

MUNICIPALITY OF KINGSTON TOWN COUNCIL
RE-ORGANIZATIONAL/REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 6, 2020

MINUTES

The re-organizational/regular meeting of the Town Council of the Municipality of Kingston was held in Council Chambers, 500 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston, Pennsylvania, on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Paul J. Roberts, Jr. called this meeting to Order.

Mayor Paul J. Roberts, Jr. asked Magistrate James J. Haggerty to swear in Councilwomen, Nancy Cooper and Roberta Rowlands as well as Councilman, Jack Schumacher. The Magistrate did so at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Roberts called for nominations for President of Council.

Mr. Rob Jacobs and Mrs. Nancy Cooper nominated Mr. Robert Thompson, Jr. to serve as President of Council. All other council members accepted this nomination.

No additional nominations were presented.

There being six (6) affirmative votes and no negative votes, nominations for President of Council were closed.

Mayor Roberts called for a vote for Robert Thompson, Jr. to serve as President of Council. The vote for Robert Thompson, Jr. to serve as President of Council was unanimous.

Mayor Roberts next called for nominations for Vice President of Council.

Mrs. Margaret Neville nominated Mr. Anthony Dicton to serve as Vice-President of Council.

No additional nominations were presented.

There being six (6) affirmative votes and no negative votes, nominations for Vice President of Council were closed.

Mayor Roberts called for a vote for Anthony Dicton to serve as Vice President of Council. The vote for Anthony Dicton to serve as Vice President of Council was unanimous.

Mayor Roberts turned the meeting over to Mr. Robert Thompson, Jr., who requested the roll call. Mr. Thompson said that it would be his pleasure to be President of Kingston Council.

The following members of Council were present.

Mr. Jack Shumacher Mrs. Nancy Cooper Mr. Rob Jacobs

Mrs. Roberta Rowlands Mr. Robert Thompson, Jr. – President

Mrs. Margaret Neville Mr. Anthony Dicton – Vice President

Others present: Paul J. Roberts, Jr., Mayor; Paul Keating, Administrator; Harry Mattern, Esq., Solicitor; Julie Norton, Secretary

SWEARING IN ROBERT MILLER, DETECTIVE:

At 7:06 p.m., Mayor Roberts swore in Robert Miller as Detective for the Kingston Municipal Police Department.

Chief Kotchik thanked the Mayor, Administration and Council members for their continued interest in Kingston. Detective Miller will be replacing Chief Kotchik's prior position. Now, Detective Miller will be working towards the fight against drugs.

CITIZENS REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

R. Clark Stewart, 12 Meyers Court - Mr. Stewart said that his area is looking good. Regarding, a resident speaking to council for three minutes is not what the law says. Getting back to the Meyers Court area, noise is still going on. Mr. Stewart looked up Section 123 of the E-Code and there are 47 instances that are

part of the Code. Mr. Stewart feels that the right person was paid off and that he has never been wrong. Mr. Stewart said that this subject can be discussed at a later date.

Greg Griffin, 42 Noyes Ave Swoyersville – Mr. Griffin wanted to thank Kingston, especially the Police Department, in all of the efforts regarding the drug problem in this area. Mr. Griffin is part of a group against opioids and is thankful for their efforts. Mr. Griffin

ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE:

Regarding Resolution 2020-2, fees have only slightly changed in residential permits.

DPW will be obtaining quotes so that the football field can be finished and ready to play on by May 15, 2020. A Resolution hopefully will be ready for the February meeting.

There will be an Executive Session after this meeting regarding personnel issues.

As of this date, the General Fund has a \$38,000.00 balance. All of Kingston’s bills are paid.

In 2019, employee buyouts were in the amount of \$100,000.00 which were budgeted.

AGENDA ITEM:

It was moved by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Schumacher that **Resolution 2020-1** which confirms the Mayor’s re-appointment of Citizens to various Authorities, Boards, and Commissions.

The vote of Council was recorded as follows:

Mr. Schumacher - Yes Mr. Diction – Yes Mrs. Rowlands – Yes

Mr. Jacobs - Yes Mrs. Cooper – Yes Mrs. Neville – Yes Mr. Thompson - Yes

Motion passes.

It was moved by Mrs. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Diction that **Resolution 2020-2; Re-Establishing Fees or Licenses and Permits**

The vote of Council was recorded as follows:

Mr. Schumacher - Yes Mr. Diction - Yes Mrs. Rowlands - Yes

Mr. Jacobs - Yes Mrs. Cooper - Yes Mrs. Neville - Yes Mr. Thompson - Yes

Motion passes.

REPORTS:

The Kingston Police Department responded to 30 from Pringle and 704 calls from Kingston. There were 5,614 parking tickets issued in 2019.

The Kingston Fire Department responded to 4235 EMS calls and 606 fire total calls for 2019. There were 418 calls in December.

Parks and Recreation have 645 total memberships.

Code Enforcement issued 7 violation letters, 3 non-traffic citation and inspected 14 properties.

Department of Public Works collected 233 tons of garbage and 128 tons single stream recycling. The Department of Public Works collected 2553 tons of garbage, 1335 tons of single stream recycling and applied 1300 tons of asphalt in 2019.

If anyone has any questions regarding the finance report, please call me.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Keating commended the police department regarding the recent vandalism at Keiper Park. The grills were spray painted, the metal sliding board was destroyed, the roofs were damaged and a few other things. Within one hour, the police had all six juveniles in custody. Between our cameras and our police department it has proven to be working very well. Welcome back Anthony.

Mayor Roberts also commended the police department and what a great job they did apprehending the juveniles. Welcome back Anthony.

Mr. Mattern spoke about the Franconi matter and that a mediation statement has been submitted and the next step will be an outcome. Hopefully, something can be worked out regarding this matter.

Mr. Schumacher thanked Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Rowlands regarding their re-election.

Mr. Dicton congratulated and thanked the Kingston police for all that they do for this community. Mr. Dicton also thanked council and everyone that has been involved with their kind words and contributions regarding Asher. Everyone has been amazing and it is great to know that we are not alone. On behalf of my wife and myself, thank you so much for all that has been done for our son.

Mrs. Rowlands welcomed the students who are attending this meeting and that Mr. Dicton's son is in her prayers.

Mr. Jacobs also welcomed the students attending as well as congratulating Detective Robert Miller's promotion.

Mrs. Cooper congratulated Detective Miller, welcomed students and great job to the police department. Happy New Year to everyone.

Mrs. Neville congratulated Detective Miller, the police department and wished everyone good health, happiness and prosperity for 2020.

Mr. Thompson welcomed the students and told Mr. Dicton that his family is in his prayers.

There being no new business and no further business, it was moved by Mrs. Cooper to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. An Executive Session will follow this meeting.

FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL:

Robert Thompson, Jr. President

ATTEST:

Julie Norton, Secretary

January 6, 2020