

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORALVILLE,
JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE CORALVILLE
CITY COUNCIL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING**

A Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Coralville, Johnson County, IA was held at City Hall, 1512 7th Street on Tuesday, June 9, 2022 with Mayor Meghann Foster presiding and was called to order at 6:30 PM. Recorded webcasts of this meeting are on Mediacom 118-8 and on-demand at www.coralville.org/coralvision.

The following Council Members were present: Knudson, Gross, Huynh, Goodrich.

The following Staff were present: City Administrator Kelly Hayworth; Deputy City Administrator Ellen Habel; Police Chief Shane Kron; Communications Specialist Jon Hines; and City Clerk Thorsten J. Johnson.

Motion by Huynh, seconded by Knudson to approve the agenda. Ayes: 4. Motion Carried.

Votes are 4 Ayes for Motions, Resolutions, and Ordinances unless otherwise noted.

Mayor Meghann Foster thanked everyone for being at the Special Meeting to interview applicants for the vacant City Council position. Foster explained copies of the applications are available at the meeting and on the City's website in the Agenda Center in the June 9, 2022 City Council Special Meeting Agenda Packet. Seven candidates turned in applications and will be interviewed tonight. Each applicant will be interviewed by the Mayor and City Council for 15 minutes. A schedule of the interviews is available on the Special Meeting Agenda. The Mayor and Council have reviewed each of the applications individually and each one of them will ask the applicants two questions. The Mayor will alternate who goes first for each round of questions. Foster asked members of audience to take index cards and pen near the entrance of the Council Chambers to write down any questions they want to ask the applicants and hand them to Deputy City Administrator Ellen Habel who will bring them to her. Foster warned because of the limited time for interviews she could not guarantee everyone's question will be asked. Each applicant will have one minute to answer the question and the City Administrator Kelly Hayworth will hold up a card showing when 30 seconds has passed and he will hold up a card when the applicant's time is up to answer the question. Foster noted this is not a lot of time but it is the same amount of time one would get during a regular candidate's forum during an election. After the interviews the Mayor and Council will have a discussion and narrow the number of applicants for the vacancy to the top two or three. They will continue the discussion until they agree informally on who to formally appoint to the Council at the next City Council Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2022. Foster asked if anyone had any questions. Councilperson Hai Huynh asked if they will ask one or two questions when it is their turn and Foster responded they will ask one question and then they will get to ask their second question after everyone asked their first one. Foster further explained you can ask two different questions or you can ask a follow up question but you only get two total. Knudson asked if you can choose not to ask a question and Foster responded yes. Foster asked if the Council or Barry Bedford if they could start his interview a few minutes early and everyone said yes.

Interview applicants for the Council Member vacancy with the term expiring November 2023.

Barry Bedford's interview:

Councilperson Mike Knudson thanked Barry Bedford and all the applicants for applying and he is impressed with how many applied and the quality of applicants. Knudson asked Bedford what his top priority would be if appointed to the Council. Bedford acknowledged there are a lot of issues the Council is working on but he would like to concentrate on the teamwork aspect of being on the Council. Bedford learned when he ran in the last election several residents don't feel represented and he wants to listen to them, listen empathetically and try to find the best solution for them. Councilperson Mitch Gross asked Bedford if he was appointed today would he run for the Council in 2023. Bedford stated he did not know right now but will not rule it out. Bedford would wait to see how well he did on the Council. If he does not

