

ASSEMBLY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

January 4, 2021 5:30 PM

Zoom Webinar

MINUTES

I. ROLL CALL

The Assembly Human Resources Committee meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Wade Bryson, Loren Jones, Greg Smith and Christine Woll

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Deputy Clerk, Diane Cathcart, Municipal Clerk, Beth McEwen, City Manager, Rorie Watt, Assemblymember Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as presented

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

(Not to exceed a total of 10 minutes nor more than 2 minutes for any individual).

V. AGENDA TOPICS

A. Board Matters

A. Juneau Commission on Sustainability - Appointment

MOTION: by Mr. Jones to forward to the full Assembly for approval, the recommendation to appoint Gretchen Bishop to the Juneau Commission on Sustainability for a term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2023. ***Hearing no objections, motion passed.***

CLERKS NOTE: *On January 6, 2021 the Clerk's Office was notified by Gretchen Bishop that she was unable to fill this seat. This vacancy will be before the HRC again at its February 8, 2021 meeting.*

B. CBJ Municipal Elections 2021 and Beyond

Municipal Clerk, Beth McEwen gave a presentation on how municipal elections could be conducted for 2021 and beyond. Committee members discussed the various options between full by-mail, a hybrid option or following how they've historically been run.

Knowing that the pandemic will continue to influence procedure.

Mr. Jones, would like to see by-mail elections and not just two vote centers open. The Clerk's Office would need to create a timeline to make a decision on a by-mail election for 2022 and the city would need to have everything in place by January 2022.

Mr. Smith, thinks vote by-mail makes sense and no widespread voter fraud has been discovered. He would be interested in moving forward using Municipality of Anchorage again for 2021 for consistency. Mr. Smith asked Ms. McEwen how many cure letters were sent out.

Ms. McEwen, 542 cure letters were sent and 32 votes were rejected.

Ms. Hughes-Skandijs, regarding equipment needs, did the cost estimate get downsized for Juneau vs. Anchorage? Ms. McEwen, yes the cost estimate is a scaled down version to fit Juneau's needs.

Mr. Smith, asked if this needed to go before the voters for a final decision. Ms. McEwen stated that vote by mail option was already written into CBJ code so it did not need to go before the voters.

Mr. Bryson, noted that 2020 seemed to be a hybrid and we need to figure out if we want to continue to work with Anchorage or keep the vote counting in Juneau and what to do for 2021 and the future. Ms. McEwen stated that for the best chain of custody, having the votes counted in Juneau is preferable.

Mr. Bryson, recommended focusing on 2021 than a permanent solution for moving forward.

Mr. Smith, stated his preference would be to run an election for 2021 similar to the 2020 election to keep it less confusing for voters. Mr. Jones agreed and noted that we will need to have something in place soon.

MOTION: by Mr. Jones to recommend to the full Assembly through the Committee of the Whole that CBJ conduct a hybrid election for 2021 with a full by-mail election for 2022. The Clerk would work on defining what hybrid means and bring that to the Committee of the Whole in March. ***Hearing on objection, motion passed.***

C. Other Business

A. Discussion on filling vacant BRH Board Seat

The committee discussed options on how to fill the recently vacated Bartlett Regional Hospital Board seat that ends December 31, 2021.

- **MOTION:** by Mr. Jones to recommend to the Assembly that the four remaining candidates are an adequate pool of qualified applicants and the full assembly could make that decision at tonight's Assembly meeting. ***Hearing no objection, motion passed.***

VI. STAFF REPORTS

We made it to 2021! The Assembly still needs to decide how they would like to gather for the 2020 Assembly photo.

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the committee, meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.