

City of Hyattsville Board of Supervisors of Elections

Wednesday, June 4, 2024: 4pm

IN PERSON MEETING

City Building, 3rd Floor Mayor's Office

AGENDA

Attendees:

- City Staff
 - Nate Groenendyk
 - Laura Reams
- Board Members
 - Juan Castillo
 - Lisa Pineda
 - Greta Mosher
 - Zach Peters

Call to Order:

- Zach Peters called the meeting to order at 4:08.

News:

- Juan Castillo shared that he was resigning from BOSE as he was moving away from Hyattsville. This meeting was his last meeting as a board member.
- Nate Groenendyk shared that he was officially selected as the new City Clerk.
- Laura Reams shared that she had officially transitioned to the Deputy City Administrator.

Board Vacancy:

- With Mr. Castillo's departure, the Board briefly discussed ideas for back-filling a board member position. No decisions or action items were discussed.

Campaign Finance Reports:

- Clerk Groenendyk shared that there was movement with some outstanding campaign finance reports but there were still outstanding reports to be finalized. No action items from BOSE were needed.

Discussion of Potential Charter/Code Changes:

- Given that two of the four present BOSE members were absent at the previous meeting, DCA Reams shared a PPT presentation that walked through the potential charter and code changes that BOSE had been discussing and finalizing:
 - Minor changes were proposed to clean up language around:
 - terms for City Council Members
 - vote by mail elections (including all VBM elections and traditional elections in which absentee ballots are requested)
 - Other minor changes that had no functional change to the code or charter were also discussed.
 - Major changes were discussed regarding how to fill vacancies to both Mayor and Council Member positions. These proposals had been reviewed by the City Attorney:
 - Mayoral vacancy proposal:
 - If the Mayor position is vacated more than 1 year before a regularly scheduled election, a special election would be needed.
 - If the Mayor position is vacated less than 1 year before a regularly scheduled election, a special election would not be needed.
 - Council Member vacancy proposal:

- If a CM position is vacated, and the other CM is still in place for that ward, no special election is needed and the position remains vacated until the next election, or...
 - If a CM position is vacated and there are no remaining CMs for that ward (both are vacant), a special election is required. All vacant positions would be put on the ballot for this special election.
 - If a CM position is vacated a Council could not meet quorum, a special election would be required and all vacant positions would be put on the ballot for this special election.
- Next steps:
 - Clerk Groenendyk and DCA Reams were planning to find time with current CMs to float these proposed changes and get their feedback.
 - BOSE discussed that final proposals would need to undergo further Council review (including a presentation and discussion at a Council meeting), public comment, and further review as required by the City Charter. We discussed hopefully working through these steps to gain full adoption of the Charter by October and the Code by November.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.