do a good job he will not run. Mayor Meghann Foster asked Bedford, as a long-time employee of Coralville specifically as Chief of Police, if he could approach the issues of making residents feel comfortable with law enforcement, increasing oversight, eliminating bias, increasing transparency and making sure everyone is treated fairly by the Police in a neutral way. Bedford responded yes and it is not unlike his working on the street for many years as a police officer and then as Police Chief. They modified their policies and practices as the public wanted. Bedford is all for transparency, accountability and helping citizens of the community feel safe, including feeling safe with and trusting the police. Bedford feels they need to encourage the police to be open and listen in order to make changes as they did during his tenure. Councilperson Hai Huynh thanked Bedford for putting himself out there to serve the community in a different way. Huynh asked Bedford what the biggest concern for residents is right now. Bedford responded there is potential concern with their relationship with the police and he feels people need to feel safe. Bedford would like to see the City be fiscally responsible and transparent and he knows the City is working on it. He wants the City to have a plan for paying the debt down, getting our ratings up and making people feel they are not under the gun. Residents have asked what happens if the City defaults and if taxpayers be responsible for paying it off. Bedford will work to explain the City will not default and they are working on paying down the debt. Councilperson Laurie Goodrich appreciated Bedford filling out an application. Goodrich asked Bedford to explain how he has continued his education and became an executive head coach, leadership trainer and law enforcement consultant. Bedford received his international certification from the John Maxwell Team dba International Leadership as an Executive Coach and Leadership Trainer after he retired. Certification required many hours of on-line training as well as in person training. Bedford is an expert witness for law enforcement practices and procedures in federal court cases. Bedford doesn't just do coaching for pay but also provides volunteer coaching for areas of Broadway. Huynh asked how Bedford planned to involve residents in the decision-making process if he is appointed. Bedford responded it depends on what the issue is but he would get input from residents anyway he can. One example is "Coffee with a Cop," when he was Police Chief, residents could meet officers and discuss their concerns over a cup of coffee. Bedford thought you can expand on something like that where people come in and talk to the Council and tell them what they would like to happen. It is really important to listen to what they say and empathetically understand where they are coming from. Even though may not agree on an issue but people should feel they received a fair hearing. After that you should proceed with your conscience or what is legal to determine what is best. Foster asked Bedford to elaborate on how he would bring a variety of voices to the decision-making process. Bedford thinks there are a lot of people who have concerns but go along with everything until they are personally affected and then they get worked up. Bedford feels having forums on issues that are of high interest like safety and the safety of our kids with the stories that are in the news right now. Thankfully there haven't been many incidents in our community. They could have a forum on how to help kids succeed in their lives with a good education and training for jobs. Bedford believes the City can be part of that conversation to help move people up. Gross asked Bedford what ideas he has for making Coralville a more inclusive and welcoming community especially for people from historically marginalized populations. Bedford thinks they need to go out and seek their input, like he did as Chief where they went out and met with groups like Workers for Social Justice and ask what they can do to make their relationships better. That means having a two-way dialogue and you have to go out and create those opportunities. This hopefully will build confidence and trust. Knudson asked for Bedford's thoughts on the City's current recycling and composting programs and what can be done to improve them. Bedford responded this is an area he is not very familiar with other than it is great they have it and he participates as much as he can with the neighborhood pickup or taking items to the recycling centers in Coralville and Iowa City. Bedford is all for it but does not know what happens to recycling once it is picked up at the curb. It is something he would like to learn more about. Goodrich asked what Bedford would do to preserve and enhance the positive image of our City. Bedford would be vocal and visible promoting the City by showing up at events, talking to people at both official and unofficial events. Try to encourage people to be involved and listen to what they have to say. Bedford thinks the Mayor and Council would be surprised by what residents think the Council should do and be involved in. People will blame you for not doing something you don't even know they want you to do. There were no questions from the audience. Foster thanked Bedford for turning in his application and all of his service to the City of Coralville.

Kent Christan <Never made to the Council Meeting for his interview.>

Eric Gissendanner's interview:

