

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Reorganization Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2015

The reorganization meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Monday, January 4th, in Council Chambers at Borough Hall and called to order by Mayor Hovis at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken by Manager Paashaus. All present were Mayor Hovis, Council Members Balascak, Felch, Greenland, Pica, Poot, Thrapp, Engineer Erdman, and Solicitor Alpert.

OATH OF OFFICE

Judge Trexler administered the Oath of Office for Council Members Felch, Poot, and Thrapp.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mayor Hovis opened the floor for nominations for Council President. Felch was nominated by Thrapp, and the nomination was seconded by Balascak. **Felch was elected as the new Council President by a vote of 6-0.**

Mayor Hovis opened the floor for nominations for Council Vice President. Balascak was nominated by Greenland, and the nomination was seconded by Thrapp. **Balascak was elected as the new Council Vice President by a vote of 6-0.**

At this time, the meeting was turned over to Council President Felch to preside.

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

A Motion was made by Pica and seconded by Thrapp to reappoint all current advisors. Balascak stated that the Zoning Officer should be replaced and expressed his concern with reappointing Barry Isett and Associates. There was further discussion regarding this concern and parliamentary procedure. Balascak made a Motion to amend the original motion on the floor by removing the reappointment of the Zoning Officer. Greenland seconded the amendment. **The Amendment passed by a vote of 6-0.** There was further discussion regarding the reappointment of all remaining advisors, and Council requested that the Health Inspector give reports or attend meetings by invite. **The Motion to reappoint all remaining advisors passed by a vote of 6-0 (Solicitor – Gross McGinley, Engineer – Keystone Consulting Engineers, Code Enforcement Officer – Barry Isett, and Health Inspector – Lee Lilley).**

COUNCIL VACANCY

Council President Felch stated that Council needed to appoint a person to fill the Council Member vacancy created by Mack's resignation. The position was advertised and previous candidates were invited to attend the meeting. Eric Snyder, 425 E. State Street, was in attendance and stated that he was interested in filling the vacancy. Snyder is the original Borough Police Chief's grandson, lives in the Borough, is interested in being involved locally, and is a remodeling contractor. Mayor Hovis stated that he has known Snyder and his family for many years and stated that he was of good character. Pica stated that he has known Snyder the majority of his life, vouched for his character, appreciates his good work ethic, and dependability. A Motion was made by Thrapp and seconded by Pica to appoint Eric Snyder to the vacant Council position. This vacancy is for 2 years and will expire at the end of 2017. **Snyder was appointed to Council by a vote of 6-0.**

Mayor Hovis administered the Oath of Office to Snyder.

SELECTION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The 2016 – 2017 Committee Assignments are as follows:
Balascak and Greenland – Infrastructure Committee
Poot and Pica – Administration Committee
Mayor Hovis, Thrapp, and Snyder – Public Safety Committee

PUBLIC MEETING DATES

A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Thrapp to approve the meeting dates for 2016 and 2017. **The Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.**

The 2016 – 2017 Public Meeting Dates are as follows:

1. Council Committee Workshop – First Monday of every month at 7:00 PM (except July and September due to holidays)
2. Regular Council Meeting – Third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM

ZONING OFFICER APPOINTMENT

Council Member Balascak stated that there was concern regarding the current Zoning Officer. There was further discussion regarding adequate coverage, problems with communication, enforcement issues, questionable decisions, and possible solutions. A Motion was made by Balascak and seconded by Greenland to appoint Keystone Consulting Engineers as the Zoning Officer for the Borough. There was further discussion regarding costs, clarification of zoning vs. building enforcement, and concerns regarding making a decision without understanding all details of the appointment. Keystone Consulting Engineers was appointed as the Borough’s Zoning Officer by a vote of 6-1 (Pica = Nay).

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Balascak made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Felch. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

John Felch, Jr. – Council President