

Overview for School Board Interviews

Round 1 Interviews

On **May 5th** starting at **6 pm**, the City Council will meet at City Hall to conduct the first round of interviews. This will be a public meeting. The public is invited to attend. The meeting will also be livestreamed. Members of the public may watch on the City's webpage at <http://www.ci.valparaiso.in.us/1684/Watch-City-Meetings>.

The City received **8** timely applications. Two applicants lived outside the City and were not considered.

The public will be given an opportunity to submit questions between **April 14 – 25**. The City Attorney will work with Council member Emilie Hunt to review/edit questions for clarity.

The list of first round questions will be circulated to all applicants and City Council members prior to May 5.

Each applicant will be given 2 minutes for opening statements and 1.5 minutes per question.

Round 2 Interviews

The second round of interviews will take place **May 21 at 6 pm** at City Hall.

The order of interviews will be as follows:

Ron Donahue
Brett Miller
Curtis Strietelmier
Erika Watkins

Each applicant will be given **25 minutes** to answer questions. All questions will be provided in advance. Each applicant will be asked the same questions in the same order. The City Attorney will read the questions. It will be up to the applicants to manage their time. The City Attorney will indicate when there is 10 minutes, 5 minutes and 1 minute remaining. If an applicant is responding to a question and time

expires, the applicant will be given an opportunity to finish their response to that question before the interview is concluded. No additional questions will be asked.

If time remains after all questions have been answered, City Council members will be given an opportunity to ask additional questions. The order of questioning will be Council President (Ellen Kapitan), Council Vice-President (Emilie Hunt), and then any other City Council members. The posing of questions by the City Council does not extend the time allotted, although if an applicant is responding to a question, the applicant will be given an opportunity to finish their response.

The schedule will provide **5 minutes** between each interview to allow one applicant to leave and allow another applicant to enter Council Chambers.

After the second round of questions have been answered, the Council will follow the process outlined in the *2025 School Board Interview and Appointment Process*.