

THE SPECIAL WORK SESSION OF THE FORTIETH COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:30 PM ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 BY MAYOR DEAN

PRESENT: Councilmember Steve Baker
Mayor Pro Tem Ross Gavin
Councilmember Dennis Hennen (Arrived at 5:32 p.m.)
Councilmember Gregory Patterson
Councilmember Jessica Vilani
Mayor Bridget Dean

ABSENT: Councilmember Clarence Black

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Crystal VanVleck
City Clerk Victoria Mitchell
Public Safety Lt. Andrew Hadfield
Deputy City Manager of Public Services Shawn Young
Community Development Director Kristen Kapelanski
Director of Human Resources Jessica Stover

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Ross Gavin moved to approve the Agenda
Seconded by Councilmember Patterson
Ayes: Gavin, Patterson, Vilani, Baker and Dean
Nays: None
Absent: Black and Hennen
Motion Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REGULAR AGENDA

DISCUSSION:

Matter of conducting interviews for legal services:

- Hafeli, Staran & Christ, PC
- Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler, PC
- Foster Swift, PC
- Garan Lucow Miller PC

City Manager VanVleck introduced the agenda item and discussed how the evening would run.

Human Resources Director Stover provided an overview of best practices for interviewing.

City Manager VanVleck explained the ratings sheets that were provided to council members.

Hafeli, Staran & Christ, PC

- In attendance: Dan Christ and Dan Kelly
- Interview questions were asked
- End 6:16 p.m.

Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler, PC

- In attendance: Lisa Hamameh, Matt Zalewski, Holly Battersby, Steve Joppich, Andrea Pike
- Interview questions were asked
- End 7:04 p.m.

Foster Swift, PC

- In attendance: Courtney Gabbara Agrusa and Ann Seurnynck
- Interview questions were asked
- End 7:41 p.m.

Garan Lucow Miller PC

- In attendance: Ebony Duff
- Interview questions were asked
- End 8:06 p.m.

Council and staff in attendance provided their input regarding the candidates' responses.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Patterson moved to adjourn the Special Meeting at 9:00 PM

Seconded by Councilmember Vilani

Ayes: Gavin, Hennen, Patterson, Vilani, Baker, and Dean

Nays: None

Absent: Black

Motion Approved.

Bridget Dean, Mayor

ATTEST:

Victoria Mitchell, City Clerk