

**Birmingham City Commission Special Meeting Minutes - Workshop  
November 13, 2023  
Municipal Building, 151 Martin  
6:30 p.m.**

**Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/884146992>**

**This will be considered a workshop session of the City Commission. No formal actions will be taken. The purpose of this workshop is to participate in a discussion on Leadership Transition.**

**I. Call to Order**

Therese Longe, Mayor

**II. Roll Call**

City Clerk Bingham called the roll.

Present: Mayor Longe  
Mayor Pro Tem McLain  
Commissioner Baller  
Commissioner Boutros  
Commissioner Haig  
Commissioner Host  
Commissioner Schafer

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Ecker; City Clerk Bingham, City Attorney Kucharek, Assistant City Manager Fairbairn, Fire Chief Wells, Human Resources Manager Woods

**III. Presentation & Discussion**

CM Ecker introduced the topic. Staff answered informational questions from the Commission.

Commission discussion was as follows:

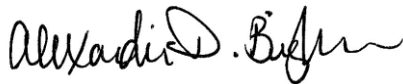
- Mayor Longe was to be commended for her work as Mayor;
- MPT McLain has demonstrated her investment in the role and would be an appropriate choice to serve as the next mayor;
- Birmingham's mayoral responsibilities and appointment process was described;
- Historically, women would not have held Commission positions or positions of leadership as the mayor and mayor pro tem, and it was an honor to have been led by Mayor Longe and MPT McLain;
- Two or more years seemed like a potentially appropriate mayoral term;
- Responsiveness to the public, knowledgeability, and commitment are all important aspects of serving as mayor;
- It might be appropriate to consider term limits for Commissioners;

- Commissioner Boutros deserved commendation for his respectful behavior during his term as mayor;
- Having this conversation transparently and in public was beneficial;
- Each commissioner has their specialty, and the Commission functions best when it works together;
- Commissioners comporting themselves respectfully and with transparency benefits the community;
- Since some of MPT McLain's focus includes seniors, Commissioner Schafer might be an appropriate next mayor pro tem since she has a focus on youth in the community; and,
- Lengthening the mayoral and mayor pro tem terms from one year would allow for more expertise to be built, and would also promote potential networking with other communities who tend to have longer-serving mayors.

**IV. Public Comment**

**V. Adjourn**

Mayor Longe adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.



Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist