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City councilwoman named as vice president



Participating in the process of administering and taking the oath of office are (from left) City Councilman Charles Goodman, Mayor R. Gerald Hethcoat, City Councilwoman Nancy Winger and (back to camera) Levy County Court Judge J.T. 'Tim' Browning.

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Story, Photos and Video By Jeff M. Hardison © April 12, 2016 @ 11:47 p.m.

WILLISTON -- Williston City Councilwoman Nancy Winger received a 4-0 vote of approval to become the vice president of Williston City Council on Tuesday evening (April 12).

It was only moments after Levy County Court Judge J.T. "Tim" Browning had administered the oath of office to Winger, Mayor Gerald Hethcoat and City Councilman Charles Goodman, when the election process for the new president and vice president occurred.

Mayor Hethcoat accepted the gavel to lead the election process for City Council president. City Councilman Matt Brooks nominated Goodman to be president again. City Councilman Danny Etheridge moved to cease nominations for City Council president, and Winger made her first "second" of a motion, and that motion to cease nominations for other candidates as City Council president was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Goodman was re-elected unopposed as City Council president by a 4-0 vote. City Council President Goodman then took the gavel back from Mayor Hethcoat and led the election of vice president.

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Sitting as the City Council are (from left) City Councilman Danny Etheridge, City Councilman Matt Brooks, Mayor R. Gerald Hethcoat, City Council President Charles Goodman and City Council Vice President Nancy Winger. City Councilman Elihu Ross was absent.

While some in the audience might have presumed the natural selection of City Councilman Etheridge as the re-elected vice president, Etheridge announced he thought a potential conflict of interest might occur with some of the responsibilities as vice president if he was elected as vice president again. Hence, he preempted anyone nominating him for vice president.

Instead, Etheridge nominated City Councilman Elihu Ross, who was absent. After some discussion about whether it would be proper to elect Ross to a post in his absence, there was no second to Etheridge's motion and it died for lack of second.

City Councilman Matt Brooks nominated Winger to be vice president. That motion was seconded by President Goodman. Brooks' motion met with a 4-0 vote of approval and Winger became vice president of City Council.

After the meeting, Winger indicated that she was honored to have been elected as vice president, and she added that she felt she had a lot to learn.

The city is now led legislatively by Mayor Hethcoat, President Goodman, Vice President Winger and councilmen Brooks, Etheridge and Ross.

Brooks is seeking to become elected to the Levy County Board of County Commissioners in the race where incumbent Danny Stevens has said he is seeking re-election. Qualifying in that race will be in June.

Refreshments were enjoyed by some of the individuals who came to watch the ceremony.