

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Special Meeting

June 29, 2009
6:00 p.m.

Council Chamber
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Degginger, Deputy Mayor Balducci, and Councilmembers Bonincontri, Chelminiak, Davidson, and Lee

ABSENT: None.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m., with Mayor Degginger presiding.

2. Presentation of the Colors and Flag Salute

Mayor Degginger noted that tonight's Presentation of the Colors will be performed by a joint Color Guard of Police Department and Fire Department staff led by Police Officers Carla Iafrate and Kyle Woodruff, Firefighter Ted Erb, and Fire Lieutenant Mark Weldon.

3. Welcome

Mayor Degginger welcomed everyone to the evening's tribute to City Councilmember Phil Noble's life and service to the community. He noted that Mr. Noble's wife, Shelley, and children, Mike and Andrea, were seated in the front row. Mr. Degginger explained that tonight's meeting will be videotaped and a DVD will be provided to the family.

4. Resolution of Appreciation for Councilmember Noble

Resolution No. 7942 expressing appreciation and gratitude for the public service of Councilmember Phil Noble.

→ Deputy Mayor Balducci moved to approve Resolution No. 7942, and Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

→ The motion to approve Resolution No. 7942 carried by a vote of 6-0.

Deputy Mayor Balducci read Resolution No. 7942 expressing the City's gratitude and appreciation to Councilmember Noble for his years of tireless and dedicated service to the City of Bellevue.

Deputy Mayor Balducci presented the framed Resolution to Mrs. Noble and her family.

5. Comments honoring Councilmember Noble's life and public service to the City, the community, and the region will be taken at this time.

Mayor Degginger opened the floor for comments, in turn, from Bellevue City Councilmembers, former City Councilmembers, other elected officials present in the audience, and from the public and staff. He indicated that if attendees preferred to write their comments rather than speaking at the podium, Memory Cards were provided on tables in the Concourse to enable individuals to share their thoughts with Mr. Noble's family.

Councilmember Davidson noted Councilmember Noble's sincerity, intelligence, and integrity. He recalled first getting to know Mr. Noble when they traveled on City business to Arizona State University in the 1980s. Dr. Davidson commented on Mr. Noble's careful thoughtfulness in considering issues before he would offer his perspective or propose a solution.

Councilmember Lee noted that he and Mr. Noble shared interests in transportation and human services priorities. Mr. Lee remembered Mr. Noble's thoughtful and deliberate contributions as a longtime public servant.

Deputy Mayor Balducci commended Councilmember Noble's dedication and effectiveness as an elected official, particularly in the areas of transportation and human services. Ms. Balducci admired Mr. Noble for his integrity and for how he treated everyone with respect and dignity. She recalled his leadership in regional transportation forums and his ability to marshal the efforts of multiple stakeholders toward a solution. Ms. Balducci expressed appreciation for Mr. Noble as a role model and mentor.

Councilmember Chelminiak recalled Mr. Noble's leadership in the area of human services based on his belief that everyone in the community should have access to opportunities. Mr. Chelminiak commended Mr. Noble's service on the Bellevue School Board, and fondly recalled shared experiences during their political campaigns.

Councilmember Bonincontri recalled Mr. Noble encouraging her as a new Councilmember and advising her to take care of her city. She looks forward to the opportunity to participate in some of the human services committees on which Mr. Noble served, and to further his objectives on behalf of the community.

Nan Campbell, former City Councilmember and Mayor, expressed appreciation for Councilmember Noble's outstanding leadership and service to Bellevue and the region. She valued his thoughtful analysis of issues and trusted him to do what was best for the community. She feels Mr. Noble's life will inspire others to volunteerism and public service.

Kurt Springman, former City Councilmember, expressed admiration for Mr. Noble's ability to juggle the multiple demands of family, career, and public service, and to make lasting contributions to the community.

Margot Blacker, former City Councilmember, commented that the community is saddened and will miss Councilmember Noble's extensive contributions and caring.

King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn noted Councilmember Noble's public service over more than 25 years to enhance the quality of life in Bellevue. Councilmember Dunn read a declaration from the King County Council recognizing Mr. Noble's regional leadership in the areas of public education, transportation, municipal government, health and human services, and economic prosperity.

Kirkland Mayor Jim Lauinger reflected on Councilmember Noble's widespread contributions and influence through his leadership and participation in numerous regional forums.

Jean Garber, Newcastle City Council, commented that Councilmember Noble always lived up to his last name, with his consistently friendly demeanor and advocacy for those in need. She said he will be missed within the region, and expressed her sympathy to Mrs. Noble and her family.

