

OFFICIAL MINUTES JANUARY 2, 2018

SWEARING IN CEREMONY – 7:00 PM

MAYOR

Judge Albert Iacocca was presented with the Affidavit of Residency for Matthew W. Fetick and administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Matthew W. Fetick for a four (4) year term.

COUNCIL

Mayor Matthew W. Fetick was presented with the Affidavits of Residency and administered the Oath of Office to the following Councilmembers:

- Ethan L. Cramer, four (4) year term
- LaToya M. Myers, four (4) year term
- Brenda Mercomes, four (4) year term
- Peter L. Waterkotte, four (4) year term

The Biennial Reorganization Meeting of January 2, 2018 of Council for the Borough of Kennett Square was called to order at 7:10 p.m. in the Red Clay Room of the Kennett Fire Company No. 1, 423 Dalmatian Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania with Mayor Matthew W. Fetick in the Chair.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilmember Wayne Braffman
Councilmember Ethan L. Cramer
Councilmember J. Douglas Doerfler
Councilmember James Mallon
Councilmember Brenda Mercomes
Councilmember LaToya M. Myers
Councilmember Peter L. Waterkotte

Mayor Matthew W. Fetick
Borough Manager Joseph C. Scalise
Solicitor Marc D. Jonas

INFORMATIONAL SESSION

The Mayor announced that some members of Council attended an Informational Meeting on December 7, 2017, 5 p.m., at the Kennett Township municipal building. The purpose of this meeting was meet and greet the new Economic Development Director, Nathaniel Echeverria.

OFFICE of PRESIDENT of BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Mayor asked for nominations for the position of President of Borough Council.

Councilmember Braffman nominated Councilmember Myers to serve as President of Borough Council

With no further nominations, the Mayor closed the nominations.

Council voted unanimously to elect Councilmember Myers to serve as President.

The Mayor declared that Councilmember Myers has been elected to serve as President of Borough Council.

OFFICE of VICE PRESIDENT of BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Mayor requested nominations for the position of Vice President of Borough Council.

Councilmember Mallon nominated Councilmember Doerfler to serve as Vice President.

Councilmember Braffman nominated Councilmember Cramer to serve as Vice President of Borough Council.

With no further nominations, the Mayor closed the nominations.

Councilmembers Mallon, Waterkotte and Doerfler voted for Councilmember Doerfler to serve as Vice President.

Councilmembers Braffman, Cramer, Myers and Mercomes voted for Councilmember Cramer to serve as Vice President.

With a vote of 3 to 4, the Mayor declared that Councilmember Cramer has been elected to serve as Vice President of Borough Council.

TRANSFER of the CHAIR

The Mayor passed the Chair to President Myers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Thomas, 406 South Broad Street, congratulated the new members of Council.

Francesca Caccamo, 240 North Washington Street and member of the Mini-THON Committee at Kennett High School, announced that in addition to the 2018 MINI-Thon, the Committee will host a basketball game played by the Harlem Wizards and Kennett Consolidated School District Faculty on February 10th at 5 p.m. She invited members of Borough Council to play alongside the faculty. The purpose of these events is to raise money for the Four Diamonds Funds, an organization that provides medical and financial support for children battling cancer.

Linda Thesis, President of Kennett Square Merchants Association (KARMA) and owner of Kennett Jewelers, urged Council not to adopt the amendments to the parking meter ordinance tonight; she is against the proposed increase of the enforcement times.

Charla Watson, 523 Magnolia Street, congratulated the new members of Council. She expressed concern of the increasing number of permit parking zones and stated that the parking spaces in front of the Friends Homes should be metered and not permit parking. Ms. Watson would like the tables and chairs in front of the restaurants be removed during the cold months. It also concerns Ms. Watson that the building at 120 East State Street has still not opened and is up for lease. She recommended the number of terms on the Borough's boards and commissions be limited. In addition, Ms. Watson wants the brightness of the new street lights to be corrected.

