

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Special Meeting

The meeting was held in the City Hall Conference Room and called to order at 12:00 PM by Mayor Tom Schoaf.

I. Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tim Blake	Council Member	Late	12:21 PM
Ann Donahue	Council Member	Present	
Paul Faith	Vice Mayor	Present	
Peter Mahoney	Council Member	Late	12:05 PM
Jeff Raible	Council Member	Absent	
John Romack	Council Member	Present	
Tom Schoaf	Mayor	Present	

Staff Present: Bill Stephens, City Manager; Terri Roth, City Clerk.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Schoaf led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Business

A. Canvass of Vote

Mayor Schoaf asked if there were any questions regarding the official elections results as reported to Council by the City Clerk. There was not.

MOVE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 18-443 ADOPTING THE OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS OF THE LITCHFIELD PARK PRIMARY ELECTION HELD AUGUST 28, 2018 AND ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION TO MAYOR THOMAS L. SCHOAF, COUNCIL MEMBER PAUL J. FAITH, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECT LISA BRAINARD WATSON AND TOM ROSZTOCZY.

Mayor Schoaf presented Certificates of Election to Vice Mayor Faith and Council Members Elect Tom Rosztoczy and Lisa Brainard Watson. He congratulated them and thanked them for taking the time and effort to run for Council.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Paul Faith, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	John Romack, Council Member
AYES:	Donahue, Faith, Mahoney, Romack, Schoaf
ABSENT:	Tim Blake, Jeff Raible

B. Interviews for Design Review Board/Board of Adjustment

Mayor Schoaf gave a brief synopsis of the appointment process. He stated that since a Council Member and an applicant are not present, Council has the option to continue discussion of this item at the regular September meeting.

Mayor Schoaf began the interviews with Mr. Clair.

Mr. Ron Clair stated he moved to Litchfield Park in 2013 with his wife, Ann, who grew up in the Park. He participated in the Design Review process when they remodeled their home. He thinks it is important to keep the sense and feel of Litchfield Park special. He loves our oasis in the desert and stated it has a feel that is different from other cities in the Phoenix area. It is important to maintain that singularity.

Mr. Clair stated he tries to be active in the Community. He is a current member of the Estrella Rotary and former member of the Litchfield Park Rotary. He is also a member of the Litchfield Park Historical Society.

Mayor Schoaf asked if Council had any questions for Mr. Clair. There was not.

Ms. Rachel Dudley thanked Council for their time. She is an electrical engineer registered in the State of Arizona. She works fulltime from home supporting the Air Force. She is married to an Air Force pilot and full time reservist. They have two children with one more on the way. She stated her family moved to Litchfield Park in 2012 after leaving Japan, where her husband had been stationed.

Ms. Dudley stated they lived near Litchfield Park prior to moving overseas. She would make occasional trips into the City and knew that if they returned, this was where they wanted to live. She stated what appealed to her is the same sentiment you hear echoed repeatedly: this is a unique place. The residential architecture is unique and the walk ability is very important. She wanted to move to place where she could take a walk, be outside, and engage with her neighbors. That type of interaction is important in a community.

Ms. Dudley stated that she envisions her position on the Board to start as a service role, which would give her time to gather experience and determine what the Board's needs are. She has experience in design review and it is something that she enjoys, so she believes she would fit in well and could contribute.

Council Member Mahoney asked her to clarify her position with the Air Force. Ms. Dudley stated she works remotely for a group based in San Antonio providing back office support for contingency construction projects. When she started, the projects she worked on were primarily located in Afghanistan, but are now in a variety of places. From a technical perspective, she provides contract support for oversight and quality assurance.

Ms. Leslee Ridgeway stated she is a 5th generation Arizonan. She lived in Litchfield Park previously, moved to Verrado, and has been back in the City for about a year.

Ms. Ridgeway stated it is very important to her to protect the integrity of the City's architecture, a style that is scarce in this area. The surrounding area lacks the character that Litchfield Park has. Litchfield Park is surrounded by a sea of stucco and tile. Even when remodeling a home, the integrity of the architecture should be considered. Ms. Ridgeway stated the neighborhoods' Mid-Century Modern style is very popular, even with the younger generation, pointing to restaurants in Phoenix that have this style as an example. Preserving the architecture will help to maintain the value of the neighborhoods.