Gross asked Gissendanner if appointed will he run for Council in 2023. Gissendanner replied he does have his eyes on running in the 2023 election. Foster asked Gissendanner to list some specific qualifications he thinks will be valuable to the City Council. Gissendanner explained he has works in marketing and communications and is receptive to feedback. He works with social media at Riverside Casino and Golf Resort is always hearing feedback and reviews from their guests. He brings that to and discusses it with the other marketing team members and then reports to their leadership. He would do the same by bringing feedback to the rest of the Council so they can discuss ideas and different motions to continue progressing the City. Huynh asked Gissendanner what he sees facing the City in the next year and then next five years. Gissendanner responded before now he didn't know a lot about the Council so he would like inform the City about different events or achievements be it good or bad through social media. Gissendanner doesn't know a lot about what is going on if it isn't on social media where he gets most of his information through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or TikTok. He does not watch the news or read the newspapers. Goodrich asked Gissendanner what he would do on TikTok to preserve and enhance a positive image for the City. Gissendanner responded it would not be so much what he would say but what he would show for example at the Heartlander ribbon cutting he would have shown how the community was there giving its support. This helps get Councilmembers out in the public. Knudson asked Gissendanner what he thought Coralville's biggest weakness is. Gissendanner thought it might be Coralville differentiating itself from other communities in the area and developing its own identity. It is also making Coralville part of the larger Johnson County community. Goodrich appreciated Gissendanner filling out the application and giving the Council an opportunity to get to know him. Goodrich asked Gissendanner if he is comfortable participating in additional meetings and events other than regular council meetings. Gissendanner responded yes noting he is in place in his life and work where he is able to do more things outside of work. Huynh asked Gissendanner what he sees as the role of the City Council and what he sees as the role of the City staff. Gissendanner thinks the role of the Council is to be a unified voice of the Coralville people by listening to them, discussing issues and taking steps to continue progressing the City of Coralville. Gissendanner believes City staff are there to help the City Council and the Council is there to help staff as they are a team. Foster noted one of the Council's biggest roles is to manage the City's budget and asked Gissendanner what he knows about the City's budget, the budgeting process and any thoughts he had on that. Gissendanner responded he is not too aware of the City's budget but he does manage every dollar of the budget for his department at work and he has to account for every dollar. Gissendanner noted some funds don't do as well as others and when they run into the red his team has to come together and figure out how to keep that from happening in the future. Gross asked what Gissendanner's ideas are to make Coralville a more welcome and inclusive community, especially for those from marginalized populations. Gissendanner believes there is an opportunity to use social media to hear their voices by having something like an Instagram story where the Council goes live to interact with those marginalized populations. Knudson asked what Gissendanner thought about the City's current recycling and composting programs and the future direction they might take. Gissendanner noted when he first moved here the place where he lived did not have recycling so he found off site recycling centers. Then he and other residents spoke with the landlord about getting recycling picked up. Gissendanner thought the City needs to inform the public of what programs are available. There were no questions from the audience.

Mackensie Graham's interview:

Foster asked if Mackensie Graham will run for Council in the 2023 election if appointed. Graham responded that the Council had a choice of a special election or appointing someone to the Council and they both had their advantages with elections being more democratic and appointments being a more expedited process. Graham was not sure at this time but believed someone who is appointed should work a lot harder than someone that is elected because they have to gain that trust, loyalty and support that an elected person has already done campaigning. Huynh asked what Graham can bring to the table that the Council is missing. Graham stated she can bring what she has learned from being on the Parks & Recreation Commission, and her age which is 31 and is close to the median age in Coralville. Goodrich asked what Graham liked about being on the Parks & Recreation Commission. Graham complimented Director of Parks & Recreation Sherri Proud's knowledge about the people and land of Coralville which

