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CALL TO ORDER

[Time: 00:00:01]

Mayor Ortega: Good afternoon, I call the December 7, 2022 Special City Council meeting to order. Would you conduct the roll call please?

ROLL CALL

[Time: 00:00:14]

City Clerk Ben Lane: Thank you Mayor. Mayor David Ortega.

Mayor Ortega: Present.

Clerk Ben Lane: Vice Mayor Tom Durham.

Vice Mayor Durham: Present.

Clerk Ben Lane: Councilmembers Tammy Caputi.

Councilwoman Caputi: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Betty Janik

Councilwoman Janik: Present.

Clerk Ben Lane: Kathy Littlefield.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Linda Milhaven.

Councilmember Milhaven: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Solange Whitehead.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Manager Jim Thompson.

Jim Thompson: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Attorney Sherry Scott.

Sherry Scott: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Treasurer Sonia Andrews.

Sonia Andrews: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Auditor Sharron Walker.

Sharron Walker: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: And the Clerk is present. Thank you, Mayor.

ITEM 01 – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND TASK FORCES INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS

[Time: 00:00:40]

Mayor Ortega: Excellent. Our purpose of the special meeting today is listed at item one, boards and commissions and /task forces. We're holding interviews and appointments this afternoon. We'll be appointing individuals to five boards, commissions, and task forces. I now turn the meeting over to vice mayor Durham to begin the process.

Vice Mayor Durham: The Scottsdale City Council is responsible for establishing City policies and enacting laws in support of those policies. The council relies on volunteers, citizen based boards and commissions to research issues and make recommendations in support of the council's missions and goals. The information and recommendations provided by council appointed advisory boards is a valuable tool in helping councilmembers in their deliberations. This afternoon, the city council will be appointing Scottsdale residents interested in serving on various boards and commissions. I want to thank the individuals for their willingness to volunteer their time in service to this community. Following this set of interviews, we'll vote on the appoint for the boards or commissions.

As I call your name, please approach the podium and briefly cover the following: For the record, please state your name and address and how long you've lived in Scottsdale. Please tell us how your education, employment, or volunteer experience relates to this board or appointment. What is the top issue facing this board or commission. Please limit your comments to two minutes or less. We have a timer on the screen to help you manage your time. Following each nominee's response, I'll ask the council members if they have any follow up questions for you.

Our first appointment is to the Board of Adjustments. There's one opening for the board. The board of adjustment is a quasi-judicial body that hears variance requests appeals of the zoning administrators' interpretations, decisions, and decides on administrative decisions or zoning requirements which create unnecessary hardships in the development of property, because of exceptional or extraordinary conditions.

There's one vacancy and one nominee, Jason Chocron. Mr. Chocron's term expires this month and he is eligible for reappointment. He will be participating in this afternoon's meeting electronically. I will now entertain a vote, sorry, Mr. Chocron, are you available?

[Time: 00:03:52]

Jason Chocron: Yes, Vice Mayor, this is Jason, can you hear me?

Vice Mayor Durham: Yes.

Jason Chocron: Excellent. Thank you. Thank you, Mayor Ortega and council for allowing us to call in. Since I didn't have a meeting tonight, I thought I would save a little bit of emissions and stay home and call in so thank you Rebecca for setting that up for us.

I'm Jason Chocron. I reside at 11414 North 67th street Scottsdale 85254. I've lived at the residence for ten years. I've been a Scottsdale residence since 1981 and attended Tonelea, Supai, and Coronado. Also Scottsdale Community College and the University of Phoenix where I was able to obtain a bachelors in management. I currently own a company call Arizona Flooring Brokers Scottsdale Floors and Interiors. We have a public showroom at 13802 North Scottsdale Road in Scottsdale 85254. We've been there since 1995.