Lee Michaels, Owner of Grain Craft Beer, 108 West State Street, stated that he is eager to hear the comments about the parking meter ordinance.

Kathleen Caccamo, 240 North Washington Street, asked Council to table action on the ordinance regarding the parking meters.

Andrew Smith, 514 Magnolia Street and Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, stated that members of his church often park at metered spaces to attend services and activities at the church. He expressed his support for the recent increase in the parking meter rates however he asked Council not to pass the parking meter ordinance as it is worded and vote against the new parking meter schedule.

Thomas Taylor, 211 South Union Street, stated that increasing the parking meter times will push people away from coming to our community. He urged Council not to pass the parking meter ordinance.

Steve Warner, the Kennett Square Inn at 201 East State Street, shared his belief that the parking meter program is run poorly and feels it will push people away if the enforcement start time is changed to 8 a.m.

Randy Currie, owner of Currie Hair, Skin, and Nails at 121 East State Street, does not want to see extended parking meter hours stating that people would rather go to suburban malls where they don't have to pay for parking. He asked Council not to pass the ordinance.

Jack Mavraj, La Verona, 114 East State Street, stated that it is not a good idea to extend the parking meter hours of operation. He believes it will push customers away to West Chester.

Ken Edwards, 412 Meredith Street, welcomed the new elected Council and asked them to remember the oaths they took this evening.

ADOPTION of AGENDA

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Braffman to approve the agenda.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Braffman to amend the agenda to include the resolution establishing the Council Personnel Committee.

Vice President Cramer said right now we don't have a contract for our Borough Manager which it is not fair to him, or us, or our constituents. This is something that can be worked on by the Personnel Committee.

A discussion ensued.

Councilmember Waterkotte stated he needed more time to review the resolution and does not feel comfortable discussing the matter at this time.

Councilmember Mercomes stated she does not have a problem with the amending the agenda but she does not want to vote on something she has not seen, referring to the resolution.

The motion to amend the agenda did not carry with a vote of 0 to 7.

It was moved by Councilmember Mallon and seconded by Councilmember Waterkotte to amend the agenda by removing the public meeting and ordinance regarding the parking meters.

A discussion ensued.

Councilmember Mallon withdrew his motion to amend the agenda.

The original motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously

REPORTS

HISTORIC KENNETT SQUARE (HKS)

Mary Hutchins, Executive Director, reported the following:

- They are working on creating a survey for the merchants regarding the holiday season and what activities work for them.
- Nate Echeverria has settled into his role as the Economic Development Director.
- HKS is working on the Winterfest to be held February 24th.
- The Winter Farmers Market continues until May.

As a result of talking to merchants and customers regarding the parking meter ordinance, Ms. Hutchins stated that they support the increase in parking rates but are concerned about increasing the enforcement times.

KENNETT AREA PARK AUTHORITY (KAPA)

Prissy Roberts, Board Member of KAPA, read aloud the written report that was included in the Council packet.

CONSENT ITEMS

President Myers announced that the following Consent Items are deemed approved if there are no objections.

- Minutes from December 4, 2017.
- Minutes from December 19, 2017.
- Bills that were paid since December 4, 2017.

PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11, MOTOR VEHICLES and TRAFFIC – PARKING METERS

The Borough Solicitor advised that the purpose of this public meeting is to discuss the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 11, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Parking Meters.

The Borough Manager gave a brief history on how this item began with the Finance Committee.

It was moved by Councilmember Doerfler and seconded by Councilmember Mallon to open this item up for discussion.

Councilmember Doerfler said that he talked to a lot of the business owners and they shared the same concerns that were shared by the public this evening.

Councilmember Braffman read pertinent parts of the letter from former Councilmember Bosley supporting the increase of the parking meter enforcement times. The letter will be filed with the minutes from this meeting.

Councilmember Mallon stated he has the same concern expressed by Mr. Bosley about the same car sitting in the same metered space for hours on end.

