

Mercersburg Borough Council Reorganization Meeting
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
January 2, 2024
7:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pedersen to start the Reorganization Meeting at 7 p.m.

Judge Jody Eyer officiated the swearing in/oath of office of elected officials to the Borough Council.

Kelani D. Craig Elected for a 4-Year Term beginning on January 2, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2027

Anthony Frisby Re-Elected for a 4-Year Term beginning on January 2, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2027

Tom Heefner Re-Elected for a 4-Year Term beginning on January 2, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2027

Jacob Morgan Re-Elected for a 2-Year Term beginning on January 2, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2025

Pledge of Allegiance

Nomination and Election of Council President by Resolution 01-24. Upon nomination by Tom Heefner/Anthony Frisby, the Council unanimously elected Donald "Dusty" Stoner Borough Council President.

Upon election, President Stoner leads the meeting forward.

Nomination and Election of Council Vice President by Resolution 02-24. Upon nomination by Tom Heefner the Council unanimously elected Anthony Frisby Council Vice President.

Nomination and Election of Council President Pro Temp by Resolution 03-24. Upon nomination by Jacob Morgan the Council unanimously elected Tom Heefner Council President Pro Temp.

Appointment of Borough Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Zoning Officer, and Assistant Open Records Officer by Resolution 04-24. Upon nomination by Tom Heefner the Council unanimously elected Matilda Gorman Borough Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Zoning Officer, and Assistant Open Records Officer.

Appointment of Check Signers by Resolution 05-24. Upon appointment by Council President Donald “Dusty” Stoner, the following are appointed as check signers, Donald “Dusty” Stoner, Paul Sipes, Tom Heefner, and Anthony Frisby. Upon motion by Michael Pedersen/Anthony Frisby the Council unanimously approved the listed as check signers.

Water Authority Appointment by Resolution 06-24. Michael Pedersen’s term expired December 31, 2023, creating a vacancy beginning January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2028. Upon motion by Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan the Council unanimously approved the reappointment of Michael Pedersen to the Water Authority.

Sewer Authority Appointment by Resolution 07-24. The appointment of Joe Creighton to the Sewer Authority for a term beginning January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2028. Upon motion by Tom Heefner/Anthony Frisby the Council unanimously approved the appointment of Joe Creighton to the Sewer Authority.

General Purpose Authority Appointment by Resolution 08-24. Thomas Suddeth’s term expired December 31, 2023, creating a vacancy beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2028. Upon motion by Tom Heefner/Anthony Frisby the Council unanimously approved the reappointment of Thomas Suddeth to the General Purpose Authority.

Zoning Hearing Board Appointment by Resolution 09-24. The appointment of Joe Creighton to the Zoning Hearing Board for a term beginning January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2028. Upon motion by Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan the Council unanimously approved the appointment of Joe Creighton to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Planning Commission Appointment by Resolution 10-24. The appointment of Raymond Minton to the Planning Commission for a term beginning January 1, 2024, and expiring December 31, 2027. Upon motion by Tom Heefner/Anthony Frisby the Council unanimously approved the appointment of Raymond Minton to the Planning Commission.

HARB Member Appointment by Resolution 11-24. Appointment of a licensed real estate broker. This appointment will be tabled until a later date.

Fire Board Appointments – 2 seats by Resolution 12-24. President Stoner appoints Tom Heefner and Doanld “Dusty” Stoner. Upon motion by Joe Burkot/Anthony Frisby the Council unanimously approved the appointment of Tom Heefner and Doanld “Dusty” Stoner to the Fire Board.

Vacancy Board Appointment by Resolution 13-24. Upon motion by Joe Burkot/Anthony Frisby the Council unanimously approved the appointment of Tom Suddeth to the Vacancy Board.

Appointment of the Chambersburg Area Wage Tax Board Member by Resolution 14-24. This appointment will be tabled for now.

Appointment of Franklin County Council of Governments Member by Resolution 15-24. This appointment will be tabled for now.

Committees of Council Appointments as desired by Council President by Resolution 16-24. These appointments will be addressed at next month's meeting.

