

BAY COUNTY APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE
BAY COUNTY TREASURER VACANCY
INTERVIEW ANDREW NIEDZINSKI
FEBRUARY 7, 2019

JUDGE MINER ANNOUNCED, WE ARE HERE FOR THE INTERVIEWS FOR THE VACANCY OF THE COUNTY TREASURER. ALL CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN ASKED TO APPEAR SEPARATELY, SO EACH CANDIDATE DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS BEFORE ANY OTHER CANDIDATE.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH MCL 168.209(2) THE JUDGE OF THE PROBATE COURT, THE COUNTY CLERK AND PROSECUTING ATTORNEY SHALL CONVENE AND APPOINT A SUITABLE PERSON TO FILL A VACANCY WHEN A COUNTYWIDE ELECTED OFFICIAL WAS VACATED PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM. THE COUNTY TREASURER, RICHARD BRZESINSKI, ANNOUNCED HIS RETIREMENT EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2019, THEREFORE, REQUIRING THE HOLDING OF THESE PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO THE OPEN MEETING ACT.

MEMBERS PRESENT BY VIRTUE OF THEIR OFFICE INCLUDE: JAN MINER, PROBATE JUDGE; CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK, COUNTY CLERK AND NANCY BORUSHKO, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:00 PM AT THE BAY COUNTY BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 515 CENTER AVENUE, BAY CITY MICHIGAN WITH THE FOLLOWING IN ATTENDANCE.

PRESENT: JAN MINER, PROBATE JUDGE
CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK, COUNTY CLERK
NANCY BORUSHKO, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
BRANDON KRAUSE, REGISTER OF DEEDS
TIFFANY JERRY, DIRECTOR PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS
REBECCA MARSTERS, PAYROLL AND BENEFITS SUPERVISOR
HOLLY KUKLA, DEPUTY TREASURER
AMBER DAVIS-JOHNSON, CORPORATION COUNSEL
KATHLEEN MEETH, RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATOR

AS TWO (2) MEMBERS CONSTITUTED A QUORUM, IT WAS EMPHASIZED THAT DISCUSSION BETWEEN ANY TWO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WAS PROHIBITED UNLESS AT AN OPEN PUBLIC MEETING. THIS, AND ALL FUTURE MEETINGS WOULD BE PUBLICALLY ANNOUNCED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

CITIZENS INPUT

THERE WERE NO CITIZENS PRESENT WHO WISHED TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE.

INTERVIEW OF ANDREW NIEDZINSKI:

BOARD QUESTIONED CANDIDATE ANDREW NIEDZINSKI, TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF HIS BACKGROUND, EXPLAIN HIS MOST RECENT POSITION AND HIS PRIOR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY.

MR. NIEDZINSKI ANSWERED THAT HIS SCHOOLING CONSISTED OF A POLITICAL SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY OBTAINED IN 2012 AND A MASTERS DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, OBTAINED IN 2017. HE STATED HIS EMPLOYMENT HISTORY, AS A UNION REPRESENTATIVE FOR MEIJER STORES. HE HAD ALSO SERVED AS A MANAGER OF THE CITY OF PINCONNING. CURRENTLY, MR. NIEDZINSKI, WAS EMPLOYED BY A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

THE BOARD STATED AS THE POSITION WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR LARGE SUMS OF MONEY, THEY ASKED MR. NIEDZINSKI TO TELL THEM ABOUT HIS INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL BACKGROUND AND HOW HE PROPOSED TO IMPROVE THE OFFICE.

CANDIDATE NIEDZINSKI STATED THAT WHEN EMPLOYED WITH THE CITY OF PINCONNING, HE HAD LIMITED INVESTMENT ABILITY. HE WORKED WITH THE LOCAL BANKS AND HAD CITY FUNDS INVESTED IN CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS. HE CONTINUED THAT IF APPOINTED HE WOULD CONTINUE THE PREVIOUS TREASURER'S INVESTMENT STRATEGY. NIEDZINSKI STATED THE PREVIOUS TREASURER KEPT BAY COUNTY IN VERY GOOD FINANCIAL STANDINGS AND HE WOULD FOLLOW IN HIS FOOT STEPS AND CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY BOARD TO DEVELOP AN INVESTMENT STRATEGY.

THE BOARD ASKED CANDIDATE NIEDZINSKI TO EXPLAIN HIS KNOWLEDGE OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND EXPERIENCE WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES THAT HE FELT WOULD ENHANCE THE OFFICE.

CANDIDATE NIEDZINSKI ANSWERED THAT HE WAS COMFORTABLE WITH TECHNOLOGY AND THAT HE HAS HAD EXPERIENCE WITH SYSTEMS WHERE HE HAD TAUGHT HIMSELF PROGRAMS AND WAS WILLING TO DO WHAT WAS NEEDED TO GET THE JOB DONE.

THE BOARD QUESTIONED MR. NIEDZINSKI, ON WHAT BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND/OR GROUPS HE HAD SERVED ON IN THE PAST; AND HE WAS ASKED TO DETAIL ANY SUPERVISORY ROLLS HE HAD HELD.

MR. NIEDZINSKI REPLIED THAT HE WAS CURRENTLY A COMMISSIONER FOR THE CITY OF BAY CITY AND HAD TWICE SERVED AS COMMISSION PRESIDENT. AT THE POINT HE WAS PRESIDENT HE HELPED NAVIGATE THE CITY THROUGH THE NON-DISCRETION ORDINANCE, MEDICAL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE, SAFE CONTRACTING

POLICY, A WATER METER POLICY, AND CURRENTLY WORKING ON THE BRIDGE ISSUES. HE HAS ALSO SERVED ON THE LAND BANK BOARD AND THE BOY SCOUTS BOARD.

THE BOARD STATED IN ENTERING A COMMITMENT TO OFFER THIS POSITION TO A CANDIDATE, WOULD HE CONFIRM HIS INTENT TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE IN THE 2020 ELECTION; AS THIS APPOINTMENT WAS ONLY TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020.

CANDIDATE NIEDZINSKI ANSWERED, IF APPOINTED, HIS INTENT TO RUN FOR BAY COUNTY TREASURER IN 2020. HE CONTINUED THAT HE WOULD PROBABLY FILE THE PAPERWORK THE DAY AFTER HIS APPOINTMENT AND THAT HE WAS VERY AWARE OF HOW ELECTIONS WORK AND WOULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TO TRY AND SECURE A REELECTION.

MEETING WAS ADJOURN AT 1:45 PM.



JAN MINER
PROBATE COURT JUDGE



NANCY BORUSHKO
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



CYNTHIA A. LUCZAK
BAY COUNTY CLERK