

Carolyn G. Goodman, Mayor (At-Large)
Brian Knudsen, Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 1)
Victoria Seaman (Ward 2)
Olivia Díaz (Ward 3)
Francis Allen-Palenske (Ward 4)
Cedric Crear (Ward 5)
Nancy E. Brune (Ward 6)



City Manager Mike Janssen
City Attorney Jeff Dorocak
City Clerk LuAnn D. Holmes

City Council Agenda

Council Chambers · 495 South Main Street · Phone 702-229-6011
City of Las Vegas Internet Address: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

January 17, 2024
9:00 AM

29. Discussion for possible action regarding the appointment of Bryan Smith as the Acting City Auditor until such time as a new Mayor is sworn in and an item can be brought before the Council for consideration regarding a permanent appointment (\$13,746.02 - General Fund)

Minutes:

MAYOR GOODMAN announced that former City Auditor, RADFORD SNELDING, retired on January 16th. MR. SNELDING took office in 2000 after the Mayor and Council felt the City would benefit from an independent auditor to aid in government transparency. The change was reflected in the City Charter by way of an ordinance.

VINCE ZAMORA, Human Resources Director, said this is to appoint an Acting City Auditor, and once a new Mayor is sworn in, an item will be brought forward for a permanent replacement. By way of background, MR. SMITH started with the City in 1999 and was promoted in April 2017. Prior to working for the City, he was an audit manager with Ernst & Young. He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Accounting from Brigham Young University, and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Fraud Examiner.

For COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN, MR. ZAMORA said there are three options: the Council can appoint an individual outright, direct Human Resources to conduct an internal recruitment, or direct Human Resources to conduct an external recruitment. The Councilwoman thanked MR. SNELDING for his years of dedicated service to the City. Having served on the Audit Committee over the last four years, she truly appreciates the outstanding work done by the Auditor's Office. Two of the top priorities for elected officials are to safeguard the taxpayers' money and provide complete transparency surrounding how that money is spent. She opined that it is essential to move forward with appointing BRYAN SMITH, Internal Audit Section Manager, and direct Human Resources to conduct a regional search for a permanent replacement so the important work of the Audit Committee can continue.

The Mayor thanked COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN for her service on the Audit Committee.

Following COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN'S motion to appoint MR. SMITH as Acting City Auditor and directing Human Resources to conduct a regional search for a permanent replacement, COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN said while he was in favor of appointing MR. SMITH, he was not in favor of conducting an open recruitment. COUNCILMAN CREAR wished to clarify the plan for a permanent replacement, to which CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAK suggested that the motion only address the appointment of the Acting City Auditor. The Council could then direct MR. ZAMORA on how to proceed with a permanent replacement, which will come back to the Council as a formal item. As such, COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN rescinded her motion.

Subsequent to the motion and vote, MR. SMITH thanked the Council for the opportunity, stating it has been an honor to work for the City for the last 25 years, and he expressed his appreciation to MR. SNELDING for his service, mentorship and friendship.

COUNCILMAN CREAR confirmed through MR. DOROCAK that because the item was written with the consideration of a permanent appointment, the Council could discuss the next steps. COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ was amenable to a regional search and supported a process similar to the recent City Attorney recruitment. COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN congratulated MR. SMITH and hoped to see him in the role for at least a year to provide stability to the City. Because there were differing opinions, MR. DOROCAK recommended a formal item for the Council to take action on at a future meeting. COUNCILWOMAN BRUNE wished to expedite the process, opining that it would be unfair to keep someone in an interim position for so long. COUNCILWOMAN DIAZ agreed with COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN'S comments, noting that new elected officials will be coming in. She also supported a salary adjustment for MR. SMITH if it would be necessary. The Mayor congratulated MR. SMITH and acknowledged all of the potential changes coming in the next year. She wished to make this a permanent appointment and inquired about the future course of action. MR. DOROCAK said an item, which could be heard as early as the February 7th City Council meeting, will allow the Council to continue this discussion and take formal action on the recruitment process and associated deadlines.

Motion made by Victoria Seaman to Approve the appointment

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

For-Nancy Brune, Victoria Seaman, Cedric Crear, Carolyn Goodman, Brian Knudsen, Olivia Diaz, Francis Allen-Palenske;



AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
City Council
Meeting of: January 17, 2024

Agenda Item No.:
29

DEPARTMENT: Human Resources

DISCUSSION

DIRECTOR: Vince Zamora

SUBJECT:

Discussion for possible action regarding the appointment of Bryan Smith as the Acting City Auditor until such time as a new Mayor is sworn in and an item can be brought before the Council for consideration regarding a permanent appointment (\$13,746.02 - General Fund)

FISCAL IMPACT:

Budget Funds Available

Amount: \$13,746.02

Funding Source: General Fund

Dept./Division: Office of the City Auditor

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

With the upcoming departure of the current City Auditor, this item gives the Mayor and Council the opportunity to designate a senior member of the Office of the City Auditor as the Acting City Auditor to ensure continuity of operations in the interim.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

None