

**CITY COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
CITY HALL – CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009, 6:30 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE: City Commissioners Jim Sohm, Jules Clavadetscher, Mike Lies, Elsa Duford, Fred Funke present. City Commissioner Bruce Agrella absent. Mayor Lou Marchello presiding. City Attorney and City Manager/Acting James Raymond present.

Mayor Marchello called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA: Motion made by Commissioner Clavadetscher, seconded by Commissioner Lies, to approve the agenda as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

6:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discussion regarding the City Manager position.

Mayor Marchello adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

7:00 P.M. – OPEN MEETING

Mayor Marchello called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SELECTION OF NEW CITY MANAGER: Mayor Marchello stated that we have one candidate who is interested in taking the position as City Manager and that is Todd Crossett from Sandpoint, Idaho. Larry Anderson declined the position. **Motion made by Commissioner Sohm, seconded by Commissioner Funke, to approve hiring Todd Crossett as City Manager of Polson. Motion carried unanimously.** Commissioner Clavadetscher stated that he believes we were all impressed with both candidates and we felt that either candidate would be an excellent City Manager. He is very pleased that Todd Crossett has been chosen from the candidates and feels that Todd will do an excellent job as City Manager. **Commissioner Sohm** thanked both Larry and Todd for their participation in the process and noted that they both excelled in the interviews and agreed with Commissioner Clavadetscher that either candidate would be an excellent choice. **Commissioner Lies** agreed they are both excellent candidates. **Commissioner Clavadetscher** felt that this is an appropriate time to thank Commissioner Sohm who did so much of the work and Lois Hart and Don McMillan the members present tonight and all the members of the City Manager Search Committee who worked very hard in a volunteer capacity to come up with a single candidate from a pool of thirty five candidates. A lot of people put in a lot of time and we appreciate that very much. In a lot of communities they hire search firms to do the work at a great deal of expense and we didn't but had volunteers who gave generously of their time and we owe them a great deal of thanks. He thanked Don, Lois and Jim who were present, for leading the effort. **Mayor Marchello** agreed and commended them for doing a great job. Lois Hart stated that this time she was able to work with the candidates informally and had nothing to do with their resumes. She believes that the commission is very smart to accept Todd. There are things about him that she was able to see, like how he cared about making sure that our community citizens are heard. She believes that he has a communication style that will work well with the commissioners and also with the community. So she was glad to hear that the City

Commissioners are able to select someone of this caliber. Commissioner Sohm read a letter from Jeff Smith who is a member of the City Manager Search Committee. It read as follows: Dear Mayor and City Commissioners, What a privilege and honor it was to serve on the City Manager Search Committee, Thank you all for allowing me to participate. I would also like to thank the other Search Committee Members for their hard work, especially Jim Sohm, Ardrene Sarracino and Lois Hart. Having served on the committee for the better part of a year, it is with experience that I can say this process works very well. When the Committee was charged with paring a field of thirty-six applicants down to seven, five of the thirty-six made it into the top seven lists of all seven committee members. That in itself is proof this process works. References from several applicants wished us well on a charter form of government and think the City of Polson is doing a wonderful job serving it's community. One reference also referred to Polson leadership as "progressive". That's something you don't hear in Montana very often. I wish our next City manager the best of luck and offer him my full support. What an exciting time this is for the great City of Polson. Congratulations on your new City Manager. Respectfully, Jeff Smith 5/11/2009. **Commissioner Duford** asked the Mayor to give the reason why Larry Anderson declined the position. **Mayor Marchello** replied that Larry Anderson's reason for declining was because he felt that if he was in the middle of working on a project and it needed a couple more years to work on it that he might not be here at that time to finish it and that's what he told me.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF SIGNIFICANT NTEREST TO THE PUBLIC NOT ON THE AGENDA: The audience congratulated and applauded the City Commission for their decision.

Mayor Marchello adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Lou Marchello, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Aggi G. Loeser, City Clerk