

The Borough Council of Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania held its re-organizational meeting January 2, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at Borough Hall, One Park Lane, Shiremanstown, Pennsylvania.

Mayor Dailey administered the Oath of Office to the following elected council members:

Anna Harris
Stevie Krpata
Cindy Watson

Mayor Dailey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

John Getz
Lucy Getz
Anna Harris
Bryan Homer
Stevie Krpata
Carol Mullen-O'Leary
Cindy Watson

BOROUGH OFFICIALS PRESENT

Tammie G. Dailey, Mayor
Andrew Sheely, Esq., Solicitor
George Lane, CPA, Treasurer
Janna Colechio, Secretary

CITIZEN'S REPORT

Citizens Present:

Christopher Krpata
Brad Wright

32 West Main Street
317 East Main Street, Apt B

Mayor Dailey opened the floor for nominations for the position of Council President. Mr. Homer nominated Mr. Getz for the Office of Council President. With a second from Dr. Mullen-O'Leary, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Dailey turned the meeting over to President Getz.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for nominations for the position of Council Vice-President. Mrs. Harris nominated Bryan Homer for the position of Council Vice-President. With a second from Mrs. Krpata, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for nominations for the position of Borough Secretary. Mrs. Watson nominated Janna Colechio for the position of Borough Secretary. With a second from Mrs. Getz, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for nominations for the position of Borough Treasurer. Mrs. Watson nominated George W. Lane, CPA, for the position of Borough Treasurer. With a second from Dr. Mullen-O'Leary, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for the nominations for the position of Borough Auditor. Mr. Lane advised Mr. Getz that the auditor who previously performed the annual audit is no longer interested in completing the Borough's audit; however, Mr. Lane continues to research for a qualified municipal auditor and expects to be able to make a recommendation to Council soon.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for nominations for the position of Borough Solicitor. Mrs. Getz nominated Andrew Sheely, Esq., for the position of Borough Solicitor. With a second by Dr. Mullen-O'Leary, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for nominations for the position of Borough Engineer. Dr. Mullen-O'Leary nominated Phillip Brath, P.E., of Gibson-Thomas Engineering for the position of Borough Engineer. With a second from Mrs. Watson, the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Getz opened the floor for nominations for the position of Borough Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer. Mrs. Krpata nominated Jodi Alloway for the position of Borough Zoning/Codes Enforcement Officer. With a second from Mr. Homer, the motion passed unanimously.

Appointments of Borough Representatives and Liaisons

Dr. Mullen-O'Leary was appointed as the liaison to Advanced Waste and chair of the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee.

Mrs. Harris was appointed as the liaison to the Recreation Committee and chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Mr. Homer was appointed as the chair of the Streets and Pavements Committee.

Mrs. Getz was appointed as chair of the Main Street Corridor Committee.

Mrs. Watson was appointed to the position of Local Emergency Management Coordinator and Public Safety Committee while acting as the liaison to the Shiremanstown Fire Department.

Mrs. Krpata was appointed as the liaison to the Mechanicsburg Area School District while representing the Borough at the School Board meetings.

Mr. Getz was appointed as the chair of the Grounds and Maintenance Committee as well as representing the Borough at the Council of Governments.

The Planning Committee currently has two members and needs an additional three members. Appointments to the Planning Committee were tabled until the January 8, 2024, meeting of Council.

The Zoning-Hearing Board currently has two members and needs an additional member. Mr. Sheely explained a third member is advisable to avoid a situation where a tie vote would result in an automatic resolution in the applicant's favor. Mrs. Getz made a motion to nominate Matthew Simmons to the Zoning-Hearing Board with a four-year term to end December 31, 2028. With a second from Dr. Mullen-O'Leary, the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Simmons will be advised of his appointment to this position.

Public Comment

No Comments were heard from the public.

STATEMENTS BY BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Mr. Homer stated that though most of the Council members were assigned to one task, that does not prevent them from being involved with other committees should they have an interest. Mr. Homer also questioned the place the Council holds in matters of the Shiremanstown Fire Department. Mr. Getz replied that the Shiremanstown Fire Department is a separate entity, and the Borough does not interfere with their elections or internal activities. The Borough is required to cover workmen's compensation for its members as they are designated to provide services to the Borough. However, there are requirements the Council may require, such as monthly financial reports and activities, prior to any additional contributions.

Mr. Sheely advised the Council of procedural operations within the Borough. Because the Borough is small, it has no Borough Manager. Any concerns should be shared with the Secretary or the Solicitor to distribute information to other officials or employees. He reminded the Council that background clearances have been agreed upon for all volunteers under Borough jurisdiction, including the elected officials. Additionally, Mr. Sheely reminded all the members of the Council they have qualified immunity for opinions expressed at the Council meetings; however, communications outside of the meeting are subject to the Open Records Act and the Sunshine Law. Therefore, members were discouraged from using cell phones or social media to discuss any concerns about the Borough shared with them privately. All members were encouraged to use a separate email (preferably one provided as their committee chair) for any borough questions as these are subject to discovery if a Right-to-Know request is made. Should a subject come up, it is best to bring the matter up at a public meeting or provide to the Secretary for dissemination to avoid violations of the Sunshine Law. Items for the meeting should be directed to the Secretary to place on the agenda prior to the meeting. Any concerns brought to the meetings are addressed under the Citizens Report. This is the time for them to make their concerns known. Otherwise, they are there to observe as the Council conducts business. From time to time, an Executive Session is called to discuss matters confidential and/or sensitive in nature. Meetings are typically held at the end of the regular Council meeting. Matters discussed in the Executive Session are to remain confidential and not discussed with members of the public. If any of the Council members has knowledge of a situation that should be discussed in Executive Session, they should notify him or the Council President. Dr. Mullen-O'Leary asked if follow-up to solutions given in an Executive Session require another Executive Session, or if they would be discussed publicly. Mr. Getz responded that measures taken will be discussed at a public meeting without any specific reference to the Executive Session. Mr. Sheely reminded the Council that committee designations are volunteer positions, and if anyone is unable to attend functions related to their committee, they are free to say they do not have a report that month. Likewise, if any member of the Council feels there is a need for a committee not currently on the Agenda, they may suggest it at a Council meeting. A quorum consists of any four members of the Council meeting together. All members must be careful that no business or decisions are made if more than three members are in attendance either socially or at a meeting. This raised questions within the Council as to members who are serving on the Sesquicentennial Committee. Mr. Sheely explained that because the Sesquicentennial Committee cannot make binding decisions without first presenting to the Borough Council, and currently only two voting members of the Council are active on the Sesquicentennial Committee, this should not be an issue.

Mrs. Harris questioned if this would prohibit the Parks and Recreation Committee from making purchases from their budget. Mr. Getz explained that the Committee may discuss and agree within their Committee items they wish to purchase; however, this does not mean items may be bought or contracts may be entered into without the Council's knowledge and approval.

The role of the Mayor in the Borough is the liaison to the Police Department and to declare emergency conditions.

Dr. Mullen-O'Leary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 P.M. With a second from Mrs. Krpata, the motion passed unanimously.

SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL,

Janna E. Colechio
Borough Secretary