

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE CANDIDATE FORUM AND SPECIAL MEETING**

July 29, 2013

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction convened into Candidate Forum and Special Meeting on the 29th day of July, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Auditorium. Those present were Councilmembers Bennett Boeschstein, Martin Chazen, Phyllis Norris, and Council President Sam Susuras. Councilmember Jim Doody was absent. Also present were City Manager Rich Englehart, City Attorney John Shaver, and City Clerk Stephanie Tuin.

Council President Susuras called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The candidates seated at the dais were Duncan McArthur, Barbara Traylor Smith and Les Miller. Teresa Black was also interviewed as a candidate via Face Time on an Ipad as she was serving military reserve duty.

Council President Susuras allowed each candidate to introduce himself or herself and then posed questions to each. After all of the City Council questions were asked, questions were solicited from the audience including the media. The candidates were then asked to make a brief closing statement.

Council President Susuras closed the question and answer portion of the meeting and called a recess in order for the City Council to take their place on the dais for deliberation.

The meeting recessed at 7:38 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m. The members of Council were seated at the dais.

Council President Susuras asked for discussion.

Councilmember Boeschstein thanked the applicants for participating. He repeated his statement from the last meeting that the position should be filled by special election. He referred to the City Charter and said based on the City Attorney's advice, the selection should be based on majority vote of four. He disagreed with the decision to go with a majority vote of three, however, he was ready to make his choice.

Councilmember Norris said the City Charter also says the City Council shall fill the vacancy and she thinks by having Council make the decision now, it will save the citizens money by not having a costly election. She advised it will be a difficult decision. She thanked the applicants.

Councilmember Chazen thanked the applicants and noted there are four very good candidates. There were some good questions and the answers given by the candidates were well thought out and articulate. He was ready to make his selection.

Council President Susuras thanked the applicants and said they were all great prospects. He read Article 37 of the Charter and noted that with the current five members of Council, three are a majority.

Duncan McArthur was elected by the current Councilmembers to fill the District E seat by roll call vote of 3 to 1 with Councilmembers Chazen, Norris, and Council President Susuras voting in favor of Duncan McArthur, and Councilmember Boeschenstein voting in favor of Les Miller.

City Clerk Stephanie Tuin administered the Oath of Office to Duncan McArthur.

Councilmember McArthur took his seat at the dais.

Adjournment

With no further business before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Stephanie Tuin, MMC
City Clerk