

Special City Commission Meeting
November 22, 2016

Mayor Mark J. Warba called the regular meeting of the City Commission to order 5:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Lynn Anderson, Tom Hogenson, Lorraine James, and Dan Rothstein; Mayor Mark J. Warba; City Attorney Eric D. Williams; and City Treasurer Aaron Kuhn.

Absent: None

There were 12 people in the audience.

GENERAL BUSINESS

City Manager Applicant Interview

City Manager applicant Mark Gifford was present for an interview by the City Commission.

Mr. Gifford is currently the Director of Public Works and the Assistant City Manager for the City of Big Rapids. He has also been in the role as Director of Neighborhood Services. He has been employed at the City for over thirteen years. He has taken on numerous and diverse roles and responsibilities since being employed at the City of Big Rapids. He has initiated the Farmer's Market and the outdoor ice arena. A few of his goals for the future of the City are a Skate Park, a Recreation Authority, and Capital Improvement Plans.

He stated that he cares deeply about the people and community of Big Rapids and would not pursue this position if he did not feel that he was the best candidate for the job. He stated that he would be willing to make a 10-year commitment.

Prior to being employed for the City of Big Rapids, he worked as the Community Development Director for the City of Frostburg, Maryland.

The Commission asked Mr. Gifford a series of questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Randy Ostrander spoke in support of Mark Gifford and stated that he has always been very helpful and an asset to the community.

Mark Sochocki and Carlleen Rose previously spoke to Steve Sobers in support of Mr. Gifford.

The Commission took a 20-minute break

The Commission reviewed and discussed the process for appointing the new City Manager. An offer of employment will be placed on the December 5, 2016 City Commission agenda. At that time, the Commission intends to decide which applicant will be picked as the new City Manager.

There being no further comments to come before the City Commission, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Mayor Mark J. Warba

Tamyra K. Gillis, City Clerk