



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Doris Sorum, City Clerk
Bill Fosbre, City Attorney
COPY: City Council and City Clerk's Office
SUBJECT: Resolution – Appointing an individual to the Interim City Council District No. 2 Position
– March 6, 2018
DATE: March 1, 2018

SUMMARY:

A resolution appointing an individual to the Interim City Council District No. 2 Position beginning March 7, 2018, until Council Member Robert Thoms returns and resumes his duties as a Council Member or the end of his term, whichever occurs first.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

Appointing an individual to the Interim City Council District No. 2 Position will:

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs; and,
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

BACKGROUND:

On February 6, 2018, Council Member Robert Thoms, a veteran of the Persian Gulf War who currently serves as a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves, announced that he has been involuntarily recalled to active duty for a six-month tour in Kabul, Afghanistan, starting in March 2018, in support of Operation Resolute Support. State and Federal laws allow for elected officials to take an extended leave for involuntary recalls to military service. At the conclusion of his deployment, Council Member Thoms plans to return to Tacoma and resume the rest of his term.

At the February 13, 2018 Study Session, the City Council discussed the options for fulfilling the duties of Council Member Thoms during his military leave of absence. At the City Council meeting of February 13, 2018, the Mayor announced that the City would accept applications for the Interim Position from February 15 through February 22, 2018. The City received 26 applicants. At the February 27, 2018 Study Session, the City Council discussed desired criteria and options for a process to determine which of the applicants to move forward to be interviewed, followed by an Executive Session to evaluate qualifications of the applicants. At the February 27th City Council meeting, the Mayor and each Council Member had an opportunity to nominate one applicant to move forward for the interview process, which resulted in nine applicants being selected for interviews at the March 6, 2018 Study Session.

The City Council will have an opportunity to make a motion(s) to appoint an individual to the Interim District No. 2 position at the March 6, 2018 City Council meeting.

ISSUE:

An interim vacancy exists for the City Council District No. 2 Position and residents have requested that District 2 be represented during Council Member Thoms' absence due to active military duty.



ALTERNATIVES:

The City Council could choose to not appoint an individual at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

An individual be appointed to the Interim City Council District No. 2 position during Council Member Thoms' absence.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The incoming Interim Council Member will receive salary and benefits.

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
5800 - General Government Internal Services	598900	5110900	\$37,000 (including benefits)
TOTAL			\$37,000

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$37,000

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? No, due to Council Member Thoms continuing to receive his salary while on active military duty (RCW 73.16.041).