has helped the Parks & Recreation Department be so successful. Graham has met so many people as a Parks & Recreation Commission member and she admired how City staff not only worked and performed very good work but how they really cared. Graham enjoyed learning about the sustainability considerations which people may not see every day. Knudson agreed with Graham about Proud. Knudson asked what Graham's top priority would be if she were on the Council. Graham responded it would be taking all of the feed back and information gathered and filtering it with experiences and perspective but ultimately listening to the feedback. In terms of a broader Coralville she noted how we are coming off of COVID and people are looking to work in jobs that are remote. This provides an opportunity to keep those who came to the area through the University by providing them a place to live that is affordable. Gross asked what Graham's ideas are to make Coralville a more welcome and inclusive community, especially for those from marginalized populations. Graham stated that we can take what we learned during COVID with all the advances and about what people deal with everyday like mental health and caregiving and paring that knowledge with strategic plans, committees and taking what the Council has done and building on it by getting more people heard and creating a bigger space to get involved. Foster asked Graham to name a specific decision the City and/or Council has made that she disagrees with and why. Graham replied one did not come to mind but if given the opportunity she will come back with an answer. Huynh asked if Graham is appointed how will she go outside her neighborhood or comfort zone and solicit input from residents. Graham thought even though it is hard and creates anxiety meeting new people it is important to make events happen for people outside your neighborhood and invite them to be uncomfortable with you and then build a relationship there. Goodrich asked if Graham is comfortable taking part in meeting and events outside of regular Council meetings. Graham stated she has never met a committee she didn't like though some could be run better. Graham did not have a problem taking part in extra meetings and events and would not mind joining new committees and finding new ways to bring people together. Knudson noted the City uses Tax Increment Funds (TIFs) aggressively and asked Graham what her thoughts are about Coralville's use of the TIF. Graham responded she did not know much about TIFS but she learned at her first job at Hy-Vee that if you don't know something you find someone who can answer the question and find out their perspective on it. She knows that when a topic like this or something else comes up on the agenda you have to be prepared and do your own research. Gross noted there have been only three times he has voted no on something and one of them was if they should appoint someone to the Council. Gross asked since Graham has an educational background in public policy what is one of the first policies, she would like the Council to consider. Graham noted there is a difference in policy in theory and policy in action. A policy in action would be a commitment for walkability in our community and creating a committee to help create a policy encouraging a walkable and accessible community. There were no questions from the audience.

Keith Jones' interview:

Huynh thanked Keith Jones' for being here tonight and asked him to describe his experience engaging with members of all races and people from a wide variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds and people with disabilities and how would he help the City effectively respond to the needs of the diverse residents we serve. Jones responded you need to bring those voices together and even though it is challenging it is something the City really needs to focus on. Jones believes the more people you have at the table the better off the City will be. Jones did not have any specifics on how to accomplish this but it would be a priority of his if appointed. Jones would work with the Council to find ways to bring marginalized citizens together and to partner with community organizations to do that. Goodrich thanked Jones for applying for the position and asked what Jones would do to preserve and enhance the positive image of our City. Jones responded in all seriousness he would do what Laurie Goodrich does. That is to be involved and be out there with the citizens and be seen. Jones did not have a personal life when he was working because he had to be a representative for his employer. Jones thinks you have to do the same when you are on the Council. Jones added you have to be open and fair minded and seek input. Knudson noted Jones experience in finance and loans and asked what he thought about Coralville's aggressive use of Tax Increment Funds (TIFS). Jones responded if you asked him 10 to 15 years ago he might have a different answer but today he agrees with the City's aggressive use of TIFs and doesn't think you can argue with its success. Jones believes the City and Council have worked hard to have a plan in place to pay down debt which is an ongoing issue for the Council. Gross asked if Jones was appointed would he be a candidate for Council in 2023. Jones responded if he was appointed to the

