

Lawrenceville Borough Council Reorganization Meeting

January 2, 2024 7:00 pm

Council Members present: Barry Mortimer, Anthony Urbano, Michelle Courtright, Robert Penzone Jr., Glenard Wetzel, Terry Gleason, Cyndy Burrows, Mayor- Kris Davis.

Audience present: See Attachment 1

6:58pm- Glenard Wetzel leaves the meeting to retrieve his council paperwork that is to be on file in the borough office.

- **Joyce Nichols** presented council with some paperwork regarding the Fire Department and how the money was spent-the previous payment they received from the CPA was 5,000 dollars short. She questioned if the CPA was still in place, Council Woman Courtright assured her that in fact the CPA is still in place.

7:00 pm The Honorable Kris Davis, Mayor of Lawrenceville calls the Reorganization Meeting to order-followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Davis directs council to review the prior meeting minutes looking for approval. Council Woman Burrows wanted "library holding non-library functions" redacted from page 2 of previous minutes, as it was not discussed.

7:02pm Glenard Wetzel returns to the meeting.

Motion to **APPROVE** the previous meeting minutes, as revised per Council Woman Cyndy Burrows request made by Councilman Penzone, Second by Councilman Mortimer.

- **ROLL CALL TO APPROVE MINUTES AS REVISED:** Penzone- Yes, Courtright- Yes, Burrows- **NO**, Mortimer, Yes- Gleason- Yes, Wetzel-Yes, Urbano- Yes. Motion Carried- 6-1 (Burrows only **NO** vote)

Nominations and Appointment of Borough President: prior to opening the nomination, Mayor Davis congratulated the Council as it is not an easy task.

- **Michelle Courtright** nominated **BARRY MORTIMER** for office of Borough President.
- **Cyndy Burrows** nominated **TERRY GLEASON** for office of Borough President.
- **Anthony Urbano** nominated **MICHELLE COURTRIGHT** for office of Borough President.

ROLL CALL for Barry Mortimer for President: Penzone- **No**, Courtright- Yes, Mortimer- Yes, Wetzel- **No**, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- **NO**, Urbano- Yes. Motion Carried 4-3 (Burrows, Penzone, Wetzel **NO** votes)

Barry Mortimer is now Lawrenceville Borough Council President- the meeting is then turned over from the MAYOR to PRESIDENT.

Nominations and Appointment for Borough Vice President:

- **Michelle Courtright** nominated **Anthony Urbano**
- **Terry Gleason** nominated **Eddie Wetzel**

ROLL CALL for Anthony Urbano for Vice President: Penzone- Yes, Courtright- Yes, Wetzel, **NO**, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 6-1 (Wetzel only **NO** vote.)

Nominations and Appointment for Borough Pro-Tem:

- **Cyndy Burrows** nominated **Terry Gleason**
- **Michelle Courtright** nominated **Bob Penzone**

ROLL CALL for Terry Gleason Borough Pro-Tem: Penzone- **No**, Courtright- **No**, Urbano- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Wetzel- Yes, Gleason- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 5-2 (Penzone, Courtright voted **NO**)

Nomination for Vacancy Board Chair:

- **Terry Gleason** nominated **Al Losey**.

ROLL CALL Vote for Al Losey Vacancy Board Chair: Penzone- **NO**, Courtright- Yes, Wetzel- Yes, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 6-1 (Penzone only **NO** vote).

Nominations for Borough Solicitor:

- **Cyndy Burrows** nominated **Attorney Chris Kenyon**
- **Michelle Courtright** nominated **Attorney Chris Lantz**

ROLL CALL for Attorney Chris Kenyon as solicitor: Penzone- Yes, Courtright- **NO**, Wetzel, Yes, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 6-1.(Courtright only **NO** vote).

Nominations for Borough Engineer:

- **Robert Penzone** nominated **Jimmie Joe Carl**.

Roll Call for Jimmie Joe Carl as Borough Engineer: Penzone- Yes, Courtright- Yes, Wetzel, Yes, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

****Motion to advertise for a secretary qualified per the employee handbook.** Motion made by Cyndy Burrows, 2nd by Terry Gleason.

- **ROLL CALL VOTE FOR MOTION TO ADVERTISE FOR A SECRETARY:** Penzone-Yes, Courtright- Yes, Wetzel, Yes, Burrows- Yes, Gleason- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carries 7-0.

