

**Special Council Meeting  
Council Chambers, Ely City Hall  
May 1, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Novak called the Special Council Meeting to order at 11:30am

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Police Chief Interviews**

The Council discussed and decided on the interview questions.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 11:50am.

Mayor Novak called the meeting back to order at 12:05pm.

The Council interviewed George Burger for Police Chief.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 1:05pm.

Mayor Novak called the meeting back to order at 1:30pm.

The Council interviewed John Swenson for Police Chief.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 2:25pm.

Mayor Novak called the meeting back to order at 2:58pm.

The Council interviewed Chad Houde for Police Chief.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 3:31pm.

Mayor Novak called the meeting back to order at 4:00pm.

The Council interviewed Adam Borchert for Police Chief.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 4:42pm.

Mayor Novak called the meeting back to order at 5:00pm.

Mayor Novak indicated that the council will use a White Ballot form of voting for the Police Chief.

**Round One:**

A.Forsman: George Burger	
Kess: Chad Houde	George Burger: 3 Votes
Debeltz: George Burger	Chad Houde: 2 Votes
Omerza: Chad Houde	Adam Borchert: 1 Vote
Callen: Adam Borchert	John Swenson: 1 Vote
Campbell: George Burger	
Mayor Novak: John Swenson	

Round Two:

A.Forsman: George Burger	
Kess: Chad Houde	George Burger: 3 Votes
Debeltz: George Burger	Chad Houde: 2 Votes
Omerza: Chad Houde	Adam Borchert: 2 Vote
Callen: Adam Borchert	John Swenson: 0 Votes
Campbell: George Burger	
Mayor Novak: Adam Borchert	

**A.Forsman/Kess moved to eliminate John Swenson for the position of Police Chief. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Round Three:

A.Forsman: George Burger	
Kess: Chad Houde	George Burger: 3 Votes
Debeltz: George Burger	Chad Houde: 2 Votes
Omerza: Chad Houde	Adam Borchert: 2 Votes
Callen: Adam Borchert	
Campbell: George Burger	
Mayor Novak: Adam Borchert	

A.Forsman stated that he could support all three of these candidates, this shows what great leadership we have in our department.

Omerza stated some of the things she was looking for in the candidates were their body language and how they interviewed. There was one candidate that did not look her in the eye at all.

Kess stated that Burger came prepared and came with examples. Houde was more engaging and gave specific examples.

Debeltz indicated that Burger has done a lot and has had a lot of training in different areas.

Campbell stated that she thought Burger's interview was excellent, he is willing to lead and she believes his leadership is outstanding.

Omerza stated that we have three viable candidates that would be a great asset to our police department and community. Houde talked about leading by example, he gave examples that the other candidate did not. Omerza also commented on the things that Houde would change and bring back to the community.

Mayor Novak indicated that Burger did not give eye contact and he sees that as a lack of confidence. Novak would like to hear more about what he would plan to do as the Police Chief. Novak indicated that Swenson was very thorough with each answer. Borchert has been with multiple agencies and could bring some different ideas to Ely. Novak stated he has watch Houde grow from when he started with the department. Novak indicated that Houde came across as polished.

Callen stated that Borchert communicates well and is well trained in multiple areas. Borchert's experience with different departments and agencies would be a benefit to our department.

Round Four:

A.Forsman: George Burger	
Kess: Chad Houde	Adam Borchert: 3 Votes
Debeltz: Adam Borchert	George Burger: 2 Votes
Omerza: Chad Houde	Chad Houde: 2 Votes
Callen: Adam Borchert	
Campbell: George Burger	
Mayor Novak: Adam Borchert	

Round Five:

A.Forsman: Chad Houde	
Kess: Chad Houde	Adam Borchert: 3 Votes
Debeltz: Adam Borchert	Chad Houde: 3 Votes
Omerza: Chad Houde	George Burger: 1 Votes
Callen: Adam Borchert	
Campbell: George Burger	
Mayor Novak: Adam Borchert	

**Omerza/Callen moved to eliminate George Burger for the position of Police Chief. Motion Carried 5-2 with A.Forsman and Campbell voting No.**

Round Six:

A.Forsman: Chad Houde	
Kess: Chad Houde	Chad Houde: 4 Votes
Debeltz: Adam Borchert	Adam Borchert: 3 Votes
Omerza: Chad Houde	
Callen: Adam Borchert	
Campbell: Chad Houde	
Mayor Novak: Adam Borchert	

**Omerza/Kess moved to hire Chad Houde as the new Police Chief. Motion Carried 6-1 with Callen voting No.**

**Omerza/Debeltz moved to keep the 3 other finalists applications on file for a year. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

ADJOURN

Mayor Novak adjourned the special council meeting at 5:30pm.

Casey Velcheff  
Deputy Clerk