



City of Freeport

### **MAY 26, 2020 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

This meeting was held by Teleconference due to the COVID 19 State of Emergency declared by the City Council.

The meeting was opened by Mayor Russ Barley at 12:00 noon.

Board members present: Mayor Barley, Elizabeth Haffner, Eddie Farris, Elizabeth Brannon, William McCormick and Amanda Green.

Staff members present: City Attorney Clay Adkinson, Planning Director Latilda Neel, Planning Technician Brooke Jackson.

The following candidates were interviewed by the City Council:

1. Andrew Hyatt
2. Rob Williamson
3. Jared Cobb

Each candidate was asked the following prepared questions:

1. What are your biggest work-related accomplishments? How were you able to attain them?
2. What are the two most difficult problems you have encountered in your previous positions? How did you solve them?
3. Can you give an example of creative problem-solving from your past work history?
4. What is your knowledge and experience with Planning, Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Codes?
5. Describe any experience you have had working with workforce and other affordable housing developments.
6. Describe any experience you have had working with public and private sectors in relation to economic development.
7. Describe any experience in grant-writing that you may have.
8. Describe your experience working with a State or Federal Government to procure grants and/or carry out projects?
9. How do you manage contracts with vendors and/or professional services; how do you ensure they are completing their obligations?
10. How would you describe Freeport?
11. As with any city, there are conflicting interests that exist within the population of Freeport. How do you maintain your neutrality if being persuaded or recruited by these opposing elements? How have you dealt with complaints from the public in your past positions? And how will you work with the citizens to strengthen and unify the City?



12. How do you deal with local politics? Have you ever had a negative job experience related to politics? If so, explain.
13. The City has several priorities already in place. How have you or will you with that into the normal tasks?
14. When, if ever, is it appropriate to place a routine matter covered by policies on the city council agenda? And how would you handle it when a policy is unclear?
15. What relationship would you envision between yourself, your staff, the Mayor and Council?
16. How do you feel about working with county, state and federal legislators?
17. What relationships would you envision between the City and other governmental entities? And what techniques
18. What are your three main professional goals for the next five to ten years?
19. What do you believe makes you a superior candidate for this position?
20. What are your salary expectations?
21. If hired, how soon could you relocate?
22. Is there anything that you would like for the Council to know that may add to your interview questioning?

Following the interviews, the Council discussed next steps. The Council agreed among themselves that Hyatt and Cobb were the top two choices. The Council generally agreed that in-person interviews would be helpful prior to making a final decision.

BOARD ACTION: Haffner motioned to set up in-person interviews with Andrew Hyatt and Jared Cobb. Green seconded the motion. All ayes: motion carried.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm.

CITY OF FREEPORT

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK

