

**City of Beverly
Burlington County
January 7, 2020 – 7:00PM
Reorganization Meeting**

MINUTES

The Reorganization Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey was held on the aforementioned date with the following in attendance: Mayor Randy H. Miller, Council President Robert H. Bancroft, Councilwoman Grace M. Heron, Councilman Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilman Mark A. Schwedes, Councilwoman Bernadine Williams, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, Gina LaPlaca, Esq. on behalf of the City Solicitor, and Municipal Clerk Caitlin Midgette.

Municipal Clerk Midgette called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

The following opening statement was read by Municipal Clerk Midgette:

“The Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notice of this meeting, Resolution 2019-1, was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on January 9, 2019, emailed to the Camden Courier Post, filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 9, 2019 and was mailed to all persons requesting and paying for same.”

The above was followed by the Flag Salute and Roll Call.

OPENING INVOCATION

The opening invocation was performed by Pastor Margaret Bailey.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Senator Troy Singleton administered the oath of office to Mayor Randy H. Miller, Councilman Mark A. Schwedes, and Councilwoman Bernadine Williams.

ROLL CALL

Municipal Clerk Midgette called for Roll Call.

NOMINATIONS – COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A nomination was made by Councilman Lowden, and agreed upon by Councilman Schwedes, to appoint Councilman Bancroft as Council President for the year 2020.

There being no further nominations, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to close nominations. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to appoint Councilman Bancroft as Council President for the year 2020. Motion carried.

Councilman Bancroft expressed that it was an honor to be appointed Council President.

NOMINATIONS – COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO-TEM

A nomination was made by Councilman Lowden, and concurred upon by Councilman Schwedes, to appoint Councilwoman Heron as Council President Pro-Tem for the year 2020.

There being no further nominations, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to close nominations. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to appoint Councilwoman Heron as Council President Pro-Tem for the year 2020. Motion carried.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Miller appointed the following individuals to the Beverly City Planning Board:

- Ronald Paice – Class IV
- Loretta Kimber – Class IV
- Richard Wolbert – Class II

WELCOMING COMMENTS

Mayor Miller welcomed the public to tonight's meeting, and encouraged volunteerism in the community. Mayor Miller noted that it's the public's right to question and challenge the members of the Common Council, as they exist to serve Beverly's residents.

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to approve the following resolutions by Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Resolution 2020-1: A Resolution Establishing 2020 Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations for the Common Council of the City of Beverly

Resolution 2020-2: Resolution Designating Official Municipal Newspapers for the Calendar Year 2020

Resolution 2020-3: A Resolution Awarding Contracts for Professional Services for the City of Beverly for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-4: Resolution Establishing Annual Employee Appointments for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-5: Resolution Adopting 2020 Temporary Appropriations

Resolution 2020-6: Resolution Establishing a Cash Management Plan for the City of Beverly

Resolution 2020-7: A Resolution of the City of Beverly Fixing the Rate of Interest to be Charged for Non-Payment of Taxes, Assessments, and/or Other Municipal Charges Per N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-8: A Resolution Re-Establishing a Petty Cash Fund for the City of Beverly

Resolution 2020-9: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Payroll Services Agreement with CASA Payroll Services for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-11: Resolution Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Pay Certain Bills Prior to Bills List Approval

Resolution 2020-12: Resolution Authorizing Tax Collector to Process Property Tax Refund and Cancellation of Refund or Delinquency or Fees Imposed by the Municipality of Less Than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for the Year 2020

Resolution 2020-13: A Resolution Awarding a Contract for Professional Services for Municipal Prosecutor for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-14: A Resolution Authorizing Veterinary Services for Beverly City's 2020 Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic

Resolution 2020-16: Appeals/Adjustments/Stipulations of Settlement for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-17: Resolution Authorizing the City of Beverly to Enter into a Shared Service with the Township of Willingboro

Resolution 2020-18: A Resolution Re-Affirming the City of Beverly's Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that Come into Contract with Municipal Employees, Officials, and Volunteers

Resolution 2020-19: Resolution Authorizing Re-Appointment to the Position of Regional Contribution Agreement Administrator/Municipal Administrative Agent for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-20: A Resolution Authorizing Investment of Idle Funds and Fund Transfer for the 2020 Calendar Year

Resolution 2020-21: A Resolution Authorizing Employment of Personnel for the 2020 Free Rabies Clinic and Establishing Payment of Same

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adopt the above listed resolutions. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2020-10: Resolution Renewing Lease with the Sewerage Authority for the 2020 Calendar Year

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adopt Resolution 2020-10. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Schwedes, Williams

Nay:

Abstain: Lowden, Bancroft

Resolution 2020-15: Resolution Appointing Class III Member to the Beverly City Planning Board

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adopt Resolution 2020-15. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Lowden

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

City Administrator Wolbert stated that committee assignments for individual Council Members will be on the next agenda for consideration.

COMMENTS

Mayor Miller noted that the country's troops may be under threat due to current foreign matters, and asked that the troops be kept in thoughts and prayers.

Councilwoman Heron echoed the Mayor's comments, and wished the public a great new year.

Councilman Schwedes thanked the public for attending, and encouraged attendance at future Council Meetings.

Councilman Lowden reflected on the Mayor's comments about the country's troops. Mr. Lowden further noted that the current Common Council is the 163rd of the city, and thanked the Council, staff, and Senator Singleton for attending tonight's meeting.

Councilwoman Williams thanked those who attended tonight's meeting. Ms. Williams conveyed that Beverly has endured many changes throughout the years, and she will strive to ensure that the city returns to a thriving community.

Council President Bancroft thanked Councilwoman Williams for becoming involved as a public official, and stated that he hopes to return Beverly to a flourishing community.

City Administrator Wolbert thanked the Common Council, and introduced Municipal Clerk Midgette to the public. Mr. Wolbert expressed that there is a vision for the future of Beverly.

Gina LaPlaca Esq., thanked the Common Council on behalf of Raymond, Coleman, and Heinold, LLC.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Harold Robinson, 179 Warren Street, stated that the microphones need to be adjusted, as it was difficult to hear.

Ronald Paice, 527 Broad Street, reflected Mr. Robinson's comments.

Robert Thibault, 614 Wheatley Ave, congratulated Councilwoman Williams on her election.

Julie Van congratulated Councilwoman Williams on her election.

Antoinette Miles, Outreach Director for Congressman Andy Kim, read a letter into the record on behalf of the Congressman, congratulating the Common Council.

Brian Roberts congratulated the Common Council.

Pastor Margaret Bailey, of Bethel AME Church, stated that the city has been kind to her church, and that her church will do what it can to make Beverly a better place.

CLOSING INVOCATION

Pastor Bailey performed the closing invocation.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:41PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:

**Caitlin Midgette, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk**

Approved: January 21, 2020