

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 5, 2018  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Garnes at 6:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:** Sheila Cherry, James Edwards, Andrew Grove, Cindy King, Frank Minear, Roger Rhome, and Brian Simeone.

Clerk Yost read the notice of the special meeting.

President Garnes announced the reasons for the meeting and Councilwoman King was given the floor.

Councilwoman King reviewed the minutes of the October 18, 2018 Community Development Committee Meeting and reviewed Ordinance 68-18 and the reason for necessary changes in the Downtown Special Events Committee.

Mayor Andreani noted the difficulty in running the commission. The mayor noted the mis-steps in handling funds and minutes and the need to satisfy audit requirements. Mayor Andreani asked what direction Council wanted to see the commission take. Suggestions include disbanding the commission altogether, restructuring it, or making it a private entity.

Councilman Simeone stated that there is not urgency at this point since all annual events are concluded but it is important and needs addressed. Simeone suggested if the commission stays in place, new officers could be elected January 1.

Councilman Edwards asked if there was a list of current members and how many seats on the commission are currently held. Mayor Andreani stated that the commission currently has 5 members with the recent resignation of the chairman that he has received.

Councilwoman Cherry asked if there are any minutes or records of the current activities of the commission and the Mayor informed her that none have been filed with the administration or Council Clerk. Cherry expressed concern that members are quitting without finishing their responsibilities and that a commission should not be allowed to resign until the work is caught up. It is unfair to remaining members to have to recreate the work of those that just quit.

Auditor Knowles explained that he handles funds for the commission although he is not currently a member. He explained that there are no unaccounted for funds at this time and money usually appears to be a "pass-through" from the commission to the City funds.

Councilwoman Cherry further expressed the need to clean up the past actions since there is no record of minutes of commission meetings to clear things up.

Councilwoman King asked if a downtown special events commission would be better out of the City's hands and done privately and Councilwoman Cherry stated absolutely not since there would be no control or public scrutiny.

Mayor Andreani stated that the only major benefit to a private entity is that a 501(c)(3) exempt may have an easier time raising funds as they could guarantee donors a tax exempt donation status that the City cannot

Councilman Rhome stated that maybe Council rather the Administration should take a more active role in appointing members and reviewing rather than just approving the Mayor's appointments. Mayor Andreani explained the commission appointment process and the excessive turnover in membership on that particular commission.

Councilman Simeone questioned the meaning and long term effects of Ordinance 68-18 and Mayor Andreani stated that it could be defeated at this point and try to gain commission membership, restructure the commission and revisit the issue after the first of the year.

Councilman Cherry recommended holding another committee meeting with the commission members and attempt to reorganize the commission but that the existing commission members need to assist in finding volunteers to file the vacant seats on the commission.

Commission Member Brandy Douthitt stated that she will work to recruit members but questioned how to get them officially appointed and Mayor Andreani explained the process.

Councilman Simeone requested a Community Development Committee meeting with the Downtown Special Events commission on November 19, 2018 at 6:00 to further address the issues.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Noting no further business presented or discussed with Council, President Garnes adjourned the special meeting of City Council at 6:30 P.M.

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**ARTHUR GARNES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

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**GERARD YOST, COUNCIL CLERK**