

MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING FOR INTERVIEWS FOR CITY OF LA CRESCENT POLICE CHIEF  
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA  
AUGUST 4, 2014  
2:00 PM

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Special Meeting for interviews for City of La Crescent Police Chief was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 2:00 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, August 4, 2014, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following members were present: Members Bernie Buehler, John Graf, Greg Husmann, Dale Williams, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: none. Also present was City Administrator Bill Waller and City Attorney Skip Wieser.

**POLICE CHIEF INTERVIEWS**

City Administrator Waller gave an overview of the question and answer process for the Council and described that Administration will read the same questions to each candidate. City Attorney Wieser discussed interview sheets are public documents and comments should relate to the questions and answers. The first candidate interview with Geoffrey Wyatt began at 2:07 PM. Upon completion of the interview, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, to recess the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graff	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting recessed at 2:36 PM.

The Meeting reconvened at 2:55 PM. The second candidate interview with Brian Swedberg began at 3:00 PM. Upon completion of the interview, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, to recess the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graff	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting recessed at 3:35 PM.

The Meeting reconvened at 3:55 PM. The third candidate interview with Timothy Ryan began at 4:00 PM. Upon completion of the interview, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, to recess the meeting and reconvene at 5:25 PM. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graff	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting recessed at 4:45 PM.

The Meeting reconvened and was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:25 PM. The fourth candidate interview with Doug Stavenau began at 5:30 PM. Upon completion of the interview, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Graf, to recess the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graff	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting recessed at 5:50 PM.

The Meeting reconvened at 6:25 PM. The fifth candidate interview with Jason Mahairas began at 6:30 PM. The final interview was completed at 7:00 PM.

At the conclusion of the interviews, discussion regarding the candidates began at 7:02 PM. Each Council Member was asked to indicate which candidates they felt were most qualified and why. Following an extended discussion, the Council made the following findings of facts:

1. Doug Stavenau expressed a strong interest in the field of law enforcement;
2. Doug Stavenau articulated responses that demonstrated an understanding of the needs of the position and the City;
3. Doug Stavenau demonstrated excitement about the position;
4. Doug Stavenau has the ability to start working immediately with the La Crescent Police Department;
5. Doug Stavenau has familiarity with existing City personnel and the City to begin working on the first day and has familiarity with the City budget; and
6. Doug Stavenau committed to increase visibility and presence with the community during the interview.

Based on the above findings, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Graf as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF DOUG STAVENAU AS CHIEF OF THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT BASED ON THE ABOVE FINDINGS OF FACTS AND SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING: BACKGROUND AND REFERENCE CHECK; PSYCHOLOGICAL CHECK; PHYSICAL EXAM; PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING; AND PROBATION FOR ONE YEAR WITH A SIX MONTH REVIEW.**

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Member Husmann then made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

**MOTION TO OFFER DOUG STAVENAU AS CHIEF OF THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT TO START AT STEP 4 OF THE DEPARTMENT HEAD SALARY SCHEDULE FOR POLICE CHIEF/EMERGENCY COORDINATOR DIRECTOR.**

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Member Williams then made a motion, seconded by Member Buehler, to adjourn the meeting.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graff	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting duly adjourned at 7:26 PM.

APPROVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator