

CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 29, 2001, 5:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Special Meeting was called to order by Bob Centilli, Council President, at 5:35 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brawner, Centilli, Cross, Martinbianco, Tinnin and Wells.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Charles Smiley; J. Major, DPW Director; G. Webster, City Clerk; J. Adams, Clerk's Office; R. LaDuke, Deputy DPW Director and C. Ladd, Deputy City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Interview and Vote to fill the vacancy on the Burton City Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

There was no Administrative Report given.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Jamie Curtis, 2230 Ridgemoor, Burton, MI, asked the Council to reconsider him for the Council position. He noted that he plans to run for the office in November. He attends all council meetings and workshops. Because of his attendance and commitment, he stated that he is well versed on the issues before this Council.

Gary Isham, 3443 Saxon, commented that several weeks ago he addressed the County Commissioners regarding appointments being made to public boards, which were not offered to the general public. In servicing his membership as a labor leader, and servicing the residents of Burton, he felt it was important to take the County Commissioners to task on this issue. He feels that after doing so, one of the Council members chose to be a spokesperson Region 1-C, damaging his chances to be to this Council. The accusations that were made were unwarranted and unfounded. Also, speaking with this Council person today, he does not support the option of public knowledge to these boards. It's a sad day in the City of Burton who best serves his union and not the residents of Burton. We are the second largest City in Genesee County and we have no representation on the Airport Authority Board nor the County Parks Board. He hopes to see a change in this situation in the near future.

Marie Wilson-Noack, 4360 Maplewood Meadows, thanked the Council again for their time and consideration. She said she is interested in running for a Council seat in the fall, but wished to withdraw her name at this time and endorse Jamie Curtis for the position. He is informed on the issues and is committed to serving this community.

Cheri Mys-Curtis, 2230 Ridgemoor, said she is here for personal and business reasons. She sees many patients in her office from this community and listens to what they are saying. She spoke in favor of her husband being appointed to the Council position because he knows the issues and is a team player.

Freddie Wilbanks, 9196 Millington Rd., said he has known Jamie Curtis through the Shop Committee in Union Local 599 for the past 15 years. Through working together, he has found that Jamie is a dedicated, well-read, visionary and hardworking individual. He is capable of speaking his mind freely and looking at issues from different angles. He is not afraid of responsibility and decision making. He said he is a man of character and deserves consideration for this position.

Deborah Miller, 4221 Springfield St., gave a copy of her resume' to the Council. She stated that she has been a resident of the City for the past 15 years and is a small business owner in Burton. She commented that some of her qualifications for Council include being an organized person, analytically minded, persistent in solving problems and has the capability of compromising on issues if necessary. She said she is a civic minded person and has been involved in community service in various areas. She said Burton has been a great City for her family and she would like to see the community remain safe for all of the citizens. Some of the special interests she has are land use, parks, road improvements, water problems, flood control and drainage problems. She would someday like to see a community center established in the City.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Centilli commented that at the last council meeting the Council rescinded the original guidelines and we opened the Council seat to the existing applicants. Any applicant who wishes to apply or speak may do so. Also, he would like to include any applicant Council wishes to nominate.

Mr. Brawner said he would offer to Council the name of Robert Bement, who applied and was interviewed for the position when Mr. Hammon's position was open.

Mrs. Tinnin asked if Mr. Bement was present to accept the nomination.

Mr. Brawner said he was not present, but he had spoken with him and Mr. Bement plans to be here, but may be running late. He said he would accept the position if he were chosen.

Mrs. Tinnin asked if new rules would be established or would they continue with the old rules.

Mr. Centilli replied they would begin voting with him and continue the rounds.

Mr. Martinbianco said the Council also received a time-stamped request from Mrs. Walls on January 29, 2001 at 9:04 A.M. Mrs. Walls also has expressed an interest in the Council. He confirmed that all of the applicants who applied the first time, would be included in the process.

Mr. Brawner clarified that any candidate not mentioned in the first round would still be acceptable.

Mr. Martinbianco said with the exception of Marie Wilson-Noack, as she withdrew her name.

Mrs. Tinnin asked for clarification on the rules.

After further discussion regarding the rules for voting, it was decided that once a person's name is not entered as a candidate, they are out of the running for the council position.

Mr. Wells asked for information concerning Mr. Bement's qualifications. He was given a copy of the resume' by Mr. Cross.

Council Recessed at 6:05 P.M.

Council Reconvened at 6:15 P.M.

Mayor Smiley said during the last Council Meeting the candidates' names were listed. However, this is no longer true and it will be extremely important for the Council to give the last name only when voting for a candidate.

Council started the vote with Mr. Centilli. After two rounds of voting, there was a consensus of the Council to appoint Bob Bement to the Council position.
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 29, 2001/5:30 P.M.
PAGE -3-

Mr. Centilli announced that Mr. Bement would be the new council member.

Mr. Brawner asked if Mr. Bement could be called at this time, so he could be sworn into office and not have to hold the meeting on Tuesday evening.

Discussion was held concerning the Council taking action confirming Mr. Bement as the new council member.

Council Recessed at 6:18 P.M.

Council Reconvened at 6:35 P.M.

COUNCIL ACTION:

Brawner moved and Martinbianco seconded the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the appointment of Robert Bement, of 5198 Washtenaw, Burton, MI 48509, to the Burton City Council, term expiring November 2001.
- Motion carried 6-0.

The City Clerk administered the oath to Mr. Bement.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Cheryl M. Ladd, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

CML