Jim Pearman, Mayor of Mercer Island, expressed appreciation and celebration for Mr. Noble's life and contributions. He remembered him as a true gentleman and gentle leader who always put his community before himself.

Jan Stout, Chair of Bellevue Human Services Commission, said Councilmember Noble will be deeply missed by the Commission and service providers within the community. She recalled recruiting both former Mayor Mike Creighton and Mr. Noble to serve on the Bellevue School Board. Ms. Stout described Mr. Noble's effectiveness in tackling the demanding issues of the School Board, and in moving various interests toward a rational group decision.

Kim Becklund, Transportation Policy Advisor, fondly recalled her work with Councilmember Noble beginning with his service on the Transportation Commission. She praised his humility and sincere focus on service, which was appreciated by all of the staff.

Lauren Kirby, retired City of Redmond Human Services Manager, described her work with Mr. Noble when he served as the first chair of the Eastside Human Services Forum. She remembered his humility and teamwork in working with her as the Forum's chief staff support. Ms. Kirby said she was later honored to serve as Councilmember Noble's campaign coordinator.

Ross McIvor recalled his experiences with Councilmember Noble through the Bellevue School Board, Transportation Commission, Rotary, and later as treasurer for Mr. Noble's campaign.

Patrick Foran, Director of Parks and Community Services, recalled Councilmember Noble's insistence that the City must support human services, and praised his leadership and legacy.

Marilyn Mason-Plunkett, CEO of Hopelink, expressed appreciation for Mr. Noble's dedication and work over many years in the areas of transportation and human services, and for Shelley Noble's longtime work with Hopelink. Ms. Mason-Plunkett described Councilmember Noble as a man of integrity who never sought the spotlight but focused instead on service.

Dave Zarmisky recalled his early work experience at a law firm with Mr. Noble. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Noble's role in arranging for Mr. Zarmisky to play his trombone with the University of Washington symphony and opera.

Ken Story shared recollections of his family's friendship with Councilmember Noble and his family during the past 30 years.

Barbara Ramey, a former City employee, remembered Councilmember Noble as a brilliant man who was kind and respectful toward staff.

Leslie Lloyd, President of the Bellevue Downtown Association speaking on behalf of its Board, staff and members, noted strong admiration and respect for Councilmember Noble.

Dave Elliott noted that he served on the Transportation Commission with Mr. Noble, who was thoughtful and deliberate in his decisions, and dedicated to Bellevue residents.

Betsy Blackstock, a Surrey Downs resident, recalled recent conversations with Councilmember Noble, including one in which he talked about his desire to retire and spend time with his wife. She will miss his friendship and his work for the community.

City Manager Steve Sarkozy said he thoroughly enjoyed working with Councilmember Noble, who he described as a superior public servant and a key contributor to his community. While serious in his work, Mr. Noble also talked about family and expressed an interest in others' families and personal lives. Mr. Sarkozy said he will miss Mr. Noble both professionally and personally.

Mayor Degginger recalled nearly 20 years ago when he was on the Planning Commission and Mr. Noble served on the Transportation Commission. Mr. Degginger described Mr. Noble as a great listener who was able to synthesize key issues within a discussion and to move a group toward a decision. He praised Mr. Noble's fairness and sense of decorum in considering all points of view and doing his best for citizens. Mayor Degginger credited Mr. Noble with elevating Bellevue's commitment to human services.

6. Presentation of Flags and Keepsakes to Councilmember Noble's Family

Mayor Degginger invited Shelley, Mike and Andrea Noble forward to accept Council presented keepsakes from the City. The Mayor presented a plaque commemorating Councilmember Noble's years of service. Councilmember Lee presented the family with a key to the City as a

symbol of the City's ongoing appreciation and respect for Mr. Noble's many contributions to Bellevue's government and community.

Councilmember Chelminiak, Councilmember Bonincontri and Deputy Mayor Balducci presented the family with the United States, State of Washington, and City of Bellevue flags that had been flying at half mast at City Hall until this evening.

City Manager Sarkozy presented the family with the box of Memory Cards written this evening to share special thoughts and memories of Mr. Noble.

Shelley Noble thanked the Council, the City, and the community for hosting this special event in honor of her husband. She noted that Councilmember Noble took pride in working with such a dedicated and productive City Council which was committed to excellence and service to the community. Mrs. Noble shared that despite her husband's busy career and public service, the family always knew that they came first. He had strong working relationships with administrators and staff because he truly valued and respected them and the skills they brought to their jobs.

7. Adjournment

Mayor Degginger thanked everyone for coming and invited them to join the Council and Councilmember Noble's family on the Concourse for a small reception.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Degginger declared the meeting adjourned.

Myrna L. Basich
City Clerk

/kaw