Vice President Cramer agreed that more things to be considered before adopting this ordinance and it is very premature to change the parking meter hours at this time. He would like to see a parking study completed before we amend the parking ordinance.

Councilmember Mercomes stated this she is against voting on this without a parking study.

Councilmember Waterkotte agreed that Council has to consider the many negative comments made by the public this evening and not vote on the ordinance tonight.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11, MOTOR VEHICLES and TRAFFIC – PARKING METERS

President Myers presented the ordinance amending Chapter 11, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Parking Meters.

It was moved to Councilmember Braffman and Councilmember Doerfler to approve the ordinance as presented. The motion did not carry with a vote of 0 to 7.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-01 APPOINTMENT of ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS – BOROUGH SECRETARY, BOROUGH TREASURER and OPEN RECORDS OFFICERS

President Myers presented the resolution making the following administrative appointments for the year 2018:

- Borough Secretary – Karen L. Scherer.
- Borough Treasurer – Lisa Ionata.
- Open Records Officer – Karen L. Scherer.
- Open Records Officer, Police Department Only – William T. Holdsworth, Chief of Police.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Doerfler to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The resolution was assigned No. 2018-01.

VACANCY BOARD

Borough Secretary Karen Scherer advised that Borough resident Leon Spencer has served in this capacity for the past two (2) years. He is willing to continue to serve however she advised that any resident/registered voter of the Borough is eligible to serve in this capacity.

It was moved by Councilmember Braffman and seconded by Cramer to appoint Borough resident Penny D'Ottavio to the Vacancy Board.

Councilmember Braffman stated that she is well involved by attending Council meetings and reporting on such on social media. She is an epitome of what we want from our residents.

Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS and COMMISSIONS RE-APPOINTMENTS

President Myers presented the following people for re-appointment to their respective Boards and Commissions as follows:

- **Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs (ACOLA)**
Two (2) year term will expire January 1, 2020
 - Mayra Zavala Zavala
 - Salvador Lopez-Hernandez
 - Rosendo Mata
 - Kathleen Snyder
 - Luis Tovar
- **Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB)**
Three (3) year term will expire January 1, 2021
 - Stephen Conyers – *this was in error; not up for re-appointment.*
- **Kennett Area Park Authority (KAPA)**
Five (5) year term will expire January 1, 2023
 - Richard Lyon
- **Planning Commission**
Four (4) year term will expire 1/1/22
 - Myra Miller
 - David L Myers
- **Property Maintenance Appeals Board**
Five (5) year term will expire 1/1/23
 - Donald Wilson
- **Shade Tree Commission**
Five (5) year term will expire 1/1/23
 - Thomas Schrier
- **UCC Appeals Board**
Five (5) year term will expire 1/1/23
 - William Sinton

- **Zoning Hearing Board**
Three (3) year term will expire 1/1/21
 - Mary Hricik

It was moved by Councilmember Mallon and seconded by Councilmember Doerfler to approve these reappointments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS and COMMISSIONS

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, REGULAR MEMBER

APPOINTMENT

President Myers presented the appointment of the following Borough resident as a Regular Member of the Civil Service Commission:

- Katherine Sprick, term expires January 1, 2019.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded Councilmember Mallon to approve the appointment as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

SWEARING IN

The Mayor swore in Katherine Sprick as a Regular Member of the Civil Service Commission.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND REVIEW COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councilmember Braffman and seconded by Councilmember Doerfler to postpone this item indefinitely until Nate Echeverria, Economic Development Director, is able to meet with each of the residents interested in serving on the Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD (HARB) APPLICATION

CERTIFICATE of APPROPRIATENESS

322 EAST LINDEN STREET

President Myers presented for approval the following HARB application:

- 322 East Linden Street – Exterior Stucco and Windows.

