

**CITY OF EAST LANSING  
CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
January 26, 2012**

Present: Beard, Loomis, Power, Triplett, Goddeeris  
Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mayor Goddeeris. The meeting was held in Room 235, East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

**Item 1** **Communication from Audience**

None

**Item 2** **Approval of the Minutes**

It was moved by Triplett and seconded by Beard to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2012 work session.

ALL YEAS  
MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Beard and seconded by Triplett to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2012 special work session.

ALL YEAS  
MOTION CARRIED

**Item 3** **Communication with Scott Reilly of Affion Public**

Council discussed interview questions to be asked of the five finalists for the East Lansing City Manager position.

Council discussed process to be followed to choose one finalist during special Council meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 27, 2012.

**Item 4** **Five City Manager Finalist Interviews**

Council interviewed the five East Lansing City Manager finalists: Brian Murphy, Todd Sneathen, Jane Bais-DiSessa, Darnell Earley, and George Lahanas. The following 15 questions were asked of each finalist:

1. We have had a chance to read your information. Please tell us why you would like to be the City Manager of East Lansing.
2. East Lansing is a community that takes pride in engaging citizens and other community stakeholders, and also in the diversity of our community. How have you engaged stakeholder groups in your community regarding public issues?

3. How do you propose to increase/continue student involvement at the City and community levels?
4. One of East Lansing's fastest growing population is our senior community. How would you go about engaging this segment of our community?
5. Describe your philosophy on collective bargaining and give us an example of a set of negotiations you were involved in/with and consider successful. Please describe your level of involvement.
6. Michigan communities continue to deal with reduced revenues both from local tax base and state revenue sharing. What measures have you taken in your previous positions to reduce costs while maintaining services?
7. East Lansing has a history of sound financial management, an AAA+ bond rating and a normal debt to taxable value ratio. What experiences do you bring that will help us maintain our solid financial footing?
8. Describe your management style. How will you lead this organization?
9. How do you view the relationship between the City of East Lansing and the East Lansing Public Schools? What would you do to improve cooperation?
10. Give us an example of a sustainability initiative that you helped to implement. How successful was it and what if anything would you change?
11. Please tell us any experience you have in collaborating with other municipalities and regional initiatives.
12. Describe something that you have accomplished professionally that you see as innovative.
13. If you are offered this position, will you reside/continue to reside within the corporate boundaries of the City of East Lansing? If not, why not?
14. How do you/How will you interact with staff and Council when preparing the budget?
15. If you are appointed East Lansing City Manager, how will our community know one year later that we made the right decision?

\*\* 12:07 p.m. – Council break  
1:00 p.m. – Council reconvened meeting

**Item 5**

**Council Member Reports**

Councilmember Loomis:

- No Report

Councilmember Beard:

- No Report

Councilmember Power:

- No Report

Mayor Pro Tem Triplett:

- Requested potential names for Crystal Awards selection committee.

Mayor Goddeeris:

- Thanked all who attended interviews today and the community reception last evening.

**Item 6**

**City Manager's Report**

Acting Interim City Manager Tim McCaffrey:

- No Report

**Item 7**

**Adjournment**

Council received community reception comments and interview feedback from January 25, 2012. (Interview questions asked of each finalist by City Directors, City Staff, and Community Panel are attached under *Additional Materials*.)

It was moved by Power and seconded by Triplett to adjourn.

ALL YEAS  
MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

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Diane Goddeeris  
Mayor

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Nancy O. Wagner  
Administrative Secretary