



NAPAVINE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
February 21 2017, 6:00 PM  
City Hall 407 Birch Ave SW, Napavine, WA

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Flag Salute was led by Mayor, John Sayers, the Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor John Sayers, at 6 p.m. He deferred the meeting to City Attorney, Mark Scheibmeir.

**ROLL CALL:** The council meeting will be abbreviated and majority recessed and continued until next Tuesday February 28, 2017 and relatively short due to address a couple of issues. Purpose of the meeting #1 was the council date of the meetings, Jonathan Meyer, Lewis County Prosecutor expressed an opinion that the city was meeting on the wrong dates, but recently acknowledged the Ordinance that changed the date to the Third Tuesday's of the month and had relied on incorrect information.

Secondly, Mr. Meyer addressed the invalid appointments by the city of the three councilors during 2016. The three appointments affected were Councilor Armondo Galaviz, Craig Sullivan and Robert Wheeler was inappropriately done. Due to the length of time each position remained open should have been appointed by the County. Mr. Scheibmeir stated the City agrees with the County Prosecutor's conclusion, but important to note that each appointment by the city had been made with approval of the County. Before the appointments of Galaviz and Sullivan, the City Clerk contacted the County Elections Office, advised that office the city's intended action and was told the County approved of those appointments. Before the appointment of Mr. Wheeler, Mark Scheibmeir himself personally contacted the Lewis County Prosecutor's Office, advised that office of the City's intended action and was again told the County approved the appointment of Mr. Wheeler.

These facts are pointed out not to shift the blame, but rather point out that both the City and the County including the Prosecutor's Attorney's Office out of mutual good faith and belief that the appointments have been properly made. It was only later the two parties realized the procedure followed did not meet the letter of the law. Mr. Galaviz resigned in December. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Wheeler graciously resigned their appointments this past week once they were informed of this problem. As a result of these developments there are currently four positions open on the city council. The County Commissioners will be responsible for filling three of those open positions and they intend to address that need which will be coming the afternoon of Tuesday, February 28 and they will do their own notice. The remaining position will be filled by the city. The

Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney has concluded and Scheibmeir concur, the remaining council member Slempe and Mayor Sayers have the authority to fulfill this position. So tonight's meeting will be limited to that sole purpose to fill the open position. The meeting will then be recessed until next Tuesday when the County Commissioners appoint the three remaining positions. Then the City Council business can then be achieved. The purpose of tonight's meeting for the appointment of the open council position previously held by Mrs. Haslett, will be for the recess of this meeting until the next Tuesday meeting.

With that said, Mayor Sayers called Mr. Sullivan to come back up. Mr. Scheibmeir advised the need for Ms. Slempe's concurrence of the appointment of Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Slempe so moved. Mayor Sayers then swore in Mr. Craig Sullivan into the position of City Council #2.

Mr. Scheibmeir advised the only action council can do now is approve the recess, a recess is a continuation of the hearing and to take place one week from tonight, which is next Tuesday. Mayor Sayers stated we will now recess, Councilor Slempe Concurred. Meeting was recessed at 6:23 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**John Sayers, Mayor**

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**Council Member**

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**Mary Wood, Interim City Clerk**