Clara Saxton, HARB Secretary, gave a description of the application and advised the HARB, by a unanimous vote, recommended the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) be issued.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded Councilmember Doerfler to approve the application and issue the COA as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

KENNETT BIKE RACK PROJECT

The Borough Manager advised that several months ago Josie Marsh gave a presentation to Council about the Bike Kennett organization. The organization has been working on the Kennett Bike Rack Project and has obtained sponsors for the purchase of 20 bike racks. Bike Kennett is requesting that the Borough take ownership of two (2) bike racks in the right of way in the downtown district and also five (5) at Pennock Park.

Councilmember Waterkotte advised that he has been working with Josie Marsh on the Kennett Bike Rack Project and as an avid bicyclist. He said that it can be difficult to find a place to secure your bike.

It was moved Councilmember Mallon and seconded by Councilmember Waterkotte to approve the Borough taking ownership of seven (7) bike racks as presented.

Councilmember Braffman stated he opposes this and doesn't know why we are assuming that kind of liability. He recommended that we put bike racks in the garage where they would be out of the way.

A discussion ensued.

Motion carried with a vote of 5 to 2 with Councilmember Braffman and President Myers voting no.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Thomas, 406 South Broad Street, said he thinks the bike racks should be put out of the way in out coves and away from the main street. He said the merchants should take some responsibility regarding parking. He does not want the old Borough Hall torn down to expand the parking garage nor does he want the citizens to pay for the garage.

Kathleen Caccamo, 240 North Washington Street, commended and thanked Kathi Lafferty and her committee for another successful Midnight in the Square.

Linda Theiss, President of KARMA, thanked Council for not approving the parking meter ordinance. She is more than willing to work with the Borough to find solutions to the resolve the parking issues. She asked that the Borough look into failing parking meters.

Charla Watson, 523 Magnolia Street, said Council works for the citizenry of Kennett Square and not the businesses and the business owners should come up with their own parking. She is against the bike racks being in the right of way in the downtown and suggested that The Creamery become a permanent farmers market.

Tony D'Ottavio, 516 East South Street, asked Council if they spoke with Bob Burton about the parking meters. He said that the bicyclists he sees do not obey the vehicle code and recommended we put up signs as you enter the Borough that we enforce all bicycle laws.

Clara Saxton, 120 West Linden Street, said it is important to get landlords to attend the meetings, especially when it pertains to parking that will affect their buildings.

Ken Edwards, 412 Meredith Street, said he has seen too many near accidents involving bicyclists and vehicles at the intersection of Meredith and Mulberry Streets. He asked if there is a parking authority in the Borough.

PRESIDENT REPORT

President Myers advised that she is not prepared to make Council appointments to committees at this time.

President Myers reminded the public that the Borough is partnering with the Martin Luther King, Jr. CommUNITY in the "Change For Change" Municipal Challenge to benefit the local food banks. The collection jar will be located in the front office of Borough Hall after tonight's meeting.

COUNCIL, MANAGER and MAYOR COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

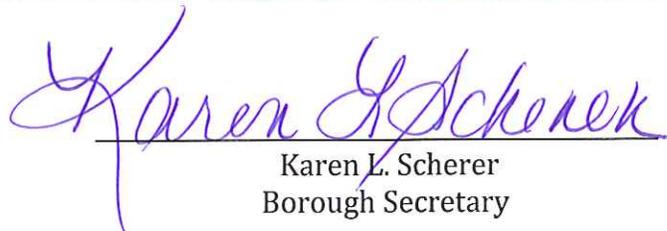
The Borough Manager advised that Borough received another grant for the Parking Garage Expansion Project. This is a state grant in the amount of \$750,000 bringing our total of grant awards to \$1,250,000. At the next meeting, he will be asking Council for an official answer as whether or not they want to move forward and go through with the grant application process. He also announced that during their special meeting on December 19, 2017, Council approved a new electrical generation contract which will save the Borough approximately \$30,000 per year.

Councilmember Braffman questioned if we are addressing the parking meters that are not working properly.

The Borough Manager advised that due to the increase in the parking rates, we have purchased new clocks for the meters that should resolve these issues.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Myers adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.


Karen L. Scherer
Borough Secretary