



DATE: January 3, 2022

TO: Bellevue City Councilmembers

FROM: Charmaine Arredondo, City Clerk, 452-6466
City Clerk's Office

SUBJECT: Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor

RCW 35A.13.030 and Resolution No. 8928 provide that the Council shall elect a Mayor and Deputy Mayor to serve terms of two years at the first official meeting of the City Council during even-numbered years. During the December 13, 2021 Regular Meeting, Council approved a temporary rule to conduct the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by a ballot method, voting for all nominated candidates simultaneously via roll call vote. As you will recall, Councilmember Robinson was selected to serve as the Temporary Chair to call the meeting to order and preside over the nominations and election of the Mayor.

Process steps for conducting the election are outlined below:

- a) The Temporary Chair opens the meeting and calls for nominations for the position of Mayor. Nominations do not require a second. *Each Councilmember may nominate no more than one candidate for the position.*
- b) The Temporary Chair will close the floor to nominations when no other nominations are forthcoming. Under Robert's Rules, after nominations have been closed, a majority vote is required to reopen them.
- c) As decided by the Council at the December 13, 2021 meeting, the list of nominees will be voted on via **roll call vote**. This means each Councilmember will be called in alphabetical order and asked to state their vote on the record. If there is only one nominee for an office, the vote must still be taken for that office.
- d) The Clerk will call each Councilmember in alphabetical order and will prepare a Teller's Report and announce the results of the vote on the record.
- e) Under Robert's Rules, when repeated balloting for an office is necessary, the names of all nominees are kept on the ballot. Robert's further provides that the nominee receiving the lowest number of votes is never removed from the next ballot unless he/she withdraws.
- f) Balloting and roll call voting continues until a Councilmember receives a majority vote (i.e., 4 votes). The successful candidate is then declared elected, and the

new Mayor assumes the gavel and repeats the same steps to elect the Deputy Mayor.

Additional provisions if selection is not forthcoming:

- Should the Council not elect a Mayor in the early rounds of balloting, or if there is a recurring tie vote, the Temporary Chair may **declare a brief recess**. If at a stalemate, **nominations may be reopened**. To reopen nominations requires a motion, is non-debatable, and requires a majority vote. If additional nominations are made, they are added to the existing list of nominees.
- Should the vote continue at a stalemate or in a tie, per Council Rules, the question may be brought forward again at a subsequent meeting. A special meeting could be called or action could be deferred until Council's next planned regular meeting scheduled for Monday, January 10.