Council that without a doubt, he would not run in 2023. Foster noted that one of the priorities of this Council is affordable housing. Foster asked how Jones will address the affordable housing issue in Coralville. Jones responded affordable housing is a challenging issue that Coralville has worked on for a number of years. One of the things that has been done is the revitalization of older homes which is a real plus and he thinks they should work on ways to expand that. Jones thinks there may be opportunities for some cooperative type efforts where there could be rental assistance and things of that nature. Jones stated it is a challenging issue and should really be a priority. Huynh asked Jones if there was one thing, he could change in our zoning code as a long-time resident what would it be and why. Jones responded one thing to change is get his glass recycled at curbside. Jones continued that he has a lot of respect for the City Council and is not really critical of what they have done. Jones has enjoyed living in this community for 47 years, raising his family and working here and he is not sure if there is anything he would change. Goodrich noted Jones has served on the Library Board of Trustees for many years and asked what his favorite thing is about serving on the Library Board. Jones responded his favorite thing is the Summer Reading Program, the children's programs and the outreach the Children's Librarians do. Knudson asked Jones how he would improve the recycling program other than adding curbside recycling of glass. Jones responded they should promote the recycling program more including with social media and explaining why recycling is important. Jones thinks recycling has come a long way but still has a long way to go and needs to be promoted. Gross asked Jones what new policies he would want the Council to consider. Jones thinks the Council needs to consider a way to increase citizen involvement and find a way to make that happen across the board for every citizen including the marginalized and others. Foster noted as a Councilperson you hear feedback from people who are upset with the decision you have made that requires some more explanation and navigating some intense feelings. Foster asked Jones if he has ever dealt with a person that was upset with you on an issue during your career and how did he navigate those type of conflicts Jones dealt with that many times working in the loan area and not being able to do what someone wanted. Jones stated all you can do is listen and try to explain how the decision was reached and if that person has any valid points you need to investigate them further. Jones added you the best way to handle this is to listen, explain the decision and stand by the decision. After Foster thanked Jones. Jones ended the interview by stating he was impressed with the number and quality of applicants. There were no questions from the audience.

Fay Vittetoe's interview:

Goodrich asked how Fay Vittetoe would preserve and enhance Coralville's positive image. Vittetoe responded that she chose Coralville as a place to retire and has watched it grow and seen all the flood improvements it has made be completed. Vittetoe stated the Council already does a good job and she would work with the Council to continue what has already been done. Vittetoe noted the *Connection* is a good publication and as an elderly person she is glad it is still printed on paper. Knudson asked what Vittetoe thought of Coralville's recycling and composting program and how would she improve it. Vittetoe agreed with Jones that she would have curbside recycling for glass and if not possible at least have a local place to drop it off. Knudson noted the City just started collecting glass at the recycling drop off in Coralville. Vittetoe added when she moved to Coralville they participated in a program to help pay for 4 to 6 inches of compost being put on their lawn and she would like the City to expand on that program and make compost more usable for residents. Gross asked if appointed would Vittetoe be a candidate for Council in 2023. Vittetoe responded she will not run at this point but might be convinced to run. Vittetoe stated she likes to serve the community she is in. Foster asked what qualifies Vittetoe to be on the City Council. Vittetoe responded she served on the City Council in Brighton; on public and mental health advisory boards; on local, state and national veterinary organizations and she spent 34 years as a voluntary first responder. Gross asked what years Vittetoe was on the City Council. Vittetoe responded around 1977-78. Huynh asked what Vittetoe hoped to accomplish as a City Councilor serving out the rest of someone else's term. Vittetoe would look into what that person was trying to accomplish and listen to what the Council is trying to accomplish and then focus on what needs to be done. Vittetoe would like to take a serious look at the long-term community plan and prevent the destruction of anymore protected woodlands and protect our water quality. Goodrich asked what Vittetoe thinks the area on the southeast corner of Highway 6 and 1st Avenue near Walgreens. Vittetoe wasn't sure if that area is a residential area where they could add some affordable housing, since it is close to our transportation hub and wouldn't be too far from work. The City could attract some starting salary people and some of the people who work at

the nearby University. Vittetoe isn't sure what is possible. Huynh asked what Vittetoe thought were challenges for residents right now, specifically residents in need of resources. Vittetoe thought people needed more access to child care so they can get back to work and we need to learn how to care for our diverse community and matching them with existing resources. we need more public education and to match them with people who can mentor them. Foster asked about Vittetoe's experience with EMS, public and mental health advisory boards and some public safety and what policies and ideas she could bring to the table to help the Council address some of those issues. Vittetoe responded she participated in some countywide disaster drills, including some with mental health scenarios. She has ridden with patients to the University and they were able to form partnerships with the people who serve those with mental health issues. Gross asked what Vittetoe's ideas are to make Coralville a more welcome and inclusive community, especially for those from marginalized populations. Vittetoe responded inviting marginalized people to day camps, community events like the Fire Department's pancake breakfast and having neighborhood mentoring programs. Vittetoe thought bottom-up programs work best to make an inclusive community along with having open spaces that allow neighborhoods to gather together. Knudson asked what Vittetoe's biggest or favorite accomplishment was on the Brighton City Council. Vittetoe responded it was getting recognition for the need of an EMS Department; the importance of having rural access and recognizing they serve a larger area than just the City but they also serve those in rural communities. There were no questions from the audience.

