

DATE: February 13, 2017

TO: Mayor Stokes and City Councilmembers

FROM: Kyle Stannert, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Item 5c - Council Interviews for Filling Council Vacancy

On January 24 the Council opened a solicitation for candidates to fill a vacant position on the Bellevue City Council. The Position 5 seat became available when Vandana Slatter resigned after being appointed by the King County Council to represent the 48th Legislative District in the Washington State House of Representatives. Her resignation became effective January 14. Residents were encouraged to apply for the vacancy by submitting a letter of interest and a resume by February 2. The Council received responses from 43 individuals.

On February 6 the Council met to review the applications. Candidates for consideration were narrowed down to eight finalists based on the following criteria:

- How quickly would the candidate be able to get up to speed on Council issues, and how familiar are they with current issues?
- How well does the candidate demonstrate an understanding of the City and how it operates?
- How does he or she demonstrate a commitment to the direction that has been set for the City?
- What values does the applicant's background and experience bring to the Council?
- Does the candidate demonstrate the ability to work with the existing Council?
- How does the candidate represent the many aspects of diversity in the community?

Council selected the following eight finalists to interview for the vacated seat:

- Grant Degginger
- John deVadoss
- Aaron Laing
- Scott Lampe
- Jared Nieuwenhuis
- Ernie Simas
- Stephanie Walter
- Janice Zahn

At tonight's meeting, each candidate will have 10 minutes to provide introductory remarks and respond to the following three questions:

1. What do you see as the role of a City Councilmember and what does it take to perform the role well?
2. What items within the council vision excite you the most and what item might be difficult to implement?
3. What do you think are the top one to three issues facing the city and how would you address them?

Staff will set the order of the interviews at random prior to the meeting.

Attachments

- A. Press Release
- B. Finalist Letters of Interest