

MINUTES

Fairfield City Council Special Meeting of Council March 23, 2013

Call to Order

Mayor Ronald A. D'Epifanio called the Special Meeting of March 23, 2013 to order at the Public Works Facility at 8:27 AM. Councilmembers present were Michael Oler, Tim Abbott, Tim Meyers, Debbie Pennington, Jeff Holtegel, Terry Senger and Adam Jones. Staff present were Art Pizzano, John Clemmons, Mark Wendling, Mike Dickey, Tim Bachman, Dan Murray (School Board), Billy Smith (Asst. Superintendent).

Executive Session

Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Meyers, made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing details of security arrangements and emergency response protocols. Motion carried 7-0. Council recessed to executive session at 8:28 AM. Executive session adjourned at 11:08 AM.

Councilmember Jones was excused from special meeting at 11:00 AM.

Open Session

City Manager Pizzano presented the topic of Boards and Commissions, specifically term limits and level of authority. Law Director John Clemmons read the sections of the Charter pertaining to Boards and Commissions. Mayor D'Epifanio commented that he and a few of the councilmembers feel that term limits for Boards and Commissions should be added to the Charter, because people are not applying for open positions anymore and he has been told it is because Council always puts the same people back on each year, so new people are not going to take the time to apply. Mr. Clemmons explained the process to recommend a change to the Charter. He explained that the change should be submitted to the Charter Review Commission to be approved and put on the ballot for voters to decide. Councilmember Senger also noted that each board and commission have different term lengths, so term limits would be difficult to write. He suggested discussing it not in terms of number of years, but in how many times a person can be appointed to each board or commission. Councilmember Abbott commented that he disagrees with the need for term limits, because he does not think there will ever be a large number of applicants again. He noted that Council already has the authority to remove people from a board or commission, so that is not an issue. Councilmember Oler commented that the city needs younger people involved in boards and commissions to present new ideas, because that is how cities grow and change, but those younger applicants are no longer interested in applying because they are tired of being told to keep trying.

Law Director Clemmons explained that while boards and commissions have some decision-making authority, the ultimate authority is with Council. Any money spent has to be appropriated by Council and anything in excess of \$50,000 has to be approved by Council. The number of Parks employees and their wages are determined by Council, not by the Parks Board. There was discussion about the authority of Parks Board.

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 12:01 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council