

MINUTES REORGANIZATION

CITY OF BEVERLY

JANUARY 7, 2003

The reorganization meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly was called to order by Acting Deputy City Clerk Theresa Lowden at 8:07 PM on Tuesday, January 7, 2003, under the provision of the Open Public Meetings Act c.231 P.C. "Sunshine Law". Notice of this meeting was published in the annual notice of meetings in the Burlington County Times and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. All present saluted the flag of the United States of America. Rev. Robert Legnani, pastor of Stephen's Episcopal Church, offered an invocation.

NJ State Assemblyman Jack Conners administered the oath of office to reelected Mayor Robert E. Lowden, Jr. Megan Lowden held the Bible for her father as his wife Marge looked on. NJ State Assemblyman Herb Conaway administered the oath of office to reelected Council member Nancy J. Richards, as her husband Patrick held the Bible. Assemblyman Conaway administered the oath office to newly elected Council member Dr. Gail Cook, as her son Harry held her family Bible. Assemblyman Conaway also administered the oath of office to newly elected Council member Theresa Phillips as Council member Richards held the Bible.

Mrs. Snyder nominated Mayor Lowden as Temporary Chairman. Mr. Gioffre seconded, and Mr. Gehm closed the nominations. All members present were in favor. Motion carried.

The roll call showed the following Council members present: Walter Gehm, Nancy Richards, Gerda Setikas, Dr. Gail Cook, Dominick Gioffre, Mildred Snyder, George Hahn, Jr., and Theresa E. Phillips. Council member Robert Bancroft was absent. Mayor Lowden presented Certificates of Election to the three newly elected Council members and to himself.

Mayor Lowden called for the election of Council President. Mr. Gioffre nominated Mr. Bancroft for the position of Council President. Mrs. Phillips seconded, and Mr. Gehm closed the nominations. All members present were in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Lowden called for the election of Council President Pro-Tem. Mr. Gehm nominated Mrs. Richards as Council President Pro-Tem. Mr. Gioffre seconded, and Ms. Setikas closed the nominations. All members present were in favor. Motion carried. In the absence of President Bancroft, Mrs. Richards presided as chairman.

President Pro-Tem Richards read the list of Council committees. The complete list of Council committees accompanies these minutes.

Council appointed people to several positions for the year 2003. The complete list of Council appointments accompanies these minutes.

Judge Alfred A. Faxon administered the oath of office to the newly hired and appointed Public Safety Director Michael D. Morton, as Mr. Morton's father held the Bible. Judge Faxon then administered the oath of office to the remaining appointees who were present. All who were sworn in tonight signed their oaths of office.

Ms. Lowden read, by title, the following Resolutions: #2003-01 A Resolution Appointing City Attorney and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Services, #2003-02 A Resolution Appointing City Municipal Prosecutor and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Services, #2003-03 A Resolution Appointing City Public Defender and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Services, #2003-04 A Resolution Appointing City First Alternate Municipal Prosecutor and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Services, #2003-05 A Resolution Appointing City Second Alternate Municipal Prosecutor and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Services, #2003-06 A Resolution Appointing City Auditor and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional

Services, #2003-07 A Resolution Appointing City Engineer and Authorizing an Agreement for Professional Services, #2003-08 A Resolution of the City of Beverly Authorizing Entry into an Employment Agreement with the Public Safety Director, and #2003-09 Risk Management Consultant Burlington County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. Mr. Gehm moved, seconded by Ms. Setikas to adopt Resolutions 2003-01 through 2003-09. Roll call vote showed the following members in favor: Gehm, Richards, Setikas, Phillips, Cook, Gioffre, Snyder, and Hahn. Absent was Bancroft. Ayes- 8, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Resolutions 2003-01 through 2003-09 adopted.

Mrs. Richards read Resolution #2003-10 A Resolution Approving Final Payment #2 and Change Orders 1 & 2 for the 2002 Road Improvement Project. Mrs. Snyder moved, seconded by Ms. Setikas to adopt Resolution 2003-10. Roll call vote showed the following members in favor: Gehm, Richards, Setikas, Phillips, Cook, Gioffre, Snyder, and Hahn. Absent was Bancroft. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Resolution adopted.

Mrs. Richards introduced Resolution #2003-11 Adopting Temporary Budget. Ms. Setikas moved, seconded by Mr. Gehm to adopt Resolution 2003-11. Roll call vote showed the following members in favor: Gehm, Richards, Setikas, Phillips, Cook, Gioffre, Snyder, and Hahn. Absent was Bancroft. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Resolution adopted.

Mayor Lowden thanked several guests and residents for their attendance and participation in this meeting. In his address to those in attendance the mayor touched upon several issues, among them the need to keep the budget down, council's decision to keep the municipal building and improve it, a great Memorial Day parade in 2002, the planning board is busier than ever, Light Rail system will be ready this year, homes selling at or above assessed value, and there is a vacancy on the school board. He also thanked voters for their confidence in him, and looks forward to a good year.

Each Council member offered remarks, congratulating newly elected members and looking forward to working together, and with city employees, to meet challenges facing the city.

Mr. Gehm moved, seconded by Mrs. Snyder, to open the meeting for public comment. All members present were in favor. Motion carried. John Haaf congratulated all council members for accepting the responsibility of serving their community. Solicitor William Kearns thanked Council for reappointing his firm as counsel for the city, and mentioned that his first job as a lawyer was here in Beverly. Jim Daly, Emergency Squad Captain, mentioned that the squad is going into its 55th year, and it has achieved more than any other squad in the state of NJ. This comment brought applause from council members and residents. Mr. Gioffre moved, seconded by Mrs. Snyder, to close the public comment portion. All present in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Hahn moved, seconded by Mrs. Snyder, to approve payment of bills. Ms. Lowden noted that another bill, to JIF, should be added to list. Ms. Setikas moved, seconded by Mrs. Snyder, to approve the amended bill list. Roll call showed the following members in favor: Gehm, Richards, Setikas, Phillips, Cook, Gioffre, Snyder, and Hahn. Absent was Bancroft. Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Absent – 1. Motion passed. (NOTE – the JIF bill was already approved at the Dec. 10 meeting, so it was not added to the current list).

Rev. Legnani offered a prayer to close the meeting. Mrs. Snyder moved, seconded by Mr. Hahn, to adjourn the meeting. All members present were in favor. Motion carried. President Pro-Tem Richards declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Attested by:

Theresa M. Lowden
Acting Deputy City Clerk

Nancy J. Richards
President Pro-Tem, Common Council