



ELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR



City Council Meeting
December 17, 2024

Recommendation

It is recommended by the City Attorney and City Clerk that the newly-comprised Council elect a Mayor, and then a Vice Mayor, as required by the City Charter and City Council Manual of Procedures and Protocols.

Election of New Mayor and Vice Mayor

Sections 6 and 15 of the City Charter require that immediately following the induction of new Council members, the newly-constituted Council elects one of its members to serve as Mayor for a two-year term, and another member to serve as Vice Mayor for a one-year term, or until a successor Mayor or Vice Mayor is chosen. Section 15 of the City Charter and the Council Manual of Procedures and Protocols provide the procedures for the election of Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Procedure

Section XII of the Council Manual of Procedures and Protocols establishes the following procedure:

- a. The incumbent Mayor acts as the Presiding Officer and calls for nominations for a new Mayor.
- b. Each nomination must receive a second and be accepted by the nominee.
- c. If only one Council Member has been nominated, the Presiding Officer declares that individual to be the newly-elected Mayor by unanimous consent.
- d. If two or more Council Members have been nominated, election is by process of elimination as follows:

Procedure (cont'd)

- Each Council Member shall vote by ballot for a number of nominees that equals one fewer than the total number of nominees.
- Nominees receiving one vote or no votes are eliminated.
- Subsequent votes shall be taken by ballot with each Council Member voting for one fewer nominee than voted for in the previous round. Only nominees not eliminated may be voted upon.
- Once a single nominee receives a majority vote, the Presiding Officer shall declare that nominee the newly-elected Mayor and then pass the gavel to the new Mayor.

f. The new Mayor then calls for nominations for a new Vice Mayor using the same process.

Recommended Additional Process if Needed

- The existing rules do not provide a process for Council to move forward in every possible situation.
 - For example: 3 nominees and a 3-2-2 vote.
- Recommended additional process Council may choose to adopt for use this evening if there is a tie that cannot be resolved using the existing rules:
 - Run-off vote, by ballot, to eliminate one of the two nominees tied with the lowest votes
 - Need to adopt process by motion.