Finance Committee Members & Chair

Personnel Committee Members & Chair

Property Committee Members & Chair

Streets Committee Members & Chair

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was held for former Mayor Jim Zeger served as Mayor from 2003 to 2016.

Public Comment/Guest:

Nothing noted on the agenda. No comment during the meeting.

Minutes:

Meeting Minutes from November 13, 2023 – Not Available

Meeting Minutes from December 11, 2023 – Upon a Tom Heefner motion the meeting minutes were unanimously approved with correction.

Treasurer Report/Bills Payable:

Not Available

Mayor's Report:

The Mayor recommends the addition of another full-time officer and possibly one part-time officer to the Police Department at this time. Further discussions on rates and the process to hire will begin.

Police Report:

Nothing to report.

Solicitor's Report:

Present. Nothing to report.

Engineer's Report:

Not present. Nothing to report.

Borough Manager's Report:

Not present. Nothing to report.

Borough Secretary's Report:

Discussed outstanding Water/Sewer Bills. Update on Workman's Compensation renewal. IT will be in this week to work on general IT support items. Required State Ethics forms are attached to the packet for Council members to be completed and submitted.

Committee Report:

- A. Act 537- No Meeting
- B. Finance – No Meeting
- C. Fire Board – End of Year report for next Council Meeting
- D. HARB – No Meeting
- E. Personnel – met in executive session for various Personnel Matters on 11/20/2023, 12/4/2023, and on 12/21/2023.
- F. Planning – No Meeting
- G. Property – No Meeting
- H. Streets – No Meeting
- I. Zoning Hearing Board – No Meeting

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

Approve Resolution 17-24: Fee Schedule. Upon a motion by Tom Heefner/Anthony Frisby Council unanimously approved Resolution 17-24.

Approve Resolution 18-24: Franklin County 2023 Mitigation Plan. Upon a motion by Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan Council unanimously approved Resolution 18-24.

Approve the revised Borough Council and Committee Meeting schedule to be advertised accordingly. Upon a motion by Tom Heefner/Anthony Frisby Council unanimously approved Borough Council and Committee Meeting Schedule with correction.

Approve a 1.5% Cost of Living and a 1.5% Merit Increase for eligible Non-Uniformed Employees who received greater than 80% on their annual evaluation effective 1/1/2024. Upon a motion by Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan Council unanimously approved increases.

Approve a 1.5% Cost of Living increase for the Chief of Police effective 1/1/2024. Upon a motion by Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan Council unanimously approved the increase.

Correspondence:

- A. Letter dated December 2023 from M. Carroll, Secretary of Transportation
- B. Request for financial contributions from Mayhem Travel Baseball Club. Council unable to make donations for private interests.

- C. Letter dated 12/14/2023 re: KLS Investment, Properties, LLC. and Written Certification Attachment
- D. Letter dated 12/21/2023 re: KLS Investment Properties, LLC. and Written Certification Attachment

Confirm Meetings:

- A. Council: 01/02/2024 @ 7 p.m.
- B. Finance: TBA
- C. HARB: Cancelled
- D. Nominating: TBA
- E. Personnel: TBA
- F. Planning: TBA
- G. Property: 01/03/2024, @ 7 p.m.
- H. Sewer: 12/14/23, @ 7 p.m.
- I. Water: 12/21/23, @ 7 p.m.
- J. Streets: 01/24/24, @ 7 p.m.
- K. Zoning Hearing Board - TBA

Executive Session:

Upon a Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan motion Council unanimously approved Council move into an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

Council Meeting reconvenes after Executive Session at 8:56 p.m. President Stoner will entertain a motion to not reappoint the Borough Manager for the year 2024. Upon a Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan motion Council voted to carry the motion.

Adjournment:

Upon a Tom Heefner/Jacob Morgan motion Council voted to adjourn.

Submitted,

**ALL GUEST/CORRESPONDENCE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER PER REQUEST/RECEIPT*

Dated Approved: 2/12/2024 Motion By: Heefner Seconded By: Sipes


Seal