



DATE: January 6, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council through City Manager

FROM: Caitlin Corley, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Resolution Appointing Councilmember Nau Vice Mayor For 2025

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution (Attachment 1) appointing Councilmember Karen Nau Vice Mayor for 2025.

BACKGROUND

Section V(B) of the City of Petaluma City Council Rules, Policies, and Procedures states:

The Vice Mayor shall be selected at the first meeting in January and shall serve for a one year term. The selection shall be based on seniority. In the case of newly seated Councilmembers, their seniority shall be established by the number of votes received at the time of their election. If a Councilmember does not accept the appointment, the member's name shall go back to the bottom of the seniority list. No member of the Council shall serve a second term until all other members of the Council have had an opportunity to serve.

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Karen Nau is next in line in the list of seniority. While she did serve as Vice Mayor in 2007 during a previous term of office, Council has historically allowed members to serve as Vice Mayor for a second time before others who have not yet served, when their previous tenure as Vice Mayor was in a previous term of office with a break in service.

Her appointment would be in line with the Council Rules, Policies, and Procedures requirement that the selection of Vice Mayor shall be based on seniority. Additionally, it would be in line with past practice of allowing Councilmembers to rotate into the Vice Mayor position based on seniority after a break in service.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This agenda item appeared on the City's tentative agenda document on December 2, 2024 which was a publicly-noticed meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None by this action.

ALTERNATIVES

Should a councilmember choose not to not accept appointment as Vice Mayor, they would rotate to the bottom of the seniority list for purposes of Vice Mayor appointments and the opportunity would be presented to the next most senior Councilmember.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution