

FINAL

THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
of the City of Norwalk
Special Commission Meeting
December 19, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: David Brown, Chair; Debora Goldstein;
Pamela Parkington; Treasurer: Johnnie Mae Weldon

STAFF: Kevin Barber, General Manager;

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public was in attendance to comment.

RESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER BROWN

Mr. Barber reported to the Commission that the District Clerk, Ron Scofield, has received a Resignation Letter from Commissioner Brown tendering his resignation effective Friday, December 28, 2018.

Mr. Barber talked about the next steps in order to fill the vacancy. He was in contact with Atty. Studer with regard to the proper procedure for the Commission to fill a vacancy. Atty. Studer researched the topic and provided Third Taxing District with a letter indicating that the responsibility for filling a vacancy of an elected official within the Third Taxing District (either Commissioner or Treasurer positions) resides with the Commission.

There are two stipulations for filling a vacancy:

- 1) The position must be filled with the same political party of the person who is resigning.
- 2) The position would be filled only for the remainder of said person's term.

In this instance, the vacancy must be filled with a Democrat and his/her term would expire in November 2021.

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Mr. Barber stated that it would be the responsibility of Commissioners Goldstein and Parkington to seek out a viable candidate to fill the vacancy.

Provided a candidate has been identified, Mr. Barber has tentatively placed on the next agenda (Monday, January 7, 2019) an item to appoint a new Commissioner, have the new Commissioner sworn in, and possibly the election of a new Chairperson.

Mr. Barber stated for the record on behalf of himself and all the employees, he wanted to say “thank you” to Commissioner Brown for his 21 years of service to the District. Mr. Barber said that he knows Commissioner Brown dedicated himself to Third Taxing District and the utility. Mr. Barber stated on a personal level that he would like to thank Commission Brown for the last year. It was a pleasure to work with him and the Commission. Everyone wishes him the best of luck in his new endeavors whatever they may be.

Commissioner Goldstein said that she has had the pleasure of working with Commissioner Brown and being mentored by him as she was brought on for her position. It has been her honor and privilege and extended her very best going forward.

Commissioner Parkington also said that it has been her pleasure knowing Commissioner Brown and working with him going all the way back to the library days. It has been a learning experience for her over the past year.

Treasurer Weldon said “thank you” to Commissioner Brown for all he has shown her, all the knowledge he has given her and she hopes she can continue to work “not in his shoes,” but “with his shoes.”

Commissioner Brown talked about his 21 years of service, both in the Republican party for the first ten years and then in the Democratic party. He believes Third Taxing District now has the best General Manager, Commission and staff. He believes he is leaving everything in good hands.

Commissioner Goldstein stated that the circulation on social media based on the current agenda, the fact that there was an opening on the Commission, people’s general understanding of appointments is that when a position is open that they might be able to submit their name. She realizes that she and Commission Parkington are the sole decision makers, but in the interest of transparency, if it is announced that the position is open, it will put the Commission in good stead.

Commissioner Parkington said that the Commission would have to post the letter from the attorney and a copy of what is stated in the City Charter. She questioned whether or not there was enough time to do it. Commissioner Goldstein stated that if an email blast was sent, it would reach at least half of the District. Mr. Barber said that there is time to send out an email blast. Both Commissioner Parkington and Goldstein offered to also post the position on social media.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Performance Review – General Manager

**** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE REVIEW – GENERAL MANAGER.**

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners, Treasurer and General Manager entered into Executive Session at 6:21 p.m.

The Commissioners, Treasurer and General Manager returned to public session at 7:53 p.m.

Commissioner Brown stated that after review of Mr. Barber’s contract, it was decided that Paragraph E (Certain Travel) should remain as is, extend his agreement for two years to October 23, 2021, increase his salary by 4% to \$156,000 and give him a one-time bonus of \$8,500.

**** COMMISSIONER GOLDSTEIN MOVED TO DIRECT GENERAL MANAGER, KEVIN BARBER, TO ENGAGE ATTY. HODGSON TO AMEND THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT TO REFLECT THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ITEMS.**

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASS UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER BROWN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Tenney
Executive Assistant
Third Taxing District

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