So I am just finishing up my first term. I've been on the board the last three years where collaboration and work with staff has been excellent over those three year. We've been able to make adjustments to the process of how we run the board with open arms and staff. It's been great. I'm hoping to do it again for the next three years. One thing we did do, not with my help, but two senior staff had written a board of adjustment law procedure which is a great tool for incoming new members and it is something that I would encourage other boards and commissions to try to do. It is something that opened up and allowed my staff something that Gary Donahoe and Matt Metz created which is a great tool for new and incoming members.

As for issues with the board, I don't see any issues with our board, our board is ran very well. I would like to be on it again. I think we face certain issues with the community and understanding rules and

laws around zoning and how that works for their properties. I know I've taken over two minutes. I open it up to any questions that you may have for me. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you, Mr. Chocron. Any questions? I will now entertain a vote for the Board of Adjustment. I'll start at this end. I'll vote for Mr. Chocron.

Councilwoman Janik: I vote for Jason Chocron.

Councilwoman Littlefield: No additional.

Rommel Cordova: Councilwomen, if you could clarify if you are voting for the gentleman or not.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Jason Chocron.

Mayor Ortega: Jason Chocron.

Councilmember Milhaven: Mr. Chocron

Councilwoman Whitehead: Jason Chocron.

Councilwoman Caputi: Jason Chocron.

Vice Mayor Durham: Mr. Chocron has been appointed.

[Time: 00:06:57]

Vice Mayor Durham: Next I will move to the building advisory board of appeals where there's one opening. The building advisory board of appeals has the jurisdiction to recommend that minor variances in the electrical, plumbing, and mechanical application of the building code be granted and that alternative construction methods of materials be allowed. There's one vacancy and two nominees. Mr. Goldsworthy has withdrawn his name. The nominations are Pete Eggspuehler and Steve Sussholz. Mr. Eggspuehler, can you hear me? Oh. You are here. I'm sorry. Yes. Can you step forward to the podium?

Pete Eggspuehler: Thank you. Follow the directions. I moved here from the City of Portland in 2015. Originally lived on Camelback Road. Now I live at 7729 East Avalon Drive. I bought a small home there and renovated it for myself. I've been semiretired since I moved down here. I have a masters degree from Thunderbird, undergraduate from Ohio State in business, and while working in the City of Portland, I worked for the City of Portland for their economic development department. Often times in that capacity I worked with developers to bring large redevelopment projects to the city. It often required retrofitting buildings and permitting. One of my tasks was to liaison to the city to expedite and approve the zoning variances. After that I worked for the private developer. We did historical rehabs mostly downtown. That also required quite a lot of work with the building department to get approval either for permitting or variances. And now that I'm here and retired, I would like to volunteer my time for the City of Scottsdale. This seemed like a good opportunity for me to do it. It seems like the current

issue before the board right now is the adoption of the international business code. And so I think that's pretty good task to work on. I would like to be involved with that. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you. Any questions? All right. Mr. Sussholz.

Steven Sussholz: Can you hear me? Thank you for having me here today. My name is Steven Sussholz. I reside -- my wife and I reside at 8029 East Parkview Lane. I'm a graduate architect from Arizona State University. I was in practice for over 40 years and retired in 19 -- 2015, excuse me. I've lived -- we purchased a home in 2015 in Scottsdale. At 28084 North 76th Place. I was on the architecture review board there. I was President of the HOA back in Northbrook where we originally came from. I was on the city of Northbrook plan, architecture review committee. My practice in architecture was both commercial, health care, and multifamily residential. So I'm very familiar with building codes. My practice covered from California to Florida. I dealt with codes and other issues hundreds of time. I'm not sure what the problems may be. I'm keeping an open mind. I hope I can help whatever issues may occur with the various committee questions. Are there any questions? I'm a little horse. That's why I have difficulty talking.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you. I will now entertain a vote for the building advisory board of appeals. Each council member can vote for one nominee. I will start with Councilmember Caputi.

Councilwoman Caputi: Pete Eggspuehler.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Pete Eggspuehler.

Councilmember Milhaven: Pete Eggspuehler.

