

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2011**

Mayor Huntington called the special meeting of the Town of Yucca Valley Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Hagerman, Luckino, Rowe, and Mayor Huntington.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Huntington led the Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Town Council Vacancy – Discussion

Town Manager Nuaimi advised that, due to the resignation of Council Member Mayes, Council has 60 days to either appoint or hold a special election to fill the seat for the remainder of Council Member Mayes' term. A special election could cost between \$25,000 and \$50,000. The appointment or calling of a special election would have to be made by June 4, 2011. Council may want to consider providing direction as to whether an ordinance should be considered that would provide future Town Councils more flexibility, giving them the option to fill a vacancy and at the same time call a special election to fill the remainder of the term.

Charles McHenry, Yucca Valley, spoke in favor of either a special election to fill the vacancy or appointment of the next runner up on the ballot.

Sigrid McAllister, Yucca Valley, spoke in favor of appointing Lori Herbel to the seat.

Phyllis Swinnerton, Yucca Valley, spoke in favor of appointing the next person in line in the last election.

Carl Gorham, Yucca Valley, spoke in favor of appointing Lori Herbel.

Bonnie Brady, Yucca Valley, spoke in support of appointing Lori Herbel to the vacated seat.

Sylvia White, Business owner in Yucca Valley, spoke in support of Lori Herbel being appointed to the Council.

Lori Herbel, Yucca Valley, spoke regarding her qualifications and experience to be appointed to the Council.

Curt Duffy, Yucca Valley, spoke in support of appointing someone who has backing of the people. Added that if it does come down to a special election \$25,000 to \$50,000 is well worth the money.

Margo Sturges, Yucca Valley, spoke in favor of appointing the runner up in the last election.

William Swinnerton, Yucca Valley, spoke in favor of appointing Ms. Herbel.

Wade White, Yucca Valley, commented he voted for Lori Herbel and would like his vote to matter.

Mayor Huntington advised that Clay Donnell, Dorothy DeGennaro, Laurine Silver, and Barbara Renton submitted cards in support of appointing Lori Herbel, but did not wish to speak.

Council Member Luckino questioned if there is an option to appoint someone to fill the vacancy until the next scheduled election in 2012. Town Manager Nuaimi advised that currently the Council does not have that flexibility because there is no ordinance, adding that there is not enough time to do that before the vacancy must be filled. It was noted that some have passed urgency ordinances, however it is not clear if urgency findings can be made. Council Member Luckino questioned if the Council can adopt an ordinance that would be retroactive. Town Manager Nuaimi advised that Council can adopt an ordinance for future procedures, but it would not have an effect on this vacancy.

Upon discussion, none of the Council Members were in favor of holding a special election to fill the vacancy. The consensus was to take applications and interview interested candidates.

Council Member Luckino questioned how Council would go through the interview process. Town Manager Nuaimi advised it would be in a public meeting.

Upon further discussion staff was directed to advertise the opening, have applications ready by Wednesday, April 27th. Council agreed that the appointment will be made no later than the 2nd meeting in May. Mayor Huntington suggested a special meeting on May 10, 2011 to review the applications and decide at that time how to move forward. Ten questions were selected from the 38 sample questions provided in the staff report.

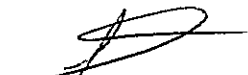
Town Manager Nuaimi advised that staff will put the ten selected questions together with an application, advertise the vacancy and place a deadline of May 5th for submittal of the

applications.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted


Jamie Anderson
Town Clerk