



**City of Falmouth
January 2, 2024**

City Council Special Meeting / Impeachment Hearing

Minutes

City Council Convened at 12:00 p.m. at the Pendleton Courthouse, Fiscal Court Chambers
Present were Councilmember Joyce Carson, Councilmember Sabrina Hazen, Councilmember Amy Hurst, Councilmember David Klaber, Councilmember Bob Pettit, and Councilmember Luke Price.
Also in attendance was Retired Circuit Court Judge Robert McGinnis who presided over the hearing.
Absent was Mayor Sebastian Ernst.

Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of invocation presented by Councilmember Amy Hurst.

Motion by Councilmember Joyce Carson to go into closed session, re: Resolution 12.19.23.1, second by Councilmember David Klaber. All aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Councilmember Amy Hurst to come out of closed session, second by Councilmember Luke Price. All aye. Motion passed

Retired Circuit Court Judge McGinnis asked councilmembers if they wanted to proceed with the hearing in the absence of Mayor Ernst. All councilmembers were unanimous to continue.

Retired Circuit Court Judge McGinnis read aloud each charge and a vote was taken after each.

- **Charge One:** Mayor Ernst acted with misconduct and/or willful neglect in the performance of the duties of his office when he prohibited a civic organization from using city property when that civic organization had previously used the city property and the mayor's reason for limiting the organization's right to assemble on public property was based upon the mayor's claim that the organization failed to meet the mayor's personal political and religious preferences.
Record of Vote: All aye.
- **Charge Two:** Mayor Ernst acted with misconduct and/or willful neglect in the performance of the duties of his office when he used his personal Facebook account as the de facto official account for the office of Falmouth Mayor and then used that social media account to market property he and/or his family members(s) own for sale or lease.
Record of Vote: All aye

- **Charge Three:** Mayor Ernst acted with misconduct and/or willful neglect in the performance of the duties of his office when he attempted to extort Councilmember Robert Pettit into resignation. Record of Vote: All aye.
- **Removal:** Record of Vote: All aye.

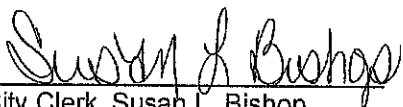
Motion by Councilmember Bob Pettit to appoint Luke Price as Interim Mayor, second by Councilmember Joyce Carson.

Roll call vote: Councilmember Amy Hurst-yes, Councilmember Sabrina Hazen-yes, Councilmember David Klaber-yes, Councilmember Joyce Carson-yes, Councilmember Bob Pettit-yes.

Councilmember Luke Price abstained from the vote.

Motion passed.

Motion by Councilmember Amy Hurst to adjourn the meeting/hearing, second by Councilmember David Klaber. All aye. Motion passed.


City Clerk, Susan L. Bishop