Mayor Ortega: Steven Sussholz

Councilwoman Littlefield: Steven Sussholz

Councilwoman Janik: Pete Eggspuehler.

Vice Mayor Durham: I vote for Mr. Eggspuehler. He has been appointed. Thank you very much.

[Time: 00:12:37]

Vice Mayor Durham: Our next set of appoints is for the library board. There's one opening. The library board advises the city council on general policy relating to the programs, services, and future development of the Scottsdale Public Libraries. There's one vacancy and two nominees. The nominees are Natalee Esposito and Paige Harvey. Natalee, can you step forward?

Natalee Esposito: Hi. I've never done this. My name is Natalee Esposito. I've lived there my entire life. The house is built in 1961. It has only ever belonged to my family. As far as experience, when I was 11, I started volunteering with the Scottsdale library. I actually lied on my application. I said I was born in 1998. I handed my mom the application. Great, she involves to volunteer. Great. It wasn't until I was 16 that the library had to make the change to my real date of birth. It must be on error on your end. It

wasn't until I was an adult volunteer I was, like, okay, listen I lied when I was 11 to be 13. As far as some of my experience, I've volunteered and still volunteer with the library. I bring my daughter twice a week to the story times. The top issue is getting the numbers back up from pre-COVID. With the volunteers themselves and the programs and outreach the library does provide. They offer rewards. Having families come back and programming that's family oriented is the biggest issue that we're all facing. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Durham: Any questions for miss Esposito? Thank you.

Natalee Esposito: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Durham: Our next candidate is nominee is Paige Harvey.

Paige Harvey: Hi. I'm Paige Harvey. I live at 8332 east Minnesota Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona, 85255. I lived in Arizona since 1998. I grew up in north Scottsdale by Tempe. I now live about two miles from the city hall. I have a degree in finance, economics, and an MDA. I have certifications in business management, schools in England, India, and China. I worked in every business capacity the last several years.

I would say I've built a strong action orientation there. I'm very accountable. I do a lot of partnership with business development. Outside of a work I have an Instagram that has about 1,500 followers. It curates activities in the area. I have a strong pulse and get a lot of communication from the families on what types of events they find most engaging and what do they appreciate. I'm also heavily involved in my children's school. I do a lot of event planning. I also own the dine and fundraising program. You dine out at local restaurants and a portion goes to the school.

In terms of the biggest issues facing the libraries, Natalee mentioned the story times and exceptional use programming. It is awesome. The big draw back with it is that almost all of it is offered during the daytime hours. Which means that children who are in daycare, school, and caregivers can't attend with them, they miss out on the magic of the library. I think the sooner that the youth is exposed to the magic of the library, the more likely they are to be a lifelong library supporter. I would love to work with the board to identify ways that we can adjust or expand programming or do some creative community outreach to tap into the demographic opportunity. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you, Ms. Harvey. Any questions? If not, I'll entertain a vote for the library board. Each council member can vote for one nominee. I'm going to start with the Mayor.

[Time: 00:17:59]

Mayor Ortega: First of all, I would like to expand the membership of the library board. (Laughter) Natalee Esposito. I find both candidates compelling.

Councilmember Milhaven: Ms. Esposito.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Ms. Harvey.

Councilwoman Caputi: Paige Harvey.

Vice Mayor Durham: I will vote for Natalee Esposito.

Councilwoman Janik: Natalee Esposito.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Paige Harvey.

Vice Mayor Durham: Ms. Esposito has been appointed. Thank you.

Next is the lost trust fund board. There are two openings. The lost trust fund board is responsible for recommendations to the city council regarding the administration of the loss trust fund. There are some special qualifications for the roles. As specified in the Scottsdale City Code, the City Council shall appoint five joint trustees of whom no more than one shall be a member of the city council and no more than one trustee maybe a city employee. There are two vacancies and two nominees. The nominees are Austin Brooker and Allan Smith. Both of them will be participating electronically. Allan Smith's term expires this month. He's eligible for reappointment. We'll start with Mr. Brooker. Are you available?