Motion by Goodrich, seconded by Huynh to take a short break at 6:40 PM. Motion carried.

Huynh asked if they will interview the person scheduled for 6:00 PM. Gross thought they needed to know just for fairness. Foster responded that if they show up, they deserve to be interviewed and she will allow it. Huynh added they scheduled people for interviews up to 7:15 PM. Foster appreciated everyone's flexibility as they worked through the process and made adjustments.

Council reconvened at 6:55 PM.

Phuong Nguyen's interview:

Knudson thanked Phuong Nguyen for applying. Knudson noted Nguyen's financial background and asked what he thought of Coralville's aggressive use of TIF's on about using them in the past, present and future. Nguyen responded he is impressed with the City's use of TIFs even though Coralville has the highest debt per capita in Iowa. Nguyen added Coralville has used TIF debt for good purposes and great developments as seen in the Iowa River Landing and Coral Ridge Mall. Gross asked if Nguyen is appointed to the Council will he be a candidate in the 2023 election. Nguyen responded yes. Foster asked Nguyen how he would address some of the systemic inequities that we see in our community. Nguyen saw housing affordability as an issue with many people not being able to buy a home and he thought Coralville is addressing the issue by supplying a lot of housing permits. Huynh asked Nguyen what he would change in the Zoning code and why. Nguyen thought the City should adopt form based zoning instead of traditional zoning. In form-based zoning you can have mixed bundles which lead to affordability because it allows high-rise buildings with a mix of commercial, office and residential uses. Nguyen added Iowa City is already using it. Goodrich asked if Nguyen is comfortable and able to participate if committee meetings and events that happen outside of times a regular Council Meeting takes place. Nguyen responded absolutely because he wants to serve Coralville and the community more. Knudson asked if Nguyen is appointed what would be his top priority. Nguyen started he wants to use debt for capital and lower the per capita debt because too much means later generations will end up paying for it. Gross asked what Nguyen would propose to reduce the per capita debt. Nguyen noted Coralville has a low tax rate compared to Iowa City and it is comparable to North Liberty but the debt is too high. Nguyen proposed either raising the tax rate to lower the debt or postponing more debt and making sure the existing debt is being put to good use. Nguyen noted new developments add new up keep costs so we need to balance those needs in the future. Foster noted the City has been discussing its role in providing social services to the community and asked Nguyen how he would address the City providing social services and providing them to residents who need them. Nguyen believes social services should be provided at the state and federal level and it is okay if the City provides social services but they should not be large enough to become an incentive to draw people in need from other

communities. Nguyen suggested developing social services at the same rate as the surrounding communities so not just Coralville has great social services but the whole area has great social services. Huynh asked Nguyen what he sees as the Coralville's biggest challenges and what changes would he like to see in the next two years. Nguyen thinks the pandemic is still affecting resident's lives and now that federal assistance is gone the City needs to provide some support to those still having financial difficulties and help them find jobs. Nguyen isn't sure what big policy he would change. Goodrich asked how Nguyen would preserve and enhance Coralville's positive image. Nguyen thinks people believe Coralville uses TIFs too aggressively especially when they attract businesses away from neighboring cities. Nguyen noted how everyone was happy when the TIF district expired at Coral Ridge Mall and money was released to other taxing entities. Nguyen wants to change the perception to show Coralville now works collaboratively with other communities. Regional development is the key for future development. There were no questions from the audience.

