



# City of Maricopa

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## Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Special Meeting

**Mayor Christian Price**  
**Vice-Mayor Edward Farrell**  
**Councilmember Marvin L. Brown**  
**Councilmember Peggy Chapados**  
**Councilwoman Julia R. Gusse**  
**Councilmember Bridger Kimball**

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Thursday, May 29, 2014

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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**1. Call to Order**

*The City Council special meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.*

**2. Roll Call**

**Present** 6 - Mayor Christian Price, Vice Mayor Edward Farrell, Councilmember Marvin L. Brown, Councilmember Peggy J. Chapados, Councilwoman Julia R. Gusse, and Councilmember Bridger Kimball

**3. Agenda Items**

**3.1 APP 14-02**

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and possibly take action on selecting and swearing in one citizen to fill the vacancy on the City Council. Discussion and Action.

*Mayor Price announced the five applicants for the vacant council seat: Wade Beckstead (not present), Carl Diedrich, Dan Frank, Brad Hinton and Rosalin Sanhadja. He reviewed the process in detail. Next, he invited the candidates to introduce themselves.*

*The candidates provided an introductory statement.*

*Mayor Price asked the candidates to draw a number from the City Clerk to determine the order in which each candidate would be interviewed. The results were: Brad Hinton 1, Dan Frank 2, Carl Diedrich 3, and Rosalin Sanhadja 4.*

*Councilwoman Gusse motioned to enter into executive session for legal advice. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chapados. The City Council entered into executive session at 6:09 p.m.*

*Council reconvened at 6:31 p.m.*

*Councilwoman Gusse motioned to dismiss Carl Diedrich's application due to late submission. The motion failed for lack of a second.*

*Mayor Price asked the candidates to submit their cell phones to the City Clerk and wait their turn in the conference room.*

*Councilmember Chapados' question for the candidates was; "City Council has adopted a Code of Ethics, including the expectation to sign an Acknowledgement Statement upon being sworn into office. As a member of Council, what do you feel is*

*your personal responsibility in upholding the Ethics Code and how will you set an example for your fellow Council members?"*

*Mr. Hinton responded that part of being ethical is being honest and a team player. He stated he is ethical on a daily basis and it would not be difficult for him. He stated he has respect and gratitude for the community. He noted he will be honest, do things with integrity, research, and abide by the Code of Ethics.*

*Vice Mayor Farrell's question for the candidates was; "What experience and history as a public servant have you served in Maricopa, or anywhere else?"*

*Mr. Hinton responded that most of his experience is from working for the City of Maricopa. He gave a brief history of his employment with the city. He stated that he can be an asset and shed light and insight from his experience. He noted that his father has 20 years of experience as a town manager and as a result he understands government and local politics.*

*Mayor Price's question for the candidates was; "The city code claims that the role of councilmember is to be a "part time job", but most highly effective councilmembers will tell you it's more of a full time job! Please acquaint us with your current schedule and how you will make the necessary sacrifices to be present day or night, at all of the required council meetings, committee & sub-committee meetings, special meetings, engagements with your constituents, etc., in order to effectively move this city forward with the amount of work that still needs to be done?"*

*Mr. Hinton responded that he works full-time for Meritage Homes Development Services as a Land Development Manager and he is able to set his own schedule. He noted his employer is aware of his pursuit and they support him. He stated that while his family comes first, he is aware of what it takes and what it requires.*

*Councilmember Brown's question for the candidates was; "Why do you feel serving a five-month term of office is more compelling than a four-year term?"*

*Mr. Hinton responded that he saw a great opportunity for himself and he can be an asset. He stated that he is not ready to go through the effort of campaigning. He stated he is young in his career and if he gets the chance and likes the opportunity he would pursue it in the future.*

*Councilwoman Gusse's question to the candidates was; "I value higher education, what is your highest level of education completed? And how will your degree or education make you an asset on this council?"*

*Mr. Hinton responded that he has a Bachelor's of Science in Construction Management with Arizona State University, and combined with his work experience he can be an asset to the city.*

*Councilmember Kimball's question for the candidate's was; "As with any new job, the city council position comes with a learning curve. As you may be aware numerous things have changed within our municipality to include new management over the course of the past year or so. Given this information, please give one example of how in your work experience you have encountered a similar situation in which you had to learn a job, a skill or both in a very short amount of time in order to be as efficient and as effective as possible in that new role."*

