

Minutes
Coatesville City Council Organizational Meeting
Monday, January 4, 2010

Call to Order

City Manager Harry G. Walker called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Incumbent council members present were Martin Eggleston, Karen Jorgenson, and Edward Simpson. Council elect members included Jarrell Brazzle, Joseph Hamrick, Ingrid Jones and Karl Marking. Staff members present included City Solicitor Andrew Lehr, City Manager Harry Walker, Assistant City Manager Kirby Hudson, Chief of Police Julius Canale, Director of Public Works Donald Wilkinson, Director of Planning and Codes Enforcement Damalier Molina, Fire Chief Kevin Johnson, Director of Finance Stacy Bjorhus and Recording Secretary Ruthann Mowday.

Swearing in of Newly Elected Officers

Mr. Walker asked Reverend Miller to come to the podium to swear in the new Council members. Mr. Marking informed Mr. Walker that Judge Hines would be swearing him in. Mr. Jarrell Brazzle read the oath with his hand on the bible held by his mother, Ewana Ford and friend, Kirk Okauranura, and was sworn in by Reverend Miller. Mr. Joseph Hamrick read the oath with his hand held on the bible held by his wife, Susan Hamrick, and was he sworn in by Reverend Miller. Mrs. Ingrid Jones read the oath with her hand held on the bible as she was sworn in by Rev. Miller. Mr. Karl Marking read the oath with his hand held on the bible held by his friend, Harriett Smith, as he was sworn in by Judge Gregory Hines.

Mr. Simpson made the motion to retire to executive session at 3:12 pm; Mr. Eggleston seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Marking was the dissenting vote.

Council reassembled at 3:20 p.m.

Election of City Council President

Mr. Walker opened the floor to nominations for the City Council President for the year 2010.

Mr. Eggleston nominated Edward Simpson for the position of City Council President.

Mr. Eggleston motioned to appoint Edward Simpson as City Council President; Mr. Marking seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Election of City Council Vice President

Mr. Simpson opened the floor to nominations for the position of City Council Vice President.

Mrs. Jones nominated Karl Marking for the position of City Council Vice President.

Mr. Brazzle nominated Karen Jorgenson for the position of City Council Vice President.

Mr. Simpson asked if there were any more nominations for the position of City Council Vice President. The being no further comments the nominations were closed.

Mrs. Jones motioned to approve Karl Marking as City Council Vice President; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Brazzle and Mr. Eggleston were the dissenting votes.

Actions Items

1. Receive and consider for adoption a Resolution 2010-1 approving City Council meeting dates for the year 2009.

Mrs. Jones stated the date August 24th was a Tuesday. Mr. Walker asked staff to changed the date from August 24th to August 23rd. Mr. Marking asked for the budget meetings and workshop dates to be added to the Resolution. Mr. Simpson suggested a separate Resolution regarding Budget workshop/meetings dates.

Mr. Brazzle motioned to approve the Resolution for City Council Meeting Dates for the year 2010 with the date correction; Mr. Eggleston seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Receive and consider for adoption a Resolution 2010-2 designating emergency response services for the year 2010.

Mr. Marking asked for additional wording in the Resolution recognizing the Coatesville Bureau of Fire Department compromising the paid firefighters and volunteer firefighters. Mr. Marking read the proposed wording as “IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the City of Coatesville Bureau of Fire (Coatesville Fire Department) - comprised of the City's paid fire fighters and volunteers of the Central Station (Washington Hose Fire Company No. 1) and the West Station (West End Fire Company No. 3) - are designated as the primary providers of fire and rescue protection within the City limits in the City of Coatesville” and add the requirement for annual attendance at the free seminars offered by PEMA in the County to the Resolution.

Mr. Eggleston made the motion to adopt a Resolution 2010-2 designating emergency response services for the year 2010 with necessary changes; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Marking made the motion to remove current Solicitor Andrew Lehr; Mr. Marking seconded the motion. Mrs. Jorgenson inquired as to why the decision must be made today at the Organizational meeting and when will he be replaced. Mr. Simpson stated the issue will be addressed today. Mrs. Jorgenson voiced her concerns about the decision today. There has been no opportunity to consider a new replacement. Mr. Walker inquired about the transition. Mr. Brazzle stated this is not a smart decision at this time. Mrs. Jorgenson voiced her concerns on the decision made at the

organizational meeting. Mr. Simpson stated he had the same concerns four years ago. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Brazzle and Mrs. Jorgenson were the dissenting votes.

Mr. Marking made the motion to appoint John Carnes as City Solicitor and Sianna Bellwoar, as Special Counsel. Mr. John Carnes provided Council with a synopsis of his municipal experience with the City of Coatesville and other municipalities. Mr. Brazzle asked Mr. Carnes if he was interviewed. Mr. Carnes replied no, he did not meet with anyone. Mr. Brazzle asked Mr. Carnes the hourly rate. Mr. Carnes stated the municipality rate is \$135.00. Mr. Brazzle asked Mr. Lehr his current rate. Mr. Lehr replied \$150.00. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Eggleston made the motion to place Mr. Walker, City Manager, on administrative leave; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Mr. Brazzle inquired on who would replace Mr. Walker in the interim. Mr. Simpson stated Mr. Hudson will serve as interim City Manager. Mr. Brazzle stated the City will pay Mr. Walker to sit at home. Mrs. Jorgenson asked why the decision needs to be made today. Mr. Eggleston stated Mr. Walker does not have the competence to run the City. He has reached the limits and the City needs to move in another direction. Mrs. Jorgenson stated Mr. Walker currently has a contract with the City. Mr. Brazzle stated the new Council has not had an opportunity to work with Mr. Walker. Mr. Marking stated he has been on Council for 55 minutes but has been a City resident for five years and has been doing his due diligence for five years. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Brazzle and Mrs. Jorgenson were the dissenting votes.

Mr. Brazzle made the motion to appoint Mr. Kirby Hudson, as Interim City Manager, Mr. Marking seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Comments – City Council President

Mr. Simpson thanked fellow Council for their support. He is honored and humble. He needs all seven members to be a part of this year. There will be openness and fairness from Council. All matters will be brought before Council.

Comments – City Council Vice President

Mr. Marking thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Mr. Marking stated he has been consistent throughout his entire campaign regarding openness and transparency.

Comments – City Council Members

Mr. Brazzle thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked God, his family and the citizens for the support and trust. Mr. Brazzle stated he will work hard to move the City forward. There are seven members of Council who want to move the City forward. The Council members may not always agree, but the one thing they agree on is to move the City forward.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Mrs. Jones stated she hopes and prays the Council goes by the rules and follows the book, and then there will be no problems.

Mr. Hamrick thanked everyone for attending. Mr. Hamrick thanked the voters. Mr. Hamrick stated his goal is to strengthen the Fire and Police Department. Council will continue to thrive and move the City forward.

Mrs. Jorgenson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Mrs. Jorgenson stated she is looking forward to work with Council. She has a great interest in the City. Mrs. Jorgenson announced she is very regretful on what has happened to some of the homes in the City. She hopes to get the drugs off the street and have the homes cleaned up.

Mr. Eggleston announced he is grateful and thankful to participate with this group. The group will move the City to the next level. Mr. Eggleston announced he was thankful and appreciative to work as president of Council. It was a good experience. The Council will not always agree on everything. There are seven members who represent the entire City. Every Council person will work openly and directly.

Mr. Eggleston motioned to adopt Robert's Rules of Order; Mr. Marking seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Adjournment

Mr. Marking motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 pm; Mr. Eggleston seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Kirby Hudson
Interim City Manager