Foster thanked everyone for taking the time to be here and speak with them tonight. Foster added we are fortunate to have so many people in the community who are willing to serve and no matter the outcome tonight she feels the City of Coralville will be in good hands

Discussion about applicants.

Foster started by asking what are the Council's thoughts. Huynh noted a major criterion when they agreed to appoint someone to finish someone else's term is the appointed person not run for election at the end of that term. Huynh clarified it is fine if the person runs for election after 2023 just so they are skipping a cycle. Foster noted the Council cannot make not running in the next election a condition or requirement to be appointed but it can be an important consideration and it is especially important to Gross who said, "The advantage of incumbency should be given by the people in a special election and not by appointment." It was determined at previous meetings and a work session that the applicant not running in the next election will be an important consideration. Gross wanted all six applicants at tonight's meeting to know that he is emboldened by the service they have already given to the community and the future is bright no matter how this goes. Gross hopes all of them stay involved and he would have loved to have seen them compete in an election, have a forum and hear questions from the voters. Gross stated he would have a hard time supporting the appointment of someone who plans on running in the next election since he supported a special election in the first place and because the advantage of being an incumbent is real and he feels it is exasperated more in a local election. In Coralville only two incumbents have lost an election in the last 40 to 50 years. Foster agreed with Gross and acknowledged there is nothing they can do if the applicants want to run in the next election even if they stated tonight, they will not because it is a free country and it is their right. However, right now, it is going to factor in to who she chooses to appoint. Gross asked how the decision is getting made. Foster responded it will be similar to how they make decisions during the work session with an informal decision made tonight and officially appointing them with a majority formal vote at a regular Council Meeting. Tonight, they will narrow down the choice to two or three of the applicants and then work their way down to a consensus for one applicant to be appointed. They will vote for that applicant at the June 14th regular council meeting. Goodrich was concerned about making running in the next election a criterion to appoint someone. Foster clarified it is fair to discuss each candidate and that is just a criterion she will weigh when she makes her choices. Goodrich feels each candidate has value they can bring to the Council for the next 18 months. Huynh noted if there had been a special election they might not have as diverse a pool of applicants as they have now, because running a campaign takes hard work, money and a lot of time and not everyone has the time or desire to seek public office. Huynh is grateful for the pool of applicants they have. Huynh noted this is essentially a job interview and they need to decide who is best for the job and what is our job as a Council. The applicant appointed to this vacancy will have to work with this Council. Foster agreed and every candidate interviewed tonight knows working on the Council is a collaborative effort and she heard a lot of good answers about empathy, listening, being neutral in some cases and how their job is to get and understand all sides of the issue and make decisions in collaboration with each other. Gross stated from what he heard tonight each candidate has something to bring to the table and he would have no problem with any of them being appointed but he has stated from the beginning what his stance is and he will not waiver from it. Knudson is happy to work with any of the applicants and is very happy with the pool to draw from because he was worried, they might not have any applicants. Knudson stated not

