

# TOWN OF JEROME

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## MINUTES

### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JEROME TOWN COUNCIL

600 CLARK STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021 AT 2:00 PM

<p>ITEM #1: 2:04 (0:01)</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL</b></p> <p>Mayor/Chairperson to call meeting to order.</p> <p><i>Mayor Jack Dillenberg called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.</i></p> <p>Town Clerk to call and record the roll.</p> <p><i>Town Manager/Clerk Candace Gallagher called the roll. Present were Mayor Dillenberg, Vice Mayor Mandy Worth, and councilmembers Sage Harvey, Alex Barber, and Jane Moore.</i></p>
<p>ITEM #2: 2:04 (0:33)</p>	<p><b>INTERVIEW WITH CANDIDATE FOR ZONING ADMINISTRATOR</b></p> <p>Council will conduct an interview with Robert Gould for the position of Zoning Administrator and may make an appointment to that position.</p> <p><i>Mayor Dillenberg welcomed Mr. Gould, who was then asked questions by the Council.</i></p> <p><i>Councilmember Moore asked Mr. Gould about his experience with law and code enforcement. Mr. Gould said he oversaw code enforcement in Payson as well as Gila County. He said he tends to side with the customer/resident and that 10 years passed without any complaints about how he managed code enforcement.</i></p> <p><i>Mayor Dillenberg asked Mr. Gould how he would deal with an angry resident; he replied that he does not react to anger. He said after 30 years, he does not recall a single time anyone getting angry with him.</i></p> <p><i>Councilmember Harvey asked Mr. Gould if he had read the zoning ordinance. He said he had not yet read it and mentioned that he had written ordinances in the past. Councilmember Barber said Council would want him to be familiar with the town code, zoning ordinance, and general plan.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Harvey suggested Mr. Gould read the zoning ordinance to be sure he would want to enforce it. He laughed and said he would not have a choice but to enforce it. He planned to read the general plan first, then the ordinance.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Barber said Council continues to improve upon the ordinance and would appreciate Mr. Gould's experience to assist them with this. He said he has spent many hours revising ordinances.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Barber then talked about Jerome's National Historic Landmark designation and the importance of the zoning administrator's management of new construction so that it works with the town policies and builders stay with their approved plans. She then asked Mr. Gould about his experience with historic preservation. He said he helped establish the first historic preservation commission in Payson and helped write their ordinance as well as the town's design ordinance.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Barber asked if he has helped preserve a specific historic structure. He said during the redevelopment of Main Street in Payson, the National Bank building was preserved, among other buildings. Ms. Barber then asked why historic preservation is important, and Mr. Gould said it was important to remember where we came from and our cultural past.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Moore asked Mr. Gould if he could be objective in applying town codes without discrimination, and what he would enjoy most and least about code enforcement. Mr. Gould said ambiguity in the ordinance is what makes the job tough—it must be clear to the "customer" or resident what is required. To communicate effectively solves any problem. He also said nepotism is not acceptable.</i></p> <p><i>Mayor Dillenberg informed Mr. Gould about the regular meetings per month and asked if he would be willing to relocate. He said he was fine with the meetings but was having a tough time finding housing.</i></p>

The mayor then asked him about salary requirements and when he could start. Mr. Gould was flexible with both. Ms. Gallagher said the salary was budgeted at approximately \$50,000.

Ms. Harvey stated that Jerome is extremely difficult when it comes to zoning because certain residents make it their business to know what is happening in the zoning department. She asked how Mr. Gould deals with difficult people and if he is one to ask for assistance if he needs it.

Mr. Gould said that there are people who don't want the government to tell them what to do with their private property, and that all he would do is communicate and reason with them and most of the time, they would cooperate. He said he was fine with asking for help.

Ms. Barber asked Mr. Gould about his computer skills. She then shared a few facts about the town, the uptick in tourism and vacation rentals, and warned him about the zoning administrator "hot seat."

Vice Mayor Worth [attended via Zoom, so was difficult to hear at times] asked Mr. Gould about his experience with CDBG funding. Mr. Gould said he has written several grants and even done door-to-door surveys for CDBG. She then asked him a few more questions, including his take on compatibility between residents and economic contributors. Mr. Gould said that the residents are the priority but not every issue is decided in their favor. He said it was a matter of knowing how to deal with conflict.

Ms. Moore requested that the floor be open to the public.

Ms. Barber asked building inspector Barry Wolstencroft what he thought of Mr. Gould and his replies to the questions. Mr. Wolstencroft replied that it seemed Mr. Gould had the experience.

Jerome resident Nancy Robinson made comments about the demands of the zoning administrator position and later asked Mr. Gould about his housing needs.

Ms. Moore asked Mr. Gould if he had ever worked on a renovation project like the Hotel Jerome. He said he had not.

Ms. Barber said it was important to have a zoning administrator who would confer with town staff and other locals before making hasty decisions on projects.

