

August 27, 2020

The special meeting of the Marcus Hook Borough Council was held on Thursday evening August 27, 2020, 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER

Josephine Laird, Council President, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present were Councilors William Cox, Joseph Flynn, Paula Ewing, and Josephine Laird. Councilor Michael Manerchia participated telephonically. Also present were Mayor Gene Taylor, Borough Solicitor Mark P. Much and Borough Manager Andrew Weldon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and that they stand as written. All in favor.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Council President J. Laird indicated that a Council seat is currently vacant due to the resignation of John R. Kennard on August 3, 2020. This meeting was advertised in the Delco Times on August 7, 2020. The floor was opened for nominations. Councilor J. Laird nominated Brian Mercadante to fill the vacant position. A vote was taken by Borough Council. W. Cox, J. Laird, P. Ewing, M. Manerchia - YES; J. Flynn - NO. Nomination carried 4-1.

Motion by W. Cox second by J. Laird to adopt Borough Resolution No. R-20-9 appointing Brian Mercadante to Council to fill the seat vacated by the resignation of John R. Kennard. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lorraine Daliessio, 1050 Yates Avenue, questioned why the appointment process worked the way it did, and further questioned whether the Borough was following the process appropriately. Lorraine also stated, without providing any background, that she thought Council had made a decision on selecting Brian Mercadante for the vacant seat before the meeting. Finally, Lorraine questioned how long the remaining term of the seat was before it would be up for election.

Manager Weldon explained that the Borough of Marcus Hook handled the appointment process appropriately, and further that no decision was made until the floor was opened up for nominations and a vote taken. The process for filling a vacant Council seat is explained in the Borough Code and the Borough of Marcus Hook followed that code. Finally, Manager Weldon explained that the remaining term of the seat that was just filled was until the first Monday in January, 2022.

Councilor J. Laird further stated that no decision on filling the vacancy was made prior to the meeting and the Borough handled filling the vacancy appropriately.

Solicitor M. Much reiterated that the Borough handled the appointment properly and in accordance with Borough Code.

Tameka Gibson, 1012 Yates Avenue, thanked everyone for the opportunity and stated that she would continue to get involved and would run for Council in the next election.

Della Curley, 1102 Washington Avenue, thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Councilor W. Cox expressed his gratitude to everyone who put in for the vacancy, and mentioned that it took him three tries before he was able to get on Council, so to not get discouraged or give up.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by W. Cox second by J. Flynn to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.



Andrew Weldon
Borough Secretary