



Commerce City

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Council Communication

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In Control: City Council

File Type: Resolution

Agenda Number:

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SUBSTITUTE JUDGES FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY

Summary and Background Information:

The Commerce City Municipal Court needs substitute judges as the previous associate judge, Melissa Beato, has resigned. Council has the authority to appoint substitute judges through resolution. Substitute judges can perform the same duties as the presiding judge in the event the presiding judge is unavailable. The appointment of the substitute judges will give the municipal court greater flexibility in operations. Without substitute judges, the municipal court cannot function in the absence of the presiding judge.

This resolution authorizes the appointment of Michele Kline as an associate municipal court judge and F. Michael Goodbee and Josh Nowak as relief municipal court judges. The associate municipal court judge will serve as the primary substitute, with the relief municipal court judges as secondary options. The pay for these judges is set as \$100 per hour. These appointments will remain in effect until the judges resign or the appointments are revoked by Council.

Both Michele Kline and F. Michael Goodbee have prior experience as municipal court judges in the region. Ms. Kline has 15 years of experience as a city attorney and an additional 6 years' experience as a municipal judge and is currently the presiding municipal judge for the City of Brighton, the Town of Keenesburg, the Town of Hudson, and the Town of Mountainview. Mr. Goodbee has worked as an attorney in private practice, in the Adams County District Attorney's office and in the Colorado Attorney General's office. He also served as an Adams County District Court Judge for 11 years, and is currently the presiding municipal judge for the City of Golden and Idaho Springs. Mr. Nowak previously worked for the Colorado State Public Defenders Office for over 8 years. He currently is employed as an Associate Attorney for McDermott, Stuart, and Ward, LLP, a private law firm in Denver.

Staff Responsible (Department Head): Maya Kiesnowski

Staff Presenting: Maya Kiesnowski

Financial Impact: N/A

Funding Source: General Fund-Municipal Court Division

Staff Recommendation: Approve Substitute Judges

Suggested Motion: Approve on Consent Agenda