 p.m.

Mayor Williams thanked each candidate for taking the time to speak with them.

Ms. Dona Higginbotham with the Mercer Group explained that each member of Council had a ranking sheet and asked them to rank the candidates from #1 to #5, with #1 being their top choice. The lowest three scorers will be brought back for final interview.

Councilmember Warner stated that she did not have three that she was willing to bring back and was not comfortable making a decision as to who the top three would be.

Councilmember Boisvert would like this to be opened back up as he found out that there were locals who were interested and would like to give them a chance to apply.

Councilmember Warner was surprised that there were not any locals on the first list when she knew that there was interest in the position. She feels that some did not apply because they thought that the Interim City Manager was applying.

- * **MOTION by Councilmember Warner; Seconded by Councilmember Boisvert, to open the process back up for ten days.**

The motion was opened for discussion.

Discussion was held on whether the process should be opened back up or not, the next step in the process, and timelines for when candidates would be brought to town.

THE VOTE ON THE MOTION WAS:

AYES: Goins, Boisvert, Warner

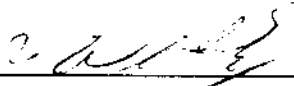
NAYS: Williams, Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED (3-2)

Ms. Higginbotham mentioned that she would reopen the posting tomorrow and it would run until the 26th of July. She would then bring to interview candidates that meet the minimum requirements and would present those to Council. The same process would happen with these new candidates.

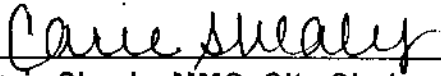
II. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting ended at 6:44 p.m.



Jake Williams, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Carrie Shealy, MMC, City Clerk