*Mr. Hinton responded that during his experience with the city there were several city managers and directors, each with their own philosophies. He noted that he*

*continued to climb the ladder and grow within the city through the changes. He indicated he understands being a team player, taking whatever roles are necessary, and that he is very adaptable.*

*Mayor Price thanked Mr. Hinton and asked for the next candidate. Mr. Frank approached the podium.*

*Councilmember Kimball posed his question to Mr. Frank. Mr. Frank responded that when a practice leader left from his previous employment, he volunteered to fill in. He stated he had to jump in and learn things all at once and it was a great experience.*

*Councilwoman Gusse posed her question to Mr. Frank. Mr. Frank responded that he has a Bachelor's degree in engineering from ASU and considers himself a life time learner. He stated that his degree and background in civil engineering has taught him the requirements of a successful city and that he has a deep understanding of the aspects such as transportation, site design, drainage, and flood control.*

*Councilmember Brown posed his question to Mr. Frank. Mr. Frank responded that he does not see a 6 month term as more or less compelling. He stated he simply saw an opportunity and a need.*

*Mayor Price posed his question to Mr. Frank. Mr. Frank responded that his offices are located within the city and he has a flexible schedule. He stated he is able to take care of business as needed.*

*Vice Mayor Farrell posed his question to Mr. Frank. Mr. Frank responded that in 2005 he was a member of the Public Works Committee which later became the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). He stated he served in TAC until 2011, and was chair for the last 2 to 3 years. He added that he has served on the Central Arizona Mountain Rescue Association and MCSO's mountain rescue posse as a volunteer since 2001. He stated he has served on the board as secretary and president.*

*Councilmember Chapados posed her question to Mr. Frank. Mr. Frank responded that those in office should be held to higher standards, and it is one of his guiding principles to do things the best way possible. He stated he would have no problem signing an ethics agreement as he considers himself a highly ethical person.*

*Mayor Price thanked Mr. Frank and called the next candidate. Mr. Diedrich approached the podium.*

*Councilmember Chapados posed her question to Mr. Diedrich. Mr. Diedrich responded that any council member's actions or behavior that puts the city in a bad light falls in that purview and he would have no problem signing an ethics agreement.*

*Vice Mayor Farrell posed his question to Mr. Diedrich. Mr. Diedrich responded that when he moved to the City of Maricopa in 2005, he attended his first council meeting and met former Mayor Kelly Anderson who asked him to participate as chairman of the proposition 400 initiative. He stated that he ran for Maricopa Fire Board and served from 2006 to 2007. Next, he stated he was elected Councilmember in 2008 and served his full term. He stated that in 2012 he ran again for Mayor but was defeated by Mayor Price. He stated that he has tried to serve the city to the best of his capacity and continues to serve as a member of the Maricopa Education Foundation.*

*Mayor Price posed his question to Mr. Diedrich. Mr. Diedrich responded that because*

he has served before he is aware of the level of commitment. He noted that he is currently the General Manager for the Family Entertainment Center and establishes his own schedule. He stated he constantly juggles his schedule to meet all his responsibilities and made sure to always be present and active in every decision that needed to be made when he was a member of council.

Councilmember Brown posed his question to Mr. Diedrich. Mr. Diedrich responded that the psychological, physical, and emotional toll of a campaign season is not something he desires. He stated he already served four years and made an effort to continue that service. He noted that his skills and experience would limit the learning curve and he felt compelled to apply for the opportunity to serve without having to campaign.

Councilwoman Gusse posed her question to Mr. Diedrich. Mr. Diedrich stated that he does not have a degree but attended college at Ohio State University and the University of Phoenix. He stated he grew up with parents that valued education. He noted his parents encouraged him and his siblings to read, work together, communicate and play fair. He stated that his family education and serving for four years can be applied to the current position.

Councilmember Kimball posed his question to Mr. Diedrich. Mr. Diedrich responded that he began his career in a low-level center without any guidance and that within a year he changed the operations and promoted to the center in Mesa. He explained he had 5 different bosses in the company and learned to understand each of them and accommodate his style of management accordingly.

