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**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY**

Damien Reino At Large, Position 1  
Steve Irving - Council President At Large, Position 2  
Wes Koklich At Large, Position 3

Lewis S. Key Mayor  
John Lyon Ward 1  
Bradley J. Humbert Ward 2  
Jose Garcia Ward 3

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**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER**  
**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

**February 26, 2024**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in a special session on February 26, 2024 in the Albee Room of the City Library, 8 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Steve Irving, Brad Humbert, John Lyon, Wes Koklich and Damien Reino.

Councilor Jose Garcia was absent.

Staff member present was: Assistant City Manager/City Recorder Leanne Steadman.

Guests and citizens present were: Patty Key, Kay West, Gail Beeson, Randy Reese, Paul Seaquist, Tammy Seaquist, Kenneth Jenkins and Cliff Moore of Prothman via Zoom and phone.

Representing the news media were: Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald and Sheila Hagar of the East Oregonian.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660 (2)(a)**

Mayor Key announced the City Council was adjourning to an executive session at 7:01 p.m. at the office of the City Manager at City Hall due to the logistics and lack of privacy in the Albee Room. The meeting was held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(a) which allows the Council to hold an executive session to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. He stated while members of the press were allowed to attend, they, as well as all council members and staff in attendance were reminded that all discussions held during executive session were to remain confidential and not to be discussed or written outside the room.

The council returned to open session at 7:42 p.m. in the Albee Room.

Councilor Reino motioned for the city council to move forward with interviewing city manager candidates one, two, three, four and five as an alternate. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Councilor Humbert stated the council was not trying to be secretive with the candidate information, but was being sensitive to the fact that there could be harmful ramifications on their current employment if their names were released at this time.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the candidate's general locations.

Prothman Representative Cliff Moore stated he will contact the perspective candidates and inform them they are moving on to the interview process. He then shared he would also be asking the candidates if they approve for their names to be released as a finalist and he would be getting that

information to Assistant City Manager (ACM) Leanne Steadman for a press release. He then listed other details for the day of the meet and greet and interviews.

Tammy Seaquist, 684 College - asked how the council felt about the candidates.

Councilor Lyon stated he believed the city will end up with a good city manager.

Councilor Humbert stated he also felt there were good candidates.

Paul Seaquist, 684 College - asked if there was a plan to visit the town of the final candidate. He stated they could look good on paper but visiting the town could give you a better understanding of their work.

There was a brief discussion regarding visiting the candidates' current city.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

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Lewis S. Key, Mayor