

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-30

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE APPOINTMENT PROCESS TO FILL THE
VACANCY DUE TO THE ANTICIPATED RESIGNATION OF THIRD WARD CITY
COUNCILMEMBER CATHY LEHMAN**

WHEREAS, Cathy Lehman, Third Ward, has made public her intention to resign her office effective at the conclusion of the Council's December 15, 2014, meeting;

WHEREAS, this resignation will leave a vacancy in the Third Ward Bellingham City Council Position as of the time of her resignation;

WHEREAS, Section 2.06 of the City of Bellingham Charter states that a vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term, if any, at the next municipal general election; but the Council, or the remaining members thereof, by majority vote, shall appoint a qualified registered voter to fill the vacancy until the person elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term takes office;

WHEREAS, Section 2.06 of the City of Bellingham Charter provides that a vacancy in a ward Council position shall be filled by the appointment of a qualified registered voter of that ward; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the citizens of Bellingham that the Council facilitate an efficient, equitable process to appoint, upon vacancy, a qualified person in as timely a manner as possible.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
BELLINGHAM:**

THAT the selection and appointment of an interim Council Member shall follow the process set forth herein:

1. The application period shall open immediately upon passage of this resolution, and an announcement inviting applications will be printed in the Bellingham Herald as soon as possible to notify the public of this process and the application period.
2. The application period shall close on December 1, 2014, at 5:00 PM.
3. On December 17, 2014, a special meeting will be held during which each candidate will be allotted three to five minutes in open session to present his or her qualifications. The actual time allotted and the order of presentations will be determined by the presiding City Council Member, subject to his or her discretion.
4. The Council will adjourn to executive session in order to evaluate the qualifications of the candidates.

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-778-8270

5. Following the executive session, the Council will vote to appoint the interim Council Member. Any Council Member may nominate a candidate and nominations do not require a second.
6. As soon as one candidate receives an affirmative majority vote, the presiding member will declare him or her to be appointed to the vacancy, and there will be no vote taken on the remaining candidates.
7. If, after 30 days following the effective date of the vacancy, the City Council cannot agree on an appointee, the Mayor shall select from those candidates nominated by members of the City Council.

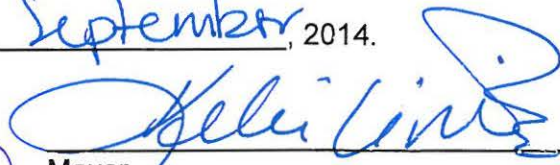
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the person appointed to the interim City Council Third Ward position will serve until the person elected in the November 2015 election takes office, at which point the person so elected to fill the vacancy, after the election is certified and the oath of office is taken, shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

PASSED by the Council this 22 day of September, 2014.



Council President

APPROVED by me this 30th day of September, 2014.



Mayor

ATTEST: 

Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Office of the City Attorney