

MINUTES

PORT LABELLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

August 26, 2020

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Port LaBelle Community Development District was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 by Chairman, Martinez who verified a quorum was present and the meeting had been legally advertised.

Those present at the meeting were:

Jason Martinez – Chairman & Board Member
Jeff Perry – Vice Chair & Board Member
David Capitanio – Assistant Secretary & Board Member
Nancy Imhoff – Secretary & Board Member (Via phone)
Judi Kennington-Korf – General Manager
Lupe Taylor – District Recording Secretary
Beverly Gray – District Attorney
Andy Higginbotham – District Accountant
Others – Public on Conference Call Service (Via phone, see attached list)

The meeting opened with prayer led by Ms. Kennington-Korf followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Martinez read into the record a statement about the COVID-19 pandemic and the way the meeting will be conducted. The building has been sanitized to the best of our ability. Supervisors and staff are wearing masks or protective facial coverings while maintaining safe distancing measures. Due to the limited size of the room and the necessity to maintain safe distances, a limited number of people will be in the Board room while the meeting is taking place.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to interview residents interested in becoming a Supervisor on the Board. Candidates will be informed of the Seat 4 Supervisor selection after the Board meeting.

Chairman Martinez asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

Chairman Martinez advised Ms. Kennington-Korf worked with the District Attorney on suggested rules of selection. They are as follows:

1. Interviews will last no longer than :15 per candidate. A timer will be used.
2. At the conclusion of the interviews, a Supervisor may nominate one candidate. If the first nomination fails to receive three votes, a Supervisor may nominate a second candidate.
3. At the conclusion of the discussion, absent statutory exclusions from voting, a Supervisor must vote on one nominee.
4. If a single candidate does not receive three votes, the subject will be readdressed at a future Board meeting. (Note: Three votes are necessary because four Supervisors are present.)

Attorney Beverly Grady clarified under #3 each supervisor must vote on each nomination made, once there are three votes in favor of a nominee, that person will be selected as the seat 4 supervisor.

Upon motion duly made by Vice Chairman Perry seconded by Supervisor Capitanio and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED AND APPROVED the rules of selection are accepted as presented.

Ms. Kennington-Korf introduced the first candidate, Ms. Sherry Parantha, who has been a resident of the District for 14 years and has worked for the school board 25 years.

Ms. Parantha introduced herself and gave an overview of her employment, education, family and her committee to the community.

Supervisor Capitanio asked the candidate what her knowledge was on the responsibilities of the District. Ms. Parantha responded that her understanding of the services provided were roads, streetlights, illegal dumping and was not sure of the other District responsibilities. Supervisor Capitanio advised roads are one of the top priorities and is very costly. The candidate was asked if she knew what the cost would be to re-do all the roads in the district. Ms. Parantha estimated one million dollars.

Chairman Martinez asked what would her role as operations specialist would bring to the Board. Ms. Parantha advised her ability to solve problems, work with others to find the best financial way to resolve the issue as well as her commitment to the community.

Chairman Martinez asked if there were any recommendation she could make to the Board. Ms. Parantha stated more road work would improve the community and make it more inviting.

Supervisor Imhoff asked if the candidate was aware of the Districts' meeting schedule further clarifying the meetings are quarterly, with two budget meetings in September and other special meetings as needed. Ms. Parantha advised the meeting schedule was not an issue for her.

Chairman Martinez thanked Ms. Parantha for interviewing and advised the Board would contact all candidates once a decision was made.

Ms. Kennington-Korf introduced the second candidate, Mr. Merlin Briner, who has been a resident of Port LaBelle for 10 years and is a retired attorney.

Mr. Briner gave an overview of his employment, education, experience working on other Boards and volunteer activities in the community.

Chairman Martinez asked with the experience of working on other boards and a law degree what value would he be able to add to the Board. Mr. Briner replied the experience of working on other boards and working with good people would add value to the Districts Board.

Supervisor Capitanio asked the candidate what his knowledge was on the responsibilities of the District. Mr. Briner advised he was familiar with some of the responsibilities but was not up to date on all of the Boards' responsibilities. Supervisor Capitanio advised roads are one of the top priorities and is very costly. The candidate was asked if he knew the cost to re-do all the roads in the District. Mr. Briner replied millions as he was not sure of the mileage in the District.

Chairman Martinez thanked Mr. Briner for interviewing and advised the Board would contact candidates once a decision was made.

Ms. Kennington-Korf introduced the third candidate, Ms. Cathy Perry who has been a resident of the District for 16 years and has been a residential mortgage loan originator and in real estate business for the past 20 years.

