

January 6, 2014
Middletown, PA 17057

Prior to the meeting's commencement, Mayor James H. Curry III, and newly elected council members Tom Handley, Anne Marino Einhorn, Benjamin Kapenstein, Victoria Malone, along with Robert Louer, who was reelected, were sworn in Council's conference room by the Honorable Judge Bruce F. Bratton, of the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas.

The January 6, 2014 biennial reorganization meeting of the Middletown Borough Council was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor James H. Curry III.

Following an invocation by Deacon Cortez Jackson and the Pledge of Allegiance, the following Council members answered roll call: John Brubaker, Anne Marino Einhorn, Tom Handley, Benjamin Kapenstein, Robert Louer, Christopher R. McNamara, Victoria Malone, Scott Sites and Sue Sullivan.

Also present were Borough Manager Tim Konek, solicitor Adam Santucci, and Borough Secretary Chris Courogen.

Following the roll call, Magisterial District Judge Dave Judy performed a ceremonial, public swearing in of the newly elected officials.

Mayor Curry acknowledged his predecessor, Mayor Robert Reid, and thanked him for his many years of service, and also commented on his excitement to be a part of Borough government.

The Mayor then called for nominations for the office of Borough Council President.

Councilor Louer nominated Councilor McNamara. Councilor Sites nominated Councilor Kapenstein. Councilor McNamara was elected by a 5-4 vote, with Councilors Brubaker, Louer, Sullivan, Malone and McNamara voting in his favor.

Mayor Curry then called for nominations for Vice President. Councilor Brubaker nominated Councilor Louer. Councilor Einhorn nominated Councilor Sites. Councilor Louer was elected by a 5-4 vote, with Councilors Brubaker, Louer, Sullivan, Malone and McNamara voting in his favor.

Council President McNamara then assumed the chair and delivered his remarks, calling upon all Councilors to vote their conscience on matters that come before the Council and to keep in mind what is good for the community as a whole in making those decisions. He expressed hopes Council could come together to work to help the community come together for the good of the Borough.

Councilor Handley made a motion to approve the proposed meeting schedule for 2014. The motion was seconded by Councilor Louer. Following debate on the merits of advertising the first and third Mondays and the first and third Tuesdays, as had been done in the past; the motion was defeated by a 7-2 vote, with Councilor Louer and Council President McNamara dissenting.

Councilor Sites moved to advertise a proposed meeting schedule which eliminated the Tuesday dates. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sullivan and approved by a unanimous 9-0 vote.

Councilor Sullivan made a motion to appoint Michael Bowman as chair of the vacancy board.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Louer.

Councilor Handley asked if the decision could be postponed until Council's next meeting. Council President McNamara said it was a requirement during the reorganizational meeting. The motion was approved by a 5-4 vote, with Councilors Handley, Sites, Einhorn and Kapenstein dissenting.

Councilor Brubaker made a motion to appoint Herbert, Rowland & Grubic as the Borough's engineers. The motion was seconded by Councilor Malone and approved by a unanimous 9-0 vote.

Councilor Louer made a motion to appoint McNees, Wallace & Nurick as the Borough's solicitor. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sullivan and approved by a 6-3 vote, with Councilors Einhorn, Handley and Kapenstein dissenting.

Councilor Malone made a motion to appoint Zelenkofske Axelrod as the Borough's auditor. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sullivan and approved by a unanimous 9-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jack Still criticized the decision to advertise a more limited meeting schedule than in the past, saying it will cost the Borough extra money in the long run by having to run separate ads when extra meetings are needed.

Dawn Knull commented on the Nixle alert system and asked for an update on its status.

Secretary Courogen answered her query by explaining Nixle had done a test call and the Borough is now waiting for the full rollout of the system.

Jenny Miller commented on icy conditions at a school bus stop in the Borough. Council President McNamara asked Manager Konek to have the Borough's property maintenance code enforcement people look into it.

Diana McGlone announced she is organizing a party for former Mayor Reid at the Event Place on South Union Street and asked Council to authorize the expenditure of \$200 to pay for the venue and refreshments.

Councilor Handley made a motion to authorize the payment. The motion was seconded by Councilor Sullivan and approved by a 6-3 vote, with Councilors Brubaker, Louer and McNamara dissenting.

Mayor Curry commented that in light of the drastic cold conditions being forecast, he would like to have the Middletown Volunteer Fire Company available for use as a warming station if needed.

Council President McNamara asked for a motion to authorize the Mayor's request. Councilor Kapenstein made that motion, which was seconded by Councilor Einhorn and approved by a unanimous 9-0 vote.

Council President McNamara announced Council's next meeting would be Tuesday, January 21, due to that Monday being the Martin Luther King Day holiday.

Councilor Louer **made a motion to adjourn.** It was seconded by Councilor Kapenstein and approved by unanimous consent. At 7:12 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris A. Louer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Borough Secretary