

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012 AT 9:30 A.M.

The meeting was called to order in special session by Mayor Powers with the following members present: Harrington, Peterson, Odom, Niemeyer, Glen, Krings, Oatman, Goebel. Absent: None.

Moved by Niemeyer, seconded by Glen that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the southeast wall of the City Council Chambers and that prior to this meeting a notice was placed in the Hastings Tribune on October 31, 2012, that notice was posted in three public places, that each Councilmember and Mayor received a copy of the proposed agenda and that an agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection and that said meeting is held in open session. Roll Call: Ayes: Harrington, Peterson, Odom, Niemeyer, Glen, Krings, Oatman, Goebel. Nays: None. The motion carried.

The Mayor stated he is pleased to present to the City Council the name of Peter Kortum as his appointment to the position of Police Chief for the City of Hastings. The Council has been given a copy of Mr. Kortum's resume. Mr. Kortum was the unanimous choice of the Committee and the City Administrator. Mr. Kortum was selected from an applicant pool of 27 individuals. The Committee interviewed four final candidates (one from Illinois, two great candidates from Hastings and Mr. Kortum). We want to thank all the applicants for their interest. Mr. Kortum comes to us from the City of Grand Island where he has served on their Police Department since 1974, he is currently serving as a Captain. His experience and education have helped prepare him to be successful as our next Police Chief. The Mayor thanked the staff and members of the Interview Committee for their efforts in this process.

Moved by Odom, seconded by Harrington that the Mayor's appointment of Peter Kortum as Police Chief be approved.

The Mayor stated Mr. Kortum's appointment is today, but he will begin employment on Monday, December 3, 2012 and will receive the following:

- Annual Salary of \$85,190.56, Step 6 on the Pay Plan
- Uniform Allowance of \$900 Annually
- Pension as per State Statute, Defined Contribution
- Establish residency in Hastings no later than six months following appointment
- Take home vehicle to be used only for City business
- Vacation, Sick Leave as per City of Hastings Code
- Actual moving expenses not to exceed \$1,000
- Two weeks of accrued vacation upon appointment

Councilman Odom congratulated Mr. Kortum on his appointment and thanked the Mayor, City Administrator and Councilmembers Glen and Krings for serving on the committee. Councilman Odom stated he believes that all of the people that were involved in this process have done a great job of following the procedure and bringing it to us. Councilman Odom stated he looks forward to our great Police Department moving up to the next level and improving as we go through the years.

The Mayor stated the Committee consisted of the Mayor, City Administrator, Councilman Glen, Councilman Krings, Dan Hoins, a former Police Chief and current City Administrator at Papillion, Kim Kern who is the Director of Mental Health Services at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital and Neal Rusher who is Assistant Principal at the Hastings Middle School. We met a number of times, interviewed our candidates a number of times and talked to them at different points. After we finished all the interviews, we had two or three discussions to talk about the procedure and what we thought. We tossed this around quite extensively, it is an in depth procedure because we wanted to make sure we covered all the bases and believes we have done that. The Mayor stated we are looking forward to Mr. Kortum joining us.

Vote on the motion. Roll Call: Ayes: Harrington, Peterson, Odom, Niemeyer, Glen, Krings, Oatman, Goebel. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Peter Kortum thanked the Mayor and Council and also thanked members of the Hastings Police Department for coming to the meeting this morning. Mr. Kortum stated he is excited for the job obviously, but is really humbled too; it is quite an honor. Mr. Kortum stated he views this as just a way for him to personally continue to grow and professionally to continue to grow. Mr. Kortum stated his promise is that he will do that everyday. Councilman Odom is correct when he talks about the outstanding Police Department, because he had spent a little time preparing himself and doing a little homework with some people in the community about Hastings and about the Police Department. One thing he found is people were excited to talk about Hastings and they love living here, they love their life here and they really like their Police Department. The word service kept coming up and that is something he really wanted to hear. Mr. Kortum stated he must say that he was a little nervous through that process because one of the businessmen was telling him the same thing, how things were good, it is a great community and the Police Department is good. He also said he knew that the new Police Chief would do some things, but one of his biggest challenges is don't come in here and screw it up. Mr. Kortum stated nervousness does describe he and his wife, Mary, a little bit; for him for the reasons he just said and for Mary it is the move here. For awhile Mary will be known as the "Chief's wife" and he can tell you that is not her life today. She is very well established and loved in our community, and he does envision that in a couple of year's that people in Hastings will be asking her "what does your husband do for a living". Mr. Kortum stated Hastings will love Mary Kortum.

Mr. Kortum did introduce his wife, Mary and his son, Rich, who resides in Lincoln. They also

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have three other grown sons, one lives with his wife and three children in Fairfax, Virginia, another lives in Seattle, Washington and the youngest son is in South Haven, Mississippi.

The Mayor stated Mary Kortum has had a distinguished career in education at the Grand Island schools and believes she will be a wonderful addition to our educational community here.

Moved by Odom, seconded by Krings there being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourn at 9:45 A.M. Roll Call: Ayes: Harrington, Peterson, Odom, Niemeyer, Glen, Krings, Oatman, Goebel. Nays: None. The motion carried.

APPROVED:

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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