



DATE: January 9, 2023

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

FROM: Kendall Sawyer, MPA, CMC, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Resolution Appointing Councilmember Janice Cader-Thompson As Vice Mayor For 2023 and Finding This Item is Not a "Project" Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution (Attachment 1) appointing Councilmember Janice Cader-Thompson as Vice Mayor for 2023.

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

In accordance with the City of Petaluma City Council Rules, Policies, and Procedures newly-elected Councilmember Janice Cader-Thompson is eligible to serve as Vice Mayor for 2023 because she received the highest number of votes of the newly seated Councilmembers, and because no member is to serve a second term as Vice Mayor until all members have had an opportunity to serve. All returning Councilmembers have already had an opportunity to serve as Vice Mayor.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This agenda item appeared on the City's tentative agenda document on December 19, 2022 which was a publicly-noticed meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2), in that adopting the regular meeting schedule does not meet CEQA's definition of a "project," because the action does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and because this action that constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None by this action.

ALTERNATIVES

Councilmember Cader-Thompson could not accept appointment as Vice Mayor. Councilmember Shribbs has the second highest seniority based on votes received in the most recent election, followed by Councilmember Nau. Therefore, in accordance with the City Council Rules, Policies, and Procedures, as noted above, if Councilmember Cader-Thompson declines to serve as Vice Mayor she will rotate to the bottom of the seniority list for purposes of Vice Mayor appointments and the opportunity would be presented to Councilmember Shribbs.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Resolution