

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2021  
9:00 A.M.**

**City Hall, Council Chambers  
AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order - Chair Wentz**
- II. **Roll Call – Rahn, Folkema, Wentz**
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
  - 1. November 16, 2020 minutes
  - 2. November 19, 2020 minutes
  - 3. November 25, 2020 minutes
- IV. **Business**
  - 1. Certification of List of Qualified Civil Service Promotional Examinees
  - 2. Discussion on Entrance Exam and Hiring Process
- V. **Adjournment**

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MINUTES  
November 16, 2020  
9:00 A.M.**

- I. The Civil Service Commission Meeting was called to order by Chair Folkema.
- II. Roll Call:   Members Present:   Rahn, Wentz, Folkema  
                  Members Absent:   None  
                  Others Present:   Attorney Sarah Kleber  
  Attorneys Vondrak, Phillips, Murphy.
- III. Minutes:   Rahn moved, Wentz seconded the minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting be approved. On Roll Call: Ayes: All present
- IV. **Consideration and determination of Pre-Hearing Motions and any procedural matters.**
  - 1. Singer’s Request for Closed Session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i).  
Prior to the hearing, Petitioner Singer filed a Request for Closed Session and Respondent City filed a Resistance to Petitioner’s Request for Closed Session. Counsel were invited to present oral arguments. The Commission discussed the applicable statutory provisions and handling of the hearing.  
MOTION: Wentz moved, Rahn seconded that Mr. Singer’s Request for Closed Session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i) be denied. On Roll Call: Ayes: All present.

2. City's request for witness to appear telephonically and Singer's Request for alternate means of appearance to allow presentation of exhibits to witness.  
Prior to the hearing, the issue of witness arrangements was addressed due to one witness needing to appear by alternate means other than personal appearance. The parties stipulated agreement on the record to an appearance of the witness by Zoom internet video conference call.

**V. Appeal Hearing for Jeremy Singer (Continuance from October 27, 2020)**

Chair Folkema opened the Appeal Hearing for Jeremy Singer that was continued to this date and time.

The Civil Service Commission meeting including the Appeal Hearing proceedings were recorded by Court Reporter Teri Lea Autry, CSR-RPR-CP.

During the course of the hearing, Respondent offered Respondent's exhibits 1 through 19 which were received into evidence. Petitioner offered Petitioner's exhibits 2, 3 and 6 through 14 which were received into evidence.

After both parties were given an opportunity to present witness testimony and documentary evidence, the hearing was closed. The Commission asked for closing arguments which were presented by the attorneys on the record.

The Commission determined to reconvene on November 19, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. to complete the deliberative process for the Appeal Hearing for Jeremy Singer.

- VI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 P.M.

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Dennis Folkema, Chairman

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Beverly Langel, City Clerk

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MINUTES  
November 19, 2020  
9:00 A.M.

- I. The Civil Service Commission Meeting was called to order by Chair Folkema.
- II. Roll Call:   Members Present:   Rahn, Wentz, Folkema  
                  Members Absent:   None.  
                  Others Present:    Attorney Sarah Kleber.
- III.   **Consideration and discussion of Jeremy Singer appeal decision to be rendered pursuant to Iowa Code Section 400.27.**
  1. MOTION: Wentz moved, Rahn seconded that the Commission move into a closed session to complete the deliberative process based upon the intent and policy of Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(f) and Botsko v. Davenport Civil Rights Com'n, 774 N.W.2d 841 (Iowa 2009). On Roll Call: Ayes: Wentz, Rahn, Folkema. Nays: None.  
  
The Commission entered into closed session for deliberations on the appeal of Jeremy Singer.
  2. MOTION: Wentz moved, Rahn seconded the Commission return to open session. On Roll Call: Ayes: Folkema, Wentz, Rahn. Nays: None.
  3. Chair Folkema announced the Commission has returned to open session, has completed deliberation and is prepared to make a motion.

MOTION: Rahn moved, Wentz seconded that the Commission affirm that Chief Vande Vegte's decision to suspend and terminate Jeremy Singer on the basis that the decision was not arbitrary and was based on Chief Vande Vegte's judgment that Officer Singer was unsuitable for employment following the disclosure of past statements, with no findings of violations of the handbook, operation manuel or misconduct in the performance of his duties while a police officer of Le Mars Police Department, and that Attorney Kleber prepare a written decision consistent with this motion to be approved by the Commission. On Roll Call: Ayes: Folkema, Rahn, Wentz. Nays: None.

IV. Adjournment: Wentz moved, Rahn seconded the meeting be adjourned at 10:24 A.M.

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Dennis Folkema, Chairman

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Beverly Langel, City Clerk

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MINUTES  
November 25, 2020  
4:00 P.M.

I. The Civil Service Commission Meeting was called to order by Chair Folkema.

II. Roll Call: Members Present: Rahn, Wentz, Folkema  
Members Absent: None.

III. Business: **Approve and Adopt Ruling on Appeal of Jeremy Singer.**

MOTION: Rahn moved, Wentz seconded that the written decision Ruling on Appeal of Jeremy Singer as prepared by Attorney Kleber be approved and adopted. On Roll Call: Ayes: All present.

IV. Adjournment: Wentz moved, Rahn seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 4:14 P.M. On Roll Call: Ayes: All present.

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Dennis Folkema, Chairman

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Beverly Langel, City Clerk