Vice Mayor Worth motioned to offer Mr. Gould the job. Ms. Barber second the motion.

Ms. Moore asked Mr. Gould to look at the zoning ordinance and general plan and offer feedback—and see if he would still want the job. She said they would want to review with him after six months.

Ms. Moore then asked if he would be bored with code enforcement and historic preservation. He said it is what he has mostly done and would be fine with it.

**Motion to offer Mr. Gould the zoning administrator position**

COUNCILMEMBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		X	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY			X			
MOORE			X			
WORTH	X		X			

Council took a 5-minute break.

**ITEM #3:  
2:54 (42:38)**

**INTERVIEW WITH CANDIDATES FOR MUNICIPAL MAGISTRATE**

Council will conduct interviews with Angela Napper and Catherine Kelley for the position of Municipal Magistrate and may make an appointment to that position.

[Ms. Kelley withdrew her application prior to the meeting.]

Mayor Dillenberg introduced Ms. Napper.

Ms. Barber asked Ms. Napper if she was familiar with Jerome's court and its operation. Ms. Napper said she was and that she had observed the court last October.

Ms. Barber asked Ms. Napper why she wanted the position. Ms. Napper shared her experience and where she has worked and said it felt like the natural, next step in her career to have her own court and that her talents could be put to effective use in a community like Jerome. She added that it would be a good place to start and maybe finish her career.

Ms. Barber then asked Ms. Napper to describe her communication skills. Ms. Napper replied that she prides herself on her ability to collaborate with defendants, lawyers, paralegals, and others. She explained that education and open dialogue were important to her, to a point, and not a "put up or shut up" attitude.

Ms. Harvey asked what challenges Ms. Napper would face if she were to take the position. Ms. Napper said her greatest learning curve would be working with the budgetary piece. Ms. Harvey asked Ms. Gallagher if this were something with which she could assist. Ms. Gallagher said she and Finance Manager Melanie Atkin could help.

Vice Mayor Worth asked Ms. Napper to talk about her work history. Ms. Napper talked about knowing attorney Rob Pecharich and her first job in high school when she worked in his law office. She said as a criminal defense attorney in Coconino County, many cases involved substance abuse issues—but there was no effective tool to assess or address the problem. As a three-year attorney at the age of 28, she produced a grant proposal and had a university student do rudimentary assessments to figure out the needs. She said this helped provide incentive to the criminals to seek treatment and help clear their record, and though it took additional effort and buy-in at all levels, she was grateful to be part of it.

Ms. Moore asked Ms. Napper to describe a situation where she had to support a legal position that conflicted with her personal beliefs. Ms. Napper said she is often asked the “cocktail party” question of how she can defend someone she knows is guilty, and her answer is that we have a constitution for this reason, to protect the rights of everyone. Ms. Napper said the most difficult cases are those that follow the law yet cause hardship for the person appearing in front of her.

Mayor Dillenberg said he was impressed with Ms. Napper’s experience and accomplishments. He asked how she deals with orders of protection and DUIs, and what is appropriate for a first-time versus a serial offender. Ms. Napper said for a first-timer, it is usually economics, and for serial offenders, it’s usually underlying issues. She said she takes every case seriously. As for orders of protection, Ms. Napper said she has been through several trainings, including lethality training, which taught her how to listen for tipoffs of endangerment, and that to be educated about domestic violence is key.

Mayor Dillenberg asked Ms. Napper if she has encountered questionable ethical behavior from professionals. She said that she has prosecuted ethical infractions, but as a judicial officer, has not had a lawyer challenge the ethics of law, although as an attorney, she has reported an unethical lawyer.

Ms. Harvey asked Ms. Napper if she would be available for 3 a.m. warrants, if needed. Ms. Napper said she would be.

Ms. Gallagher asked what salary Ms. Napper would be asking for. She said she would be fine with what Judge Dwyer was making.

Mayor Dillenberg said Ms. Napper would be an outstanding addition to the community. Ms. Napper said she would be humbled by the opportunity.

**Motion to offer Ms. Napper the municipal magistrate position**

COUNCILMEMBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		X	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY			X			
MOORE			X			
WORTH	X		X			

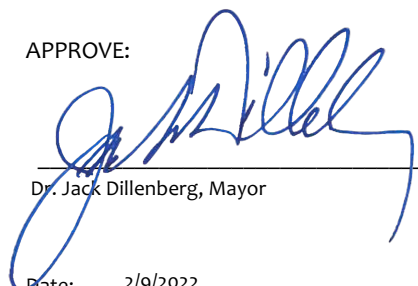
ITEM #4:

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn at 3:20 p.m.**

COUNCILMEMBER	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		X	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	X		X			
MOORE			X			
WORTH			X			

APPROVE:



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Dr. Jack Dillenberg, Mayor

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Candace B. Gallagher, CMC, Town Manager/Clerk

Date: 2/9/2022