



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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**CITY OF JOHNSTON TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING TO APPOINT  
COUNCILMEMBER**

**JOHNSTON, Iowa** – On Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021, at 4 p.m., the Johnston City Council will hold a Special Meeting to appoint former Councilman John Temple to fill the recent vacancy caused by the resignation of Scott Syroka. The meeting will be held electronically, with participation information posted on the agenda.

“The Council discussed the vacancy at our last meeting and agreed that, given the short period of time between now and the next election, it makes sense to appoint someone temporarily and to avoid the cost of a special election, if a qualified person could be identified,” said Mayor Paula Dierenfeld. The Council quickly concluded that former Councilman John Temple is well-qualified and should be appointed to fill the vacant seat.

Mayor Dierenfeld stated, “John has served Johnston in various roles for over 21 years. His prior service has included being a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, being elected to the City Council on two separate occasions and volunteering countless hours to get the new Public Safety Building built. He has always taken a thoughtful, common-sense approach to issues impacting the Johnston community. John has worked hard to ensure that our residents enjoy a high quality of life and characteristics that make Johnston special are well preserved. I have always appreciated John’s willingness to listen to all sides and make decisions that benefit the best interest of our community.”

In November, an election will be held to fill the seat for its unexpired term ending Dec. 31, 2023. Once appointed, John Temple would remain until the newly elected Councilmember takes the oath of office.

Per Iowa law, Johnston residents may petition the Council to hold a special election. If a special election is held, Johnston taxpayers' estimated cost would be \$4,000 - \$7,000.

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