



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

DAWN M. JONES, CITY CLERK

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

MARCH 27, 2023, 3:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present: Troy Warner, Eli Wax, Lori Hamann, Canneth Lee*

Others Present: Dawn Jones, Victoria Trujillo, Bob Palmer, Karen L. White

Agenda: Substitute Bill No. 23-13 – A Resolution Recommending to the Mayor Certain Applicants for the Position of Director of the Community Police Review Board Office

Members marked with an asterisk (*) were present digitally.

Please note the attached link for the meeting recording:

<https://docs.southbendin.gov/WebLink/browse.aspx?dbid=0&mediaid=362730>

Committee Chair Troy Warner called to order the Community Relations Committee meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Substitute Bill No. 23-13 – A Resolution Recommending to the Mayor Certain Applicants for the Position of Director of the Community Police Review Board Office

Council Chair Warner advised that a substitute bill was filed to include Stephanie Ball and Charles King as the Council candidate recommendations for the position.

Committee Vice-Chair Hamann motioned to accept Substitute Bill *No. 23-13*, which was seconded by Committee Member Wax and carried by a vote of four (4) ayes.

Committee Chair Troy Warner– <i>Aye</i>	Committee Vice-Chair Lori Hamann– <i>Aye</i>
Committee Member Eli Wax– <i>Aye</i>	Committee Member Canneth Lee– <i>Aye</i>

Committee Member Wax advised that the recommendations resulted from a meeting with the current and past Council Presidents, Vice President, and the Chair of the Health and Public Safety Committee. Up to three (3) candidates could be recommended. All attendees reached a consensus on the two (2) most suitable candidates.

Committee Chair Warner held the public hearing.

Jordan Gyver, 302 South Office Street, South Bend, Indiana, asked if aggregate data is available on the fifty-one (51) applicants and if the Council provided justification for their selections.

Committee Chair Warner responded that some data cannot be publicly shared, but the Council held an extensive discussion on the selections and provided their rationale.

Committee Member Wax advised that he feels that Pastor King is the right candidate for the role.

Councilmember Davis Jr. stated that the position’s goals should be developed as it is covered by taxpayer funds. The goals should go beyond qualifications, and the requisites should not only prohibit law enforcement candidacies. Civil rights attorneys could be considered. Progress has not been made since the original 2014 discussion. A more extensive discussion should be held with the Mayor’s office and the administration.

Council President McBride advised that extensive engagement was completed, and more than fifty (50) applicants were interviewed. The Council was invited to all meetings, and the bill passed as a working document to accept updates. The candidate pool was reopened at least three (3) times. Public input was provided for the two (2) recommendations.

Councilmember Davis Jr. responded that the process infrastructure is missing, and that compensation should be increased, as many candidates rescinded their applications due to the salary.

Committee Member Wax motioned to approve to send Substitute Bill *No. 23-13* to the Committee of the Whole with a favorable recommendation, seconded by Committee Member Hamann and carried by a vote of four (4) ayes.

Committee Chair Troy Warner– <i>Aye</i>	Committee Vice-Chair Lori Hamann– <i>Aye</i>
Committee Member Eli Wax– <i>Aye</i>	Committee Member Canneth Lee– <i>Aye</i>

With no further business, Committee Chair Warner adjourned the Community Relations meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Troy Warner, Committee Chair

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