



City of Mount Rainier

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**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 28, 2010
MINUTES**

The following is a summary of the meeting concerning the review and interview of candidates submitted by Ward 1 Council member Jimmy Tarlau for the Ward 1 Council seat.

Mayor Miles opened the meeting providing a statement as to how the process was going to proceed. Each council member was to cast a secret ballot indicating by marking an "x" in the space before the name of the candidate of their choice. Mayor indicated that she would be the deciding vote only if the other 3 members of the council did not reach a majority (i.e., three votes) for one candidate.

It was further mentioned that whoever was selected, the other two candidates should not feel slighted as all are qualified but only one seat was available. Sitting on the council provides a chance to have some say and influences others on the council to make good decision on behalf of the city.

Councilmember Tarlau explained the process for filling a as provided in the City Charter. A total of 9 persons who live in Ward 1 submitted their names to Mr. Tarlau, and two persons who live outside the ward (and therefore ineligible) also expressed interest in serving on the council. One candidate was only interested in serving in an interim capacity until May 2011. Mr. Tarlau explained that he was looking more for those who wanted to serve long term (May 2015).

Councilmember Knedler thanked all three candidates for expressing interest as they know the stress that the council goes through, putting in long hours behind the scenes and attending a hefty meeting schedule.

All three candidates spoke of their commitment and love for the city. They each gave backgrounds regarding their professional careers and their focus and interest in serving on the council.

Candidate Amy Callner is a researcher for a labor union and wants to focus on regulatory issues, who benefits and stated that she understands how municipalities work.

Candidate Bill Updyke has worked early in his career as an environmental journalist and in communications but the later years have been in construction and development. Currently he is involved in clean current/solar energy. He wants to focus on marketing and how to communicate better.

Candidate Cheryl Fountain is a current business owner in the city and is use to working as a team. She wants to focus on making the vacant businesses look more viable and has a good rapport with the Chief, staff, and artists and knows how to reach out to people.

Mayor Miles had specific questions that were asked of each candidate. Some of those questions are as follows:

1. **If appointed, how would you help move the city forward?** Ms. Fountain stated that she would help the city improve its IT capability (Mamore interactive Web portal) as she is self taught and works in this area full time. Mr. Updike stated that his background working with developers and construction would enable him to work with the council in moving the city forward in this direction. Ms. Callner is an organizer and has worked with 100 volunteers and is well versed in getting things done.
2. **What committees have you served on?** Ms. Callner has not served on any committees; Mr. Updike has served on Gateway CDC for ¾ years after initially looking into both the MUTC and DRB committees. Ms. Fountain has served on the Parking Task Force and has been a board member for the Mount Rainier Business Association.
3. **What is your experience working with elected officials around the State and County?** Mr. Updike knows the 47th delegation and the Senator and has met with them on numerous occasions. Ms Callner does not know any of the elected officials personally, but has written them. Mr Fountain knew some of the elected officials and has met most of them.

After the initial voting, it was apparent that none of the three candidates would receive a majority of three votes. Two ballots were read and two candidates received one vote each. The third ballot was not read. The Mayor then cast a ballot and the four ballots were then shuffled and all four ballots were read.

The outcome of the final vote:

William A Updike	– 3 votes
Cheryl Fountain	1 vote
Amy Callner	0 votes

Results to be posted on Cable Website and City Hall bulletin board.

Motion to adjourn – Knedler; Seconded – Thompson. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

