

SOUTH WEBER CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: 15 July 2008

TIME COMMENCED: 5:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Woodbury

PRAYER: Councilmember Peterson

PRESENT:	MAYOR (Outgoing):	Joseph Gertge
	MAYOR (Taking office):	Brent Petersen
	COUNCILMEMBERS:	Scott Peterson
		Michael Poff (Mayor pro tem during interim)
		Farrell Poll
		Scott Woodbury
	CITY MANAGER:	Matt Dixon
	CITY RECORDER:	Erika Ahlstrom

RECUSED: COUNCILMEMBER: David Thomas

Minutes transcribed by Erika Ahlstrom.

VISITORS: Brent Petersen, Jan Petersen, Alisha Speakman, Billy Jo Speakman, Iris Petersen, Connie Monroe, Jeff Monroe, Ruth Malan, Barney Tanner, Val Petersen, Reuel Alder.

Councilmember Thomas recused himself from participating as a councilmember at the meeting because he has submitted his name for appointment as Mayor.

Mayor Gertge stated he will be officially resigning tonight.

Councilmember Poff addressed Mayor Gertge on behalf of the city and the City Council, stating he would like to recognize Joe for his many years as Mayor, as well as the years he served on the Planning Commission. Councilmember Poff said he has great respect for Mayor Gertge, and he presented him with a plaque and an eagle statue from the city.

Mayor Gertge said during his time as mayor he tried to make win-win situations as often as he could. He said that when he couldn't then he tried to do what is right. Mayor Gertge expressed that he hoped he represent the people well. He said it has been an honor to be involved with the numerous boards and committees on which he has served, and in his interaction with those organizations he never met anyone who wasn't trying to do a good job. M

Mayor Gertge expressed that most of all he regrets leaving the city staff as it is like leaving family. He said he is ready to focus on his family and his new job. He wished the best to the new mayor and the Council in carrying on with the affairs of the city.

Councilmember Peterson said Joe is a man of integrity and is somebody who does the right thing, which is hard to do when there are public pressures. He said he looks up to Joe in that regard. He wished Joe and his family well.

Councilmember Woodbury said he has known Joe in many capacities, and he is a man who is beyond reproach. He said he thinks of him as a brother and he can hardly wait for him to get back.

Councilmember Poll said he agrees 100% with the previous comments. He said he appreciates Joe's kindness, gentleness and big heart. He said Joe's vision and great people skills have helped improve the city.

Councilmember Poff said Joe is a good man, was a good mayor, and this was a fun council to be on under his direction.

Councilmember Thomas said as a senator he has interaction with Joe and he noted that Joe was always looking out for the welfare of the city. He said no one can replace what Joe has done for the city.

Matt said that the staff has always felt the trust and support of Mayor Gertge. He added that we are going to miss the "Joe Jokes." Matt said it is hard to see him go.

Joe Gertge left the meeting at this time.

PRESENTATIONS BY APPLICANTS FOR MAYORAL APPOINTMENT:

Reuel Alder – Mr. Alder said he worked for the Air Force in the development of software, which continues to be used. He stated he is concerned about the cost of gas and if the community pulled together through adding a fee to utility bills, they could look at alternative energy sources, such as a windmill at the mouth of the canyon. Mr. Alder said it is important that leadership supports initiative. He said this is the motivation for applying for position of Mayor.

Jeff G. Monroe – Mr. Monroe said that nobody is going to be able to fill Mayor Gertge's shoes. He said he has always enjoyed being able to serve as a part of the community. Mr. Monroe said if you are going to live in a community you should be a part of the community. He is grateful he has been able to serve in the past on committees and on the council. Mr. Monroe said he is grateful for the work of the Council. He said just recently having been on the Council he is familiar with what is going on in the city, and he really enjoyed being on the Council and would appreciate consideration.

Brent V. Petersen – Mr. Petersen thanked the Council for their service. He indicated that his years in leadership and administrative positions has prepared him to serve. He said it is critical that we implement the economic development. He is associated with the resources that are available to do that, i.e. Davis Business Alliance and Davis Chamber of Commerce. He also wants to be a part of the governor's goal to improve the environment. Mr. Petersen believes the city needs to work on partnerships with Parsons and Geneva. He said the Council needs to be proactive in maintaining safe and secure community. He has been involved with NIMS, Homeland Security, and risk management. Mr. Petersen stated he tries to live with integrity, teamwork and equality.