****Motion to advertise for a treasurer qualified per the employee handbook.** Motion made by Eddie Wetzel, 2nd by Michelle Courtright. It was open for discussion- Penzone asked the current status of the CPA, as he thought she resigned effective 12/31/2023. Courtright told the council that she spoke to the CPA today, 1/2/2024 and the CPA will stay in effect until a new person is hired.

- **ROLL CALL VOTE FOR MOTION TO ADVERTISE FOR A TREASURER:** Penzone- Yes, Courtright- Yes, Wetzel- Yes, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carries 7-0.

Payment of the bills/borough financial report: tabled until the meeting January 9, 2024 7:00 pm
Michelle Courtright made the motion to table until next meeting, Terry Gleason 2nd.

- **Roll Call Vote to table payment of bills/borough financial report:** Penzone- Yes, Courtright- Yes, Wetzal- Yes, Gleason- Yes, Burrows-Yes, Urbano-Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

- **Angelina Barton- IonU Media:** Without a secretary being hired, is anyone volunteering to write the ads for advertisement for the secretary/treasurer position? Councilman Terry Gleason stated he would run the ads to ensure that they are not going to be run as blind ads in the newspaper.
- **Unknown individual:** I do not have an agenda, but when will you advertise when the next meeting is? Councilwoman Courtright responded January 9, 2024 7pm. It will be in the Corning Leader tomorrow. Council President Mortimer stated that re-occurring monthly meetings will be held on the first Monday of every month for the rest of the year, unless the Monday falls on a holiday, then it will be moved to Tuesday.
- **Terry Hartman:** Congratulations to the Council- I hope you can all work together, to get things done for the town.
- **Ira Whitney:** What time will the doors open for the meeting? Councilman Wetzal stated the doors should open the door 15 minutes prior to the meeting, or when the first council members arrive.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department: No Report

Police Report: Chief Shutt retired, Brad Wilson is now the Chief of Lawrence Township. 36 incidents for December, 8 of them were in the borough, 2 criminal arrests, drug offense, theft, 1 traffic stop citation, the month of December the borough had 13 ½ hours of police protection as the police vehicle was down due to a transmission issue. Also mentioned, they were upping the police fees for 2024, any questions on it can be directed to Township Supervisor Meechum.

Ambulance: No Report

Library: No Report

BOROUGH COMMITTEES: President to appoint borough council members to committees. President Mortimer is electing to table this selection until January 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Mayor: APEX quote to assist with the AOC to get the plant in order with plans, and to satisfy with DEP. The amount is 5,000. He hopes that the council will take this seriously and consider this option. Looking for a finalized administrative order, it was supposed to be in before Christmas- it is not in yet. He is waiting to hear from Lisa, the EPA attorney. He stated that APEX is working with the Attorney to assist with that plan. Generator- the uninterrupted service, the mayor is working with Cleveland Brothers, and is awaiting a return call to assist with a backup plan as it is a corrective action plan item with DEP. The generator has to be Title 5 permitted. Cleveland Brother is to meet at the plant to come up with a plan.

Angelina Barton IonU Media asked the Mayor if Jimmie Joe Carl has been involved in these discussions, and he stated that he is the one who will assist with the decision. Per Donna Blend, the borough is out of compliance with the DEP court order due to no generator.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion to advertise the 2024 Borough Council Calander in the newspaper

Michelle Courtright makes the motion that the meeting is the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm, unless it is a holiday then it moves to Tuesday. 2nd by Terry Gleason.

- **ROLL CALL VOTE TO ADVERTISE BOROUGH MEETING CALANDER IN NEWSPAPER:** Penzone- Yes, Courtright-Yes, Wetzel- Yes, Gleason- Yes, Burrows- Yes, Urbano- Yes, Mortimer- Yes. Motion Carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Darlene Hartman had a question regarding kids riding their bikes on the dykes, in the trailer park, etc. The discussion about the bikes, and kids climbing the trees concern from Yolanda Ayres between Officer Brackman, Chief Wilson gave advice as to what they should do if it occurs again.

****MOTION TO ADJOURN** made by Michelle Courtright, 2nd by Terry Gleason.

- **ROLL CALL VOTE to adjourn the meeting:** Penzone-Yes, Courtright-Yes, Wetzel-Yes, Gleason-Yes, Burrows-Yes, Urbano-Yes, Mortimer-Yes. Motion Carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm January 2, 2024.

The next **LAWRENCEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL** meeting will be held January 9, 2024 at 7:00pm at the borough hall.

Barry Mortimer, Borough Council President

Secretary