Mayor Price thanked Mr. Diedrich and called on the next candidate. Mrs. Sanhadja approached the podium.

Councilmember Kimball posed his question to Mrs. Sanhadja. Mrs. Sanhadja responded that when she worked for Ballard Sphar she dealt with redistricting concerns with no experience. She noted that a lot of her experience in the private sector always revolved around adapting quickly, and in her military experience it was an everyday situation.

Councilwoman Gusse thanked Mrs. Sanhadja for her service and posed her question. Mrs. Sanhadja responded that she has an Associate's degree and has attended leadership classes. She noted that her life experiences have contributed more to her education than anything else.

Councilmember Brown posed his question to Mrs. Sanhadja. Mrs. Sanhadja stated that a 4 year term is not more important than a 6 month term because every meeting attended and decision made affects the residents.

Mayor Price posed his question to Mrs. Sanhadja. Mrs. Sanhadja responded that one of her letters of recommendation came from her boss because she ensured the support and approval of those around her. She stated she is blessed with a job that allows her to accommodate her time to her family and community.

Vice Mayor Farrell posed his question to Mrs. Sanhadja. Mrs. Sanhadja responded that after serving in the military, she feels she will always serve. She stated that due to an illness of her daughter she stayed in the Ronald McDonald House and volunteered. As a volunteer she learned that there were a lot of families from Maricopa at the house and she learned she could help the city in many ways. She stated that her grandmother encouraged her to always help others and she strives to continually do so.

*Councilmember Chapados posed her question to Mrs. Sanhadja. Mrs. Sanhadja responded that in running for office candidates promise constituents that they will represent them. She responded that she intends to be an example for her children and promised to hold the position with the outmost integrity if selected.*

*Mayor Price thanked Mrs. Sanhadja. Council voted on their top two candidates and submitted their votes to the City Clerk. The results were: Mayor Price voted Dan Frank as his first choice and Brad Hinton as his second choice. Vice Mayor Farrell voted for Carl Diedrich as his first choice and Dan Frank as his second choice. Councilmember Brown voted for Carl Diedrich as his first choice and Brad Hinton as his second choice. Councilwoman Gusse voted for Dan Frank as her first choice and Rosalin Sanhadja as her second choice. Councilmember Kimball voted for Carl Diedrich as his first choice and Brad Hinton as his second choice. Councilmember Chapados voted for Dan Frank as her first choice and Brad Hinton as her second choice.*

*Mayor Price stated the top three candidates would advance (Dan Frank, Brad Hinton and Carl Diedrich) and thanked Rosalin Sanhadja for participating. Council moved to the second round of questions.*

*Councilmember Chapados posed a question to all three candidates; "Council has approved several citizen based advisory committees that act as an extension of this body. Please share your opinions on the importance on the roles of these committees."*

*Mr. Frank stated that, having served in TAC, committees are of the outmost importance in giving direction and input to Council.*

*Mr. Diedrich stated that he served in the Public Safety Committee and it was integral because it gave council input and understanding. He stated that the founding Council relied heavily in committees because it was a lot of work to start a city. He stated that it is a good thing for the city to have people come together and give their opinion.*

*Mr. Hinton stated that committees are great for the community as a whole, including staff and Council. He stated representatives are highly involved and provide professional input.*

*Councilwoman Gusse questioned Mr. Diedrich on previous behavior which she considered unethical.*

*Mr. Diedrich stated he was not present to address personal attacks and that he simply came forward to provide a service to the community.*

*Vice Mayor Farrell posed a question to all three candidates; "Upon being appointed, for the next 6 months, what will be your goals and objectives, if any, as a councilmember?"*

*Mr. Hinton responded that he intends to be an asset to all. He noted that with his knowledge and council and staff's vision, he can be a key team player to help make the right decisions. He noted he wants to listen to every side, be a voice, and use his knowledge.*

*Mr. Diedrich responded that 6 months is not enough time to start new initiatives and he would continue to support the current work of Mayor Price and the Council.*

*Mr. Frank responded that 6 months is a short time frame to push forward any plan or agenda. He noted he wants to serve the city in the best manner and represent by making good solid practical decisions.*

*Mayor Price inquired about Mr. Frank's experience with floodplain management. Mr. Frank responded that the bulk of his career has been in drainage and flood control. He gave a brief summary of his experience.*

