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News Release

Former mayor Jurkovich resigns Aug. 6 from City Commission

Applications to be accepted until noon Aug. 16 for any interested in vacancy

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (August 7, 2019) — Commissioner Dan Jurkovich officially resigned Tuesday night from the City Commission of Arkansas City in a letter read aloud by Mayor Jay Warren.

A replacement city commissioner now will have to be selected by the other four commissioners to fill the remaining five months of Jurkovich's term, which is not set to expire until Jan. 13, 2020.

Jurkovich, who was nearing the end of his second consecutive term and has served on the City Commission since 2013, cited his family and job as primary reasons for his decision to step down early.

"Serving as a commissioner for the last six years has been an honor. I am grateful for the work that has been accomplished," wrote Jurkovich, who did not attend Tuesday's meeting.

"Now that the hospital bonds are sold, it is time for me to focus solely on my obligations to my family, my profession and my duties on the hospital board."

Jurkovich will remain as chairman of the South Central Kansas Medical Center Board of Trustees.

"Thank you to the citizens (of Ark City) for the opportunity to serve. Thank you to city staff and my fellow commissioners for a great and productive experience. May God bless Arkansas City," he wrote.

Mayor Warren said applications for the vacancy will be accepted until noon Aug. 16, when the four remaining commissioners will have a study session at City Hall to consider all of the applicants.

Depending on how that discussion goes, Warren said, the commissioners may choose to appoint a replacement during their regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 20, or they may decide to wait until Sept. 3.

State law and municipal code direct the commissioners to appoint a replacement within 30 days of being notified of the vacancy. A majority must agree on the choice, but there are no other considerations required regarding the selection. Prior electoral results are not a deciding factor.

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Jurkovich first was elected in April 2013 to a two-year term, then re-elected in April 2015 to a four-year term that was extended by an additional eight months by the Kansas Legislature later that year.

Jurkovich was selected as mayor on Sept. 19, 2017, and served in that role for almost 16 months, turning over his gavel to Warren on Jan. 7, 2019.

During his mayoral term, Jurkovich and the other commissioners voted to dissolve the South Central Kansas Medical Center Board of Trustees and appoint themselves to fill the board. He has served as the chairman of the SCKMC Board of Trustees ever since taking on that additional role in May 2018.

Applicants interested in being appointed to Jurkovich's vacant commission position may submit a letter of interest to the City Commission through the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 118 W. Central Ave.

The letter should highlight the candidate's previous civic involvement, any professional associations or honors, and their reason for interest in the position.

Alternatively, candidates may fill out a volunteer form that can be found on the City's website at bit.ly/AC-app-form or www.arkansascityks.gov/Government/Boards/New-Volunteer-Form-Web.pdf.

Applicants should check the box marked "City Commission (*only if vacancy occurs*)" on this form.

Forms can be dropped off in person at City Hall, emailed to lshook@arkcity.org or alawson@arkcity.org, or mailed to: City Clerk, City Hall, 118 W. Central Ave., Arkansas City, KS 67005.

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