Ms. Perry introduced herself and gave an overview of her employment, education, volunteering in the community and family.

Supervisor Imhoff asked the candidate about her knowledge on the responsibilities of the District Board and issues the District faces with roads. She clarified the Board meets quarterly and has two budget meetings and other special meetings as needed. Ms. Perry replied she reviewed the Districts responsibilities and understands there may be more. She stated roads are in need of work and is sure the cost is high as she saw when reviewing the budget for the past two years. The meeting schedule is feasible.

Vice Chairman Perry asked the candidate what strengths from her background she would bring to the Board. Ms. Perry replied her interest in the community and its growth.

Chairman Martinez asked what advise she could offer the Board. Ms. Perry replied her strength was in budgeting and looking for other sources of potential funding.

Chairman Martinez thanked Ms. Perry for interviewing and advised the Board would contact candidates once a decision was made.

Ms. Kennington-Korf introduced the fourth candidate, Mr. Brent Stevens who has been a resident of the District for 4 years and has worked for the Lee County Clerk of Courts for the past 3 years.

Mr. Stevens introduced himself and gave an overview of his employment, education, volunteering and community involvement.

Supervisor Capitanio asked the candidate to explain how you're his work skills tie in with the Districts Board. Mr. Stevens replied there are three I's: innovation, involvement and integrity. He stated he was involvement in the community and would like to see this Board more involved with the community and its youth; integrity is honesty if the answer is not known, he would seek an answer; and innovation explaining he would look for ways to spent less and gain more. This is the direction he would like to help this board going forward.

Chairman Martinez asked if the candidate was aware of the meeting schedule for the District and would it hinder his ability to attend meetings. Mr. Steven advised the meeting schedule would not conflict with his personal schedule nor on the county fire department.

Supervisor Capitanio asked the candidate what his knowledge was on the responsibilities of the District. Mr. Stevens advised he was and received clarity on some of the road responsibilities. Supervisor Capitanio advised roads are one of the top priorities and is very costly. He asked, the candidate if he knew the cost to overlay all the roads in the district. Mr. Stevens replied forty million as he was not sure of the lane mileage. He would recommend a five- to fifteen-year plan and would recommend locking in a milling or tar rate if possible. He stated he wanted to come in with a different prospective and not a hindrance.

Chairman Martinez thanked Mr. Stevens for interviewing and advised the Board would contact I candidates once a decision was made.

Ms. Kennington-Korf introduced the fifth and final candidate, Ms. Julia Rodriguez-Howard who has been a resident of the District for 8 years and has worked with the State Attorney's Office for 23 years.

Ms. Rodriguez-Howard introduced herself and gave an overview of her employment, education, volunteering in the community and family.

Supervisor Capitanio asked the candidate about her knowledge of the District Board. Ms. Rodriguez-Howard advised roads, streetlight, mowing, illegal dumping and was not sure how many

other responsibilities the Board had. Supervisor Capitanio advised roads are one of the top priorities and is very costly. The candidate was asked if she knew the cost to overlay all the roads in the District. Ms. Rodriguez-Howard estimated five hundred thousand dollars but was not sure as she was unaware of how many miles of lane roads in the District.

Supervisor Imhoff asked if the candidate was aware of the meeting schedule. Ms. Rodriguez-Howard advised she was aware of the meeting schedule and had no problem with the schedule.

Chairman Martinez asked the candidate to expand on her Certified Public Managers Program and Federal Emergency Management Agency certification. Ms. Rodriguez-Howard replied the Certified Public Managers Program certification was a two-year course provided by the State Attorneys office and the FEMA program certification was also work related as she is the office liaison for the county EOC

Chairman Martinez thanked Ms. Rodriguez-Howard for interviewing and advised the Board would contact candidates once a decision was made.

After discussing the candidates, Chairman Martinez asked for nominations.

Vice Chairman Perry nominated Ms. Parantha, Supervisor Capitanio nominated Ms. Rodriguez-Howard.

Chairman Martinez asked if there were any other nominations, there was none.

Upon motion duly made by Supervisor Imhoff seconded by Supervisor Capitanio and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED AND APPROVED the nominations process is closed at this time.

Chairman Martinez called for a vote on the nominees: first nominee is Ms. Parantha
Vice Chairman Perry – Yes
Supervisor Imhoff – Yes
Supervisor Capitanio – No
Chairman Martinez - Yes

Chairman Martinez clarified according to the rules, the first nominee to receive three votes is elected to the Board and therefore, Ms. Parantha was appointed to the Seat 4 Board seat.

Chairman Martinez asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:45

ATTEST:



Jason Martinez, Chairman



Maria Taylor, Recording Secretary