

MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MONTCLAIR CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER  
18, 2019, AT 5:45 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
5111 BENITO STREET, MONTCLAIR, CALIFORNIA

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I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dutrey called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Dutrey; Mayor Pro Tem Raft; Council Members Ruh and Johnson

City Manager Starr; City Attorney Robbins; City Clerk Phillips

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Mr. Dominic Mistretta, Montclair Firefighters' Association (MFFA)**, stated MFFA unanimously supports **Mr. Benjamin Lopez** for appointment to the City Council. He stated **Mr. Lopez** has sponsored the MFFA's annual Pancake Breakfast, and noted his highest priority is public safety.

IV. CONSIDER MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE CITY COUNCIL FOR A TERM ENDING IN DECEMBER 2020

Mayor Dutrey requested City Clerk Phillips call roll of applicants present.

Present: **Sousan D. Elias, Benjamin Lopez, Rosa Rangel, Donald R. Alexander, George RJ Tellez, Edgar Gallegos, Bruce E. Culp, Corysa Martinez, Juliet Orozco, Virginia "Ginger" Eaton**

Absent: None

Council Member Ruh announced he would not be participating in the voting this evening because he feels appointees have an unfair advantage in elections.

Mayor Dutrey proposed a process wherein each Council Member announces the name of an applicant for consideration, with the first round starting with himself, and proceeding to Mayor Pro Tem Raft, Council Member Ruh, and Council Member Johnson; round two beginning with Mayor Pro Tem Raft and continuing with Council Member Ruh, Council member Johnson, and Mayor Dutrey; and continuing on in that manner for each round until three have selected the same candidate in the same round.

Council Member Johnson agreed to try this method, noting it sounds like it may move along quickly.

Mayor Pro Tem Raft agreed and urged candidates who are not appointed to not give up, noting there is an election right around the corner.

Mayor Dutrey announced his first choice, **Mrs. Rosa Rangel**; Mayor Pro Tem Raft selected **Virginia "Ginger" Eaton**; Council Member Ruh abstained; and Council Member Johnson selected **Ms. Corysa Martinez**. With no candidate receiving three nominations, round one ended without concurrence.

For round two, Mayor Pro Tem selected **Ms. Corysa Martinez**; Council Member Ruh abstained; Council Member Johnson selected **Ms. Corysa Martinez**; and Mayor Dutrey chose **Ms. Rosa Rangel**. With no candidate receiving three nominations, round two ended without concurrence.

Council Member Johnson stated she would like to announce her top three candidates, noting she feels this process may take longer than she had anticipated. She noted she would support the nominations of any of her

top three candidates, **Ms. Corysa Martinez, Ms. Rosa Rangel, or Mrs. Virginia “Ginger” Eaton.**

Mayor Pro Tem Raft stated her top candidates are **Mrs. Virginia “Ginger” Eaton, Ms. Corysa Martinez, and Ms. Juliet Orozco.**

Mayor Dutrey stated he has four top choices: **Ms. Rosa Rangel, Ms. Corysa Martinez, Mr. Benjamin Lopez, and Ms. Juliet Orozco.** He observed there is concurrence for one candidate among all three Council Members’ choices, which is **Ms. Martinez.** He asked if anyone would like to move to nominate **Ms. Martinez** for appointment.

Mayor Pro Tem Raft made the motion to appoint **Ms. Corysa Martinez** to the vacancy on the City Council for a term ending December 2020. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0-1, with Council Member Ruh abstaining.

At 6:12 p.m., Mayor Dutrey called for a short recess.

At 6:21 p.m., Mayor Dutrey called the meeting to order, noting all Council Members are in attendance.

Mayor Dutrey stated within the past twenty-four hours, he has had a change of opinion regarding whether to consider appointing a family member of the former Council Member; however, he stated **Ms. Martinez** is her own person and represents a different generation that is not currently represented on the City Council. He noted **Ms. Martinez** is young and is starting a family, is well-educated, and may provide a fresh new perspective on the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Raft stated she believes **Ms. Martinez** will do well, and bring new ideas to the Council. She stated nobody has experience when they first start but she is confident **Ms. Martinez** will learn quickly.

Council Member Johnson noted those on the dais should be a diverse representation of the community, including race, gender, and age.

Mayor Dutrey thanked each of the applicants for their commitment to this process and for their interest in becoming more involved. He asked City Clerk Phillips to administer the Oath of Office to **Ms. Martinez.**

City Clerk Phillips administered the Oath of Office to **Ms. Martinez.**

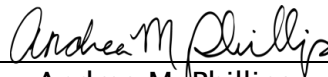
Newly-appointed Council Member Martinez took a seat at the dais.

Council Member Martinez thanked each of her Council colleagues for their trust and support. She stated she will try to not disappoint Council Member Ruh and will show that she will be an asset to the Council.

## V. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:25 p.m., Mayor Dutrey adjourned the City Council.

Submitted for City Council approval,



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Andrea M. Phillips  
City Clerk