

REORGANIZATION MEETING
BOROUGH COUNCIL
MALVERN BOROUGH

JANUARY 7, 2008
7:00 P.M.

PRESIDING: Gerard J. McGlone, Jr., Mayor

INVOCATION: Gerard J. McGlone, Jr., Mayor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. OATH OF OFFICE – NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF BOROUGH COUNCIL:

The Honorable Gerard J. McGlone, Mayor, administered the Oath of Office to the following elected members of Borough Council:

Woody J. VanSciver, Council Member
Catherine O. Raymond, Council Member
Sean E. Lynch, Council Member

2. ROLL CALL:

Council Member Crawford
Council Member Edge
Council Member Lynch
Council Member Raymond
Council Member Smith
Council Member VanSciver
Mayor McGlone

3. NOMINATION – PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:

Mayor McGlone will seat himself