*Mayor Price asked Mr. Diedrich how he intends to move forward with the city and help the council be cohesive considering his previous experience and the issues that arose in the last question addressed to him.*

*Mr. Diedrich stated that during his first term he focused on having an open mind, on being willing to change his mind, as well as trying to convince others to see things through his perspective. He stated that council needs to be willing to change their way of thinking to ensure they get the right answer. He stated he constantly tries to ask the right questions to move forward.*

*Mayor Price asked Mr. Hinton what was the actual opportunity for him and if he could anticipate problems from a micromanagement standpoint due to becoming a policy maker versus being former staff, and how he would bring the objectivity of the perspective of being staff.*

*Mr. Hinton responded that he enjoys the public sector and he sees this as an opportunity to get back to local government. He stated that he sees himself as an asset and can provide insight from the staff perspective. He stated he sees the opportunity to explore whether he would like sitting on the other side of the table and be an asset with his unique experience.*

*Mayor Price asked whether there would be any conflict of interests with his employer, and how they would deal with those issues. Mr. Hinton stated that he respects both sides and can step aside if a conflict of interests arises.*

*Vice Mayor Farrell asked Mr. Hinton, "As a councilmember do you see yourself working better with the staff or with the City Manager." Mr. Hinton stated that he understands his interaction would be mostly with the City Manager.*

*Councilwoman Gusse posed a question to all three candidates: "How do you plan on being a team player in order to get the necessary work done in the next months."*

*Mr. Frank stated that as a member of a rescue team he understands lives depend on working together. He stated that while working at Dibble he established relationships and worked closely with everyone. He stated that it would be one of his goals to build relationships with the council as well as move forward with city business.*

*Mr. Diedrich stated that the decisions that led to the development of Maricopa would not have happened if the members of the former council had not found a way to work together. He stated that they have to work as a team, as well as one on one, and final decisions have to be based on what is best for the city.*

*Mr. Hinton stated that it is important to listen to both sides to be a team player. He stated he has experience being a liaison, both with the floodplain and utilities, and his experience can be an asset.*

*Mayor Price asked Council to vote once more for their top candidate. The results were: Mayor Price voted for Dan Frank, Vice Mayor voted for Dan Frank,*

*Councilmember Brown voted for Carl Diedrich, Councilwoman Gusse voted for Dan Frank, Councilmember Kimball voted for Carl Diedrich, and Councilmember Chapados voted for Dan Frank. Mr. Frank received 4 votes and Mr. Diedrich received 2 votes, they moved on as the top two candidates.*

*Councilmember Chapados asked: "Maricopa is quickly approaching a population over 50,000. As a councilmember, what would be the top three things you would like to see Council focus on as we reach that milestone?"*

*Mr. Franks stated that there are a few challenges facing the city and noted that the city needs better retail sources, to move forward with 347 Grade Separation project, and minor transportation issues.*

*Mr. Diedrich stated that some of the things that are critical to the city are the 347 Grade Separation project, economic growth, bringing jobs, and the zoning code rewrite. He noted that the city is also responsible for education and it must partner in some way with education facilities to provide more options.*

*There were no further questions from Council. Council submitted their final votes. The results were: Mayor Price voted for Dan Frank, Vice Mayor voted for Dan Frank, Councilmember Brown voted for Carl Diedrich, Councilwoman Gusse voted for Dan Frank, Councilmember Kimball voted for Carl Diedrich, and Councilmember Chapados voted for Dan Frank. Mayor Price announced Mr. Frank received 4 votes, and introduced him as the new Councilmember.*

*Mr. Dan Frank was sworn into council by City Clerk Vanessa Bueras. Mayor Price thanked all the candidates for participating and thanked the public for attending.*

#### **4. Executive Session**

- 4.1 ES 14-15** The Maricopa City Council may go into executive session for the purpose of discussion or consultation with the City attorney regarding the application process to fill the vacancy on City Council pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).

#### **5. Adjournment**

*The City Council special meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.*

**A motion was made by Vice Mayor Edward Farrell, seconded by Councilwoman Julia R. Gusse, to Adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Certification of Minutes**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special meeting of the City Council of Maricopa, Arizona, held on the 29 day of May, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2014.

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**Vanessa Bueras**  
City Clerk