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Miller appointed to City Council

TAKING THE SEAT: The Oak Ridge City Council split-vote of who will replace former Councilman Jerry Kuhaida has ended after one of the two remaining candidates has withdrew his application.

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The Oak Ridge City Council is now back to full strength.

Council selected Jane Miller Monday night to fill the seat left vacant by former Councilman Jerry Kuhaida, who left last month to work in Iraq. Miller was chosen after Will Minter announced that he was unable to serve because he had served on the state's registry and finance committee, which requires he wait one year before serving on Council.

"I encourage those that voted for me to vote for Jane Miller," Minter said. "I think she will do you a fine job."

Miller said after being sworn in that she was looking forward to serving the city.

"I want to assure you that I'm going to do the best I can," she said.

In what could be a move to unify the Council, the motion to approve Miller by acclamation was made by Councilman David Mosby and seconded by Councilman Willie Golden Jr. Both Councilmen had voted against Miller during the last Council meeting, which had resulted in five tie votes between Miller and Minter.

The tie narrowed the list of candidates from 10 to two and all indications were that Mayor David Bradshaw would have to select from the two, as the city charter requires. He had consistently voted for Miller.

Miller will serve until the regular county general election on Aug. 5, 2004.

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