Ms. Ridgeway stated she does not support styles that do not match the neighborhood. She purchased a home from the original owner. They had the opportunity to meet and she cherishes her home and its architecture. She does not feel she could support newer looking construction styles in the City.

Ms. Ridgeway stated she works in commercial real estate and hopes that any future retail space is designed with the same architectural integrity. She cited Palm Springs and downtown Phoenix as great examples of retail space that match the surrounding architecture from the 50s, 60s, and 70s. She envisions buildings that have residential space on top and retail on the bottom, creating something different from what you see on Dysart Road. She thinks either Spanish architecture or Mid-Century Modern would fit the City well.

Vice Mayor Faith stated that during discussion of the future City Center, there has been talk of designing something that matches the Church at Litchfield Park, which is architecturally similar to the Wigwam. He asked Ms. Ridgeway if she thought something like that was doable.

Ms. Ridgeway responded that she feels Mid-Century Modern has more of a draw, especially for young business people. Adding retail with residential on top would increase revenue opportunities for the City. People are looking for something with culture and character and there are not many areas in the West Valley that have that. Most of the developments nearby are strip malls. Ms. Ridgeway stated she wants to help to preserve the architecture in Litchfield Park. There is only a little bit of space, but many great things can be done with that space.

Council Member Mahoney stated there are recently updated homes that have maintained their original style beautifully. From his perspective, some homes redone with stucco now have a new Verrado type of look to them. It does not match the neighborhood, although he stated that stucco is great from an insulation and environmental perspective. It is difficult to find a balance.

Council Member Romack stated that he is on the Design Review Board and agreed it is difficult to strike a balance, particularly when an owner tears down a house and presents a new design that fits all of the confines of the Zoning Code.

C. Appointment and Oath of Office of Design Review Board/Board of Adjustment

Mayor Schoaf asked if there was input from Council as to whether they wanted to continue the discussion during the next regular Council Meeting. Vice Mayor Faith responded that he thinks all of the candidates are fantastic and would do a great job. He stated the candidate who was unable to attend today, Mr. Michael Rudolfo, has been through the Design Review process several times and has experience in many areas of contracting and construction. He would like to have the

opportunity to hear what Mr. Rudolfo’s vision is.

MOVE TO INTERVIEW THE FINAL CANDIDATE AT THE NEXT REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

RESULT:	FAILED [3 TO 3]
MOVER:	Paul Faith, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Ann Donahue, Council Member
AYES:	Schoaf, Faith, Donahue
NAYS:	Mahoney, Romack, Blake
ABSENT:	Jeff Raible

Mayor Schoaf stated that since the motion failed, Council will proceed to making their selection on their ballots. Mr. Rodolfo is still a candidate for the seat as his application was completed.

Ms. Roth collected the ballots and read the results aloud.

RESULT:	APPOINTED
Ron Clair:	Romack, Donahue
Rachel Dudley:	Schoaf, Mahoney, Blake
Leslee Ridgeway:	No Votes
Michael Rudolfo	Faith

Vice Mayor Faith asked if the appointment requires a true majority or a plurality. Mayor Schoaf directed Staff to clarify the requirements, but thought a plurality was all that was needed.

Council Member Mahoney stated that he agreed with Vice Mayor Faith. The City had excellent applicants.

Council Member Romack stated that one of the hardest things to do as a member of the Design Review Board is to refrain from giving advice or direction. For example, if an applicant submits a design that does not meet the City’s standards, it is their job to tell them why it does not comply. It isn’t their job to encourage them to go in a specific direction or to tell them how they want the design to be.

Council Member Donahue asked if they can provide help if the applicant asks for it. Council Member Romack stated that if asked Board Members are happy to discuss options, but during the meeting, they focus on the design presented.

Ms. Roth confirmed that a Board appointment requires a plurality of the votes, not a majority of the quorum.

Mayor Schoaf appointed Ms. Dudley for the Design Review Board and swore her in with the Oath of Office.

IV. Adjournment

Vice Mayor Faith **moved, seconded** by Council Member Romack to adjourn the special meeting; **unanimous passage**. The special meeting adjourned at 12:32 PM.

APPROVED:

CITY OF LITCHFIELD PARK

Thomas L. Schoaf, Mayor
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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Litchfield Park held on **Tuesday, September 11, 2018**.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Terri Roth, CMC, City Clerk