Austin Brooker: Yes, I am. Thank you, mayor and council. Can everybody hear me?

Vice Mayor Durham: Yes.

Austin Brooker: Yes. Okay. Good. I'm Austin Brooker. I've lived in Scottsdale for just under eight years now. I live at 11176 North 78th Street. I'm excited for the opportunity to help serve the city and through the involvement in the loss trust fund board. I think I can serve very well.

In terms of professional experience, you get experience in the finance industry. I have a degree in finance with the Ivy School of Business at Iowa State University. The majority of my career has been spent managing finance operations and really analyzing all types of financial data. My current role is the financial advisor in the health care realty trust. It includes directing an annual budget process, as well as maintaining a monthly forecast. My previous role is with Scottsdale-based health care trust headquartered in Scottsdale. Roughly the same responsibilities, budgeting, forecasting, management. These years of experience has definitely have helped prepare for me serving on the loss trust fund board here. In terms of the top issue that the loss trust fund board will be facing is absolutely the inflationary period the economy is experiencing. This is going to continue to, you know, impact the whole city in general. Definitely the loss trust fund board for the foreseeable future here. Loss reports have been hovering. That will probably continue. These are issues that the board will have to discuss and address how to manage and how to maintain cost efficiency through these inflationary periods. With that, any questions?

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you. Are there any questions? If not, thank you. Next is Mr. Smith. Are you available?

[Time: 00:22:11]

Allan Smith: I am available. Thank you for having me back. As Vice Mayor indicated, my term is expiring. Allan Smith is the name. I've been in Scottsdale for 12 years. 12145 East Gold Avenue. I'm a graduate of an insurance and risk program from University of Calgary. I studied to get into the insurance space. I've been professionally employed by Marsh Fund Agencies for 24 years, until five years ago I had the pleasure of being the client executive providing insurance property and casualty insurance for the city. I changed roles. Since then professionally I guide operations for the western part of the United States for entities both public and private forming their own insurance company and financing their own risk. Similar to what the city is doing within this particular trust.

Of the issues that are critical to this board is the advancement of the safety components within the city that form critical industry of losses that the trust board looks at. As the city has advanced its safety and loss control procedure, that's had a good impact on the amount of claims and therefore the losses within the trust. Overseeing the administration of those as part of the board has given us a great opportunity to advance the benefits that the board provides to the city itself. Thank you for the privilege to serve as the vice chair. I look forward to any questions.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you, Mr. Smith. Are there any questions for Mr. Smith? Seeing none, I will now entertain a vote for the loss trust fund board. Each Council Member can vote for two. I vote for Mr. Brooker and Mr. Smith.

Councilwoman Janik: I vote for Mr. Brooker and Mr. Smith.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Mr. Brooker and Mr. Smith.

Mayor Ortega: Mr. Smith and Mr. Brooker.

Councilmember Milhaven: Mr. Brooker and Mr. Smith.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Mr. Brooker and Mr. Smith.

Councilwoman Caputi: Austin Brooker and Allan Smith.

[Time: 00:24:58]

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you. Mr. Brooker and Mr. Smith have been appointed.

Next is the neighbor advisory commission. There's one opening. They advise and makes recommendations to the city council on policies, plans, strategies, and programs for the preservation, improvement, and revitalization of Scottsdale housing and neighborhoods. There's one vacancy and three nominees. Rachel Behrendt has withdrawn her application for consideration. The remaining nominees are Anna Fowler who will be participating electronically, Doreen Hollowell and Richard Siegel. First is Ms. Fowler. Can you hear me?

Anna Fowler: Yes, I can.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you. You can proceed.

