

**Lewiston City Council
Special Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2021
Zoom Meeting – 6:00 pm**

NOTE: Mayor Carlson is taking minutes.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Present (5): Councilors Ben Borchardt, Dan Robertson, Nick Ebnet, and Mayor Beth Carlson. Councilor Carol Boynton joined at 6:19 pm. Absent (0).

Others Present: Adam Franzen, Cheryl Knight, Jeff Peterson, Scott Yeiter, Tim Dahl, Brandon Fitzsimmons, and other members of the public.

3. Evaluation of the performance of a City of Lewiston employee

Mayor Carlson read the following statement: The agenda item is the evaluation of the performance of a City of Lewiston employee under Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(a).

The employee is City Administrator/Clerk Cheryl Knight.

Ms. Knight did not request the meeting remain open.

Mayor Carlson announced this portion of the meeting will be closed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(a) because the City Council will be evaluating the performance of an individual subject to the City's authority - Cheryl Knight, City Administrator-Clerk.

Motion by Councilor Robertson, second by Councilor Borchardt to go into closed session. All voted in favor. Councilor Boynton was absent at time of vote. Motion Carried.

The time is 6:04 pm. The City Council will now go into a closed session. Only the City Council and legal counsel may initially attend the closed session.

Everyone was moved to the zoom waiting room. Knight gave a means to contact her if she was needed.

Mayor Carlson read the following statement: This closed portion of the meeting is being electronically recorded pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 1.

The following people were in attendance for the closed session: Councilors Ben Borchardt, Dan Robertson, and Nick Ebnet, City Attorney Brandon Fitzsimmons, and Mayor Beth Carlson.

At 6:19 pm Councilor Carol Boynton joined the closed meeting.

At 7:15 pm, council returned to open session, then recessed until 7:20 pm.

Motion by Councilor Robertson, second by Councilor Borchardt that:

- 1. City Administrator-Clerk Knight be removed from employment with the City of Lewiston, effective March 21, 2021, which will be her last date of employment with the city. based on the evaluation at this city council meeting for which a summary of the conclusions will be stated at the city's next open meeting.**
- 2. That City Administrator-Clerk Knight be placed on administrative leave with pay, effective immediately through March 21, 2021.**
- 3. That Mayor Carlson and Councilmember Ebnet consult with legal counsel to draft and provide any appropriate communications to City Administrator-Clerk Knight.**

All voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Motion by Councilor Robertson, second by Councilor Boynton to adjourn. All voted in favor.

Motion Carried.

Time of adjournment, 7:28 pm.