

**CITY OF DUNNELLON
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

DATE: March 9, 2016
TIME: 5:15 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall
20750 River Dr., Dunnellon, FL 34431

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Whitt called the meeting to order at approximately 5:22 p.m. and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Green stated Linda Robinson Stephens, a long-time resident passed away. Councilman Green and Councilman Dillon provided some history and background about Mrs. Stephens and her family. Marylin Welch provided the invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following members answered present at roll call:
Nathan Whitt, Mayor, Seat 1
Vacant, Vice-Mayor, Seat 2
Chuck Dillon, Councilman, Seat 3
Walter Green, Councilman, Seat 4
Vacant, Seat 5

STAFF PRESENT

Eddie Esch, City Manager
Dawn Bowne, City Clerk
Jan Smith, Finance Officer
Chief Mike Mcquaig, Police Department
Lt. Todd Spicher, MCSO
Lt. Troy Slattery, Interim Fire Chief
Lynn Wyland, Staff Assistant

LEGAL COUNSEL

Andrew Hand
Shepard, Smith & Cassady

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Mrs. Bowne announced for the record the agenda for this meeting was posted on the City's website and City Hall bulletin board on Friday, March 4, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mathew Baillargeon 22637 SW Surf Blvd., Ocala, welcomed Councilwoman Soldato and commended her for stepping up to fill this position.

Mr. Esch explained to those in attendance, that the microphone stand broke, but the microphone is on.

REGULAR AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Whitt explained this is a brief meeting to give the “Oath of Office” to Johanna Soldato who will fill Seat 2, vacated by the resignation of Vice-Mayor Evans, until the next general election.

Ms. Soldato introduced her fiancé Mr. Maguire, who will administer the oath of office. Ms. Soldato repeated the Oath of Office before the general public, City Council, and the City Clerk as follows:

“I, Johanna Soldato, a citizen of the State of Florida and of the United States of America, being employed by and officer of the City of Dunnellon and a recipient of public funds as such employee and officer, do hereby solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the constitution of the United States and of the State of Florida.”

Mayor Whitt thanked Councilwoman Soldato for her willingness to serve on the City Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – APPOINTMENT TO CITY COUNCIL SEAT NUMBER FIVE (5) PER CITY’S CHARTER – COUNCILMAN DILLON

Councilman Dillon moved Rick Hancock be appointed to City Council Seat #5 until the next regular or special election. Councilman Green seconded the motion.

Council and staff engaged in brief discussion regarding administering the oath of office to Mr. Hancock.

Mrs. Bowne and Attorney Hand clarified the language in the City’s Code as being at “the next regular Council meeting.”

It was Council’s consensus to move forward and administer the oath of office at the next regular meeting to be held on March 14, 2016

The vote was taken and all were in favor. The vote was 4-0.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – APPOINTMENT OF VICE-MAYOR – COUNCILMAN DILLON

Councilman Dillon moved Councilman Green be appointed as Vice-Mayor until November 2016. Councilwoman Soldato seconded the motion.

Councilman Dillon stated he has all the confidence in Councilman Green to hand this position.

Councilman Green thanked Councilman Dillon for his comments and said he would be honored to serve as the Vice-Mayor of his hometown.
The vote was taken and was 3-0, with Councilman Green abstaining.

Council and staff engaged in brief discussion whether Councilman Green was obligated to vote.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – ADJOURN

At approximately 5:38 p.m. Councilman Dillon moved the March 9, 2016 Special City Council meeting be adjourned. Councilwoman Soldato seconded. All members voted in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Mayor Whitt reopened the Special Council meeting at 5:47 p.m. to reconsider the motion for Item #3.

It was decided Councilman Green could vote in order to avoid the requirement to complete Form 8B, Memorandum Voting Conflict, since this is not a measurement that inures to his special private gain or loss.

Mayor Whitt asked Councilman Dillon and Councilwoman Soldato if their motion still stands regarding appointing Councilman Green as Vice-Mayor. Both replied yes. The vote was taken and all were in favor. The vote was 4-0.

At approximately 5:48 p.m., Councilman Dillon moved the March 9, 2016 Special City Council meeting be adjourned. Councilwoman Soldato seconded. All members voted in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

Attest:

Dawn Bowne, MMC
City Clerk

Nathan Whitt, Mayor