Anna Fowler: Hi. I'm Anna Fowler. I reside at 9533 East Kirine Drive. I've lived in Scottsdale for the last eight years. My education and experience I'm a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a computer science degree. I'm from an experienced perspective. I'm the director of cybersecurity and architecture which covers cloud security, threat intelligence, data security, and governance. I specialize in the delivery and execution of products and solutions that leverages zero trust and cloud in the environments for global companies. So fortunately, none of my desires have resulted in the data breach. I'm the person they bring in to bridge the security gaps. It has made me fairly successful in my ability to conduct thorough research and analysis ranging around -- ranging a wide variant of issues working to provide these solutions to complex problem.

One of the areas that is a top issue has to do with short term rentals. In 2021, Scottsdale was one of the top destinations for bachelor and bachelorette parties. Right behind Tennessee. That could create the major impact on our neighbors and how we're viewed.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you.

Anna Fowler: Yes, I think it was less than two minutes. I'm hoping I scored. (Laughter)

[Time: 00:28:05]

Vice Mayor Durham: Okay. I didn't really hear you addressing how your education or employment would be related to this board or commission too much. If you could expand on that, I would appreciate it.

Anna Fowler: Oh, yes. Absolutely. So with my education just being in computer science and doing a lot of design and technology, I do a lot of research in understanding the statistics and what's happening there. I'm also an executive leader. Really understanding how to work collaboratively and understanding the issues at a deeper level would make my qualified. The fact that I live in Scottsdale and my kids go to school. I'm heavily invested in the community. I volunteer here in Scottsdale. I'm very -- I'm heavily invested.

Vice Mayor Durham: Thank you. Next is Ms. Doreen Hollowell.

Rommel Cordova: Vice mayor, excuse me. She's unable to join us.

Vice Mayor Durham: Okay. So not at all. All right. Next then is Mr. Richard Siegel.

Richard Siegel: Mr. Mayor and members of the council, I reside at 7348 North Via Cameo del Norte in McCormick Ranch. I've been there for three years. Prior to that I was in the Highview Development, 64th Street and Oak. Total of 16 years in the City of Scottsdale.

My education is Arizona State University. I got a bachelor and masters in environmental resource management. I've been on the neighborhood advisory commission. Back then it was the neighborhood enhancement commission for six years. 1993 to 1998. Then the city's environmental quality advisory board for two years after that. I've also been involved with Chambers of Commerce that includes the Southwest Valley, Chamber of Commerce. I was not a resident, but I was there on behalf of the Salt

River Project whom I was employed with until May when I retired after 34 years. I'm also involved with the HOA, the development that I live in now. That's primarily on water-related issues. I'm also graduate of Scottsdale leadership, class seven. I think you were class eight. Right after me. And so I think I have a lot to offer given that background. The top issue for me is safety. I think health and safety go hand in hand. I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Vice Mayor Durham: Are there any questions for Mr. Siegel? Thank you.

Richard Siegel: Thank you very much.

Vice Mayor Durham: I will now entertain a vote for the Neighborhood Advisory Commission. Each Councilmen can vote for one nominee. Let's start with Councilmember Caputi.

Councilwoman Caputi: Richard Siegel.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Anna Fowler.

Councilmember Whitehead: Mr. Siegel.

Mayor Ortega: Anna Fowler.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Mr. Siegel.

Councilwoman Janik: Mr. Siegel.

Vice Mayor Durham: Anna Fowler.

[Time: 00:32:21]

Vice Mayor Durham: Mr. Siegel has been appointed.

This concludes or nominating process for today. I would like to thank all of our nominees for the interest in serving on the City Board or commission. We are fortunate to receive qualified application cants. Even if you are not appointed today, your application will remain on file for consideration at a future date if there are additional vacancies.

City staff will contact the individuals appointed this evening and provide them with information on next steps regarding their appointment. The City of Scottsdale is very fortunate to have such dedicated and talented individuals who are willing and ready to serve our City. Thank you. I'll turn the meeting back to Mayor Ortega.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you very much. At this point we're concluded with the business. I request a motion and second to adjourn the City Council Special Meeting.

Councilwoman Janik: So moved.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Second.

Mayor Ortega: Motion and second. Please record your vote. We are adjourned.