running for election is not deal breaker for him like it is for Gross but it is a factor he will consider. Experience is a larger factor to him and one applicant stands out to him in that regard with their long-term commitment and volunteering in the community and that is Keith Jones. Jones has committed to not running next election as well even though he can change his mind on that. Gross clarified that not running is a principal of his that he is not willing to compromise on. Foster appreciated Chief Bedford's long service to the community and she enjoyed hearing him talk about listening and empathy which is something she values in leadership. Foster has had a lot of experience working with Jones and he is very soft spoken and humble about the impact he has had on this community which you can see on his application. Foster appreciated how Jones explicitly explained in his application that he has always been interested but was concerned about there being a conflict of interest with his career that he had for many years. Jones not acting on his desire to serve because of the conflict of interest speaks a lot for Jones' character. Foster was impressed with all of the candidates but the third one who stood out to her is Fay Vittetoe because of her vast municipal experience and she loved hearing the answer about the connection between public safety and mental health issues. Foster also appreciated Vittetoe's commitment to sustainability issues which is important to Knudson as well. Foster loved Phuong Nguyen's expertise on TIFs and zoning which would be a huge asset. Foster appreciated Mackensie Graham's enthusiasm and energy and Eric Gissendanner's energy and enthusiasm as well as his discussion on the role of social media and how important communication is in connecting with citizens. Foster ended with everyone is very impressive but not running for election is very important to her and that is why Jones and Vittetoe are her top two candidates. Goodrich emphasized Jones and Vittetoe were the only two applicants who said they will not run for Council in 2023. Foster stated that was not the only factor but it is a heavy factor for her. Foster added the experience and dedication to community that Jones and Vittetoe are also a factor in her decision. Gross noted that incumbency is an important issue just for him and he explained he tried to persuade everyone to have a special election last meeting and failed. Gross noted Bedford has had an amazing career serving the community and what he can still do for the community is amazing. Gross stated one issue the City has had is reaching people and Gissendanner's expertise in communication would be invaluable. Gross noted he like Graham ran on being the demographic age too the first time when he was in an election, because we need representation from all facets of the community. Gross noted Graham's public service knowledge; Nguyen's expertise; Jones' history with the bank and humanitarian efforts and Vittetoe's 70 years of experience because this is a retirement destination. Gross thought between Jones and Vittetoe that Jones' experience and knowledge of Coralville gives him a smaller learning curve than Vittetoe. Goodrich noted Jones experience on the Library Board of Trustees, Coralville Public Library Foundation and the Coralville Community Food Pantry are also connected with the City of Coralville. Knudson thought that is three votes for Jones. Huynh stated this is a really hard choice and each candidate would bring valuable contributions to the Council as a whole. Huynh thinks what the Council needs right now moving forward for the next 18 months when this term is finished, is someone who has served the community for a long time. Huynh heavily weighed if the person will run in the next election and noted that they can skip the next election and run in the next round. Huynh thinks all the candidates have enthusiasm but she thinks the experience Jones and Vittetoe have will fit best with this Council and the fact they have more time is important because she knows how much work it takes being on the Council. Foster agrees that Jones and Vittetoe stand out even without them not running for the next election because of their experience and service.

Foster stated she is hearing a consensus for Jones to be appointed and all the Council Members verbally agreed. Goodrich stated they have heard some great ideas, thoughts and initiatives tonight and she encouraged the applicants to look into applying for openings on City boards and commissions or to prepare to run for Council in the next election. Knudson confirmed the person who runs and wins this seat they will appoint someone to will begin their term in November 2023 after the votes from the election are canvassed instead of waiting until January to start the term. City Administrator Kelly Hayworth explained the intent is to have the vote on whether to appoint Keith Jones to the Council as the first item on the June 14, 2022 agenda and the second item is to swear Jones in as a Councilmember. Then Jones can participate in the rest of the meeting as a Council Member, Jones will serve as a Councilmember until November of 2023.

Goodrich apologized she will be out of town for the June 14th meeting. Huynh thanked all the applicants and asked them not to be discouraged and to put themselves out there. Huynh stated public service is a thankless job, a lot of work and you lose a lot of sleep but it is also very rewarding because you are the voices for people who place a lot of trust in you. Huynh encouraged the applicants to put themselves out there for the next round of elections, because the City needs each one of them to step up and make changes in the community they live and work in. Huynh advised there are lots of other ways to serve the community than just being on the Council. Foster agreed with Huynh that this is just one way to serve and it is inspiring to see all the applicants here this evening. Foster noted we live in an incredible community and this whole area is a very special place and there are so many ways to get involved and serve. Huynh asked everyone to hold the Mayor and Council accountable because they are there to serve you and if they do not do their jobs, they should be held accountable. Foster thanked everyone who came to the meeting tonight and for the discussion.

The Council will vote on appointing Keith Jones to the City Council at the June 14, 2014 Coralville City Council Regular Meeting.

Motion by Knudson, seconded by Goodrich to adjourn at 7:41 PM.

Meghann Foster, Mayor

Thorsten J. Johnson, City Clerk