

MINUTES

**DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
City Council Chambers
21630 11th Avenue S, Des Moines, Washington
Thursday, January 4, 2024 - 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

City Clerk Taria Keane called the meeting order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The flag salute was led by City Clerk Taria Keane

ROLL CALL

Council Present:

Councilmembers Traci Buxton; Harry Steinmetz; Gene Achziger; Yoshiko Grace Matsui; JC Harris; Matt Mahoney; and Jeremy Nutting

Staff Present:

Interim City Manager Tim George; Interim City Attorney Matt Hutchins; Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton; Finance Director Jeff Friend; Police Chief Tim Gately; Assistant Police Chief Patti Richards; Community Development Director Denise Lathrop; Director of Community Events and Services Nicole Nordholm; Harbormaster Scott Wilkins; Director of Emergency Management and Workplace Safety Shannon Kirchberg; Director of Community/Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins; Executive Administrative Analyst Rochelle Caton; City Clerk Taria Keane; and Deputy City Clerk Sara Lee

SWEARING IN OF COUNCILMEMBERS

- Councilmember JC Harris opted out of the ceremonial swearing in.
- City Clerk Taria Keane called Councilmember Jeremy Nutting to the podium to be sworn in by Director of Community/Administrative Services Bonnie Wilkins.

SELECTION OF MAYOR

City Clerk Taria Keane called for nominations for Mayor.

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Councilmember Harry Steinmetz nominated Councilmember Traci Buxton to serve as Mayor for 2024 and 2025. Councilmember Traci Buxton accepted the nomination.

Councilmember JC Harris nominated himself to server as Mayor for 2024 and 2025. Councilmember JC Harris accepted the nomination

City Clerk Taria Keane asked if there were any other nominations. Seeing none, City Clerk Taria Keane called for the vote.

Councilmember Harry Steinmetz voted for Councilmember Traci Buxton.

Councilmember JC Harris voted for Councilmember JC Harris.

Councilmember Gene Achziger voted for Councilmember Traci Buxton.

Councilmember Jeremy Nutting voted for Councilmember Traci Buxton.

Councilmember Traci Buxton voted for Councilmember Traci Buxton.

Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui voted for Councilmember Traci Buxton.

Councilmember Matt Mahoney voted for Councilmember Traci Buxton.

With a vote of 6-1, Councilmember Traci Buxton was elected as Mayor for 2024 and 2025.

SELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Mayor Traci Buxton called for nominations for Deputy Mayor.

Councilmember Matt Mahoney nominated Councilmember Harry Steinmetz. Councilmember Harry Steinmetz accepted the nomination.

Councilmember Grace Yoshiko Matsui nominated Councilmember Gene Achziger. Councilmember Gene Achziger accepted the nomination.

Councilmember JC Harris nominated himself. Councilmember JC Harris accepted the nomination.

Mayor Traci Buxton asked if there were any other nominations. Seeing none, Mayor Traci Buxton called for the vote.

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Councilmember JC Harris made brief statement as to why he should be elected Deputy Mayor.

Councilmember Gene Achziger voted for Councilmember Gene Achziger.

Councilmember Jeremy Nutting voted for Councilmember Harry Steinmetz.

Councilmember Matt Mahoney voted for Councilmember Harry Steinmetz.

Councilmember Harry Steinmetz voted for Councilmember Harry Steinmetz.

Councilmember JC Harris voted for Councilmember JC Harris.

Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui voted for Councilmember Gene Achziger.

Mayor Traci Buxton voted for Councilmember Harry Steinmetz.

With a vote of 4 for Councilmember Harry Steinmetz, 2 for Councilmember Gene Achziger, and 1 for Councilmember JC Harris, Councilmember Harry Steinmetz was elected as Deputy Mayor for 2024 and 2025.

CORRESPONDENCE NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

- There were no additional correspondence outside of the emails already received by Council.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- Charlene Bacalzo; Thanked the Council and City Staff; Arson to Business

CITY MANAGER REPORT/PRESENTATIONS/BRIEFINGS

- Interim City Manager Tim George gave a brief update on the creation of a Finance Committee, Legislative Priorities, and the Request for Proposals for the City Manager Position.
- Director of Finance Jeff Friend gave Council a PowerPoint Presentation on the 2023 Third Quarter Finance Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1: NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION – 10 Minutes

- Councilmember Yoshiko Grace Matsui proposes a Proclamation for Korean American Day to be added to the next consent agenda. Council supports.
- Councilmember Gene Achziger proposes emergency shelters from wildfire smoke and to fix HVAC systems in the Activities Center. Council remanded to the Municipal Facilities Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

(4 minutes per Councilmember) - 30 minutes

COUNCILMEMBER MATT MAHONEY

- Statement on the Past, Present, Future of Des Moines

COUNCILMEMBER GENE ACHZIGER

- No Report

COUNCILMEMBER JEREMY NUTTING

- No Report

COUNCILMEMBER JC HARRIS

- Air Quality Monitoring

COUNCILMEMBER YOHISKO GRACE MATSUI

- Oath of Office and Priorities

DEPUTY MAYOR HARRY STEINMETZ

- Burning Boat Festival
- Thanked Council for Selection as Deputy Mayor

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

- Future Goals as Mayor
- Regional Appointments in 2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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NEXT MEETING DATE

January 11, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Direction/Action

Motion made by Councilmember Matt Mahoney to adjourn; seconded by Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz.
Motion passed 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.