David L. Thomas – Councilmember Thomas expressed that he is grateful to be able to stand before the Council to to elicit support for the position of mayor. He said what he could do as mayor that he cannot do as a councilmember is to have the “bully pulpit.” He said he could push forward things that a councilmember probably couldn’t, and have associations with other organizations in the county. Councilmember Thomas said his first priority is the gravel pits, and getting the Council to enforce the development agreement with Parsons. He said the second thing is economic development. He said we have plan, but we need and EDA in order to try to lure businesses into South Weber. Councilmember Thomas indicated another thing that is needed is a new city hall. He added lastly, emergency preparedness.

Councilmember Peterson asked the candidates the following questions: What specifically can you do for South Weber City? Where do you see the city in five years, ten years? What are three things you’d like to accomplish? or What are three opportunities or challenges you see that need to be addressed?

Councilmember Thomas said this is a tight knit community, truly a bedroom community, but we need some amenities. In ten years he sees an entrance corridor, possibly a lake with picturesque setting, and windmills at the lake. Issues in future years are gravel pits and city hall. Challenges are antiquated water systems and pipe structures and the need to replace infrastructure, which will be an ongoing issue in keeping up with growing population.

Mr. Petersen said it is critical for us to maintain the community culture, and to do that, we have to increase the tax base. In next five to ten years, infrastructure, safety and security, and surveillance will need to be addressed. Mr. Petersen questions how much longer the Davis County Sheriff’s Office can continue to provide service. He said all these issues come back to money, and in order to increase quality of life we need to be proactive in increasing the tax base.

Mr. Monroe said in order to keep the country living atmosphere when he have all this growth is to make sure we have a good plan behind us. There will be landowners that will want to develop, and the city needs to have a comprehensive plan that has a long term vision of the city. Mr. Monroe said we need to make sure our wants don’t come in front of our needs, stating the city needs to make sure essential day-to-day services are provided. He said economic development is a priority, and he has some background in bringing businesses in. Mr. Monroe said another priority is trails because it is getting to a point where people can’t get in their car and go up to the mountains to walk anymore.

Mr. Alder said his goal is self sufficiency. He said he envisions a community that works together to solve our problems instead of waiting for national government to solve them. He said we need to begin to take care of ourselves.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Councilmember Peterson at 5:57 p.m. to enter into a closed executive session in accordance UCA 52-4-205 to discuss character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of individual(s). The motion was seconded by

Councilmember Woodbury. Councilmembers Peterson, Poff, Poll and Woodbury voted yes. The motion carried.

The public City Council meeting reconvened at 8:58 p.m.

RESOLUTION 08-35: APPOINTMENT TO OFFICE OF MAYOR:

Councilmember Poff thanked the candidates, staff and visitors for their patience.

Councilmember Poll said this is difficult because he is a personal friend or acquaintance of all of the candidates for many years. He said each have great strengths they can bring to the city. He added that he hopes no matter what happens he can look at each of them and say they are friends and have admiration for each other.

Councilmember Peterson also added that this is very hard. He addressed the candidates, stating each of them have impeccable resumes and have been in positions that make them well qualified for this position.

Councilmember Peterson moved to appoint David Thomas as Mayor of South Weber City to replace Joe Gertge for the remainder of Joe Gertge’s term, by Resolution 08-35.

Councilmember Poll seconded the motion. Erika Ahlstrom called for a vote.

Councilmember Peterson voted yes, Councilmember Woodbury abstained,

Councilmember Poff voted no, Councilmember Poll voted yes. Motion fails 2 for, 1 against, 1 abstaining.

Councilmember Poff said he voted no because he feels that Councilmember Thomas is a valuable asset to the City Council and sees that service continuing in an effective way.

Councilmember Woodbury addressed Councilmember Thomas, saying he is having a hard time seeing him as mayor.

Councilmember Woodbury moved to appoint Brent Petersen as Mayor by Resolution 08-35. Councilmember Poff seconded the motion. Erika Ahlstrom called for the vote.

Councilmember Peterson voted no, Councilmember Woodbury voted yes, Councilmember Poff voted yes, Councilmember Poll voted yes. Motion passed 3 for, 1 against.

OATH OF OFFICE – Mayor Brent V. Petersen took the Oath of Office, administered by Erika Ahlstrom, City Recorder. Mayor Petersen thanked the City Council for appointing him as Mayor, and he pledged that he will do his best.

ADJOURN: Councilmember Thomas moved to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. Councilmember Woodbury seconded the motion. Councilmembers Peterson, Poff, Poll, Thomas, and Woodbury voted yes. The motion carried.

APPROVED: _____ **Date** 22 July 2008
Mayor: Brent V. Petersen

Attest: _____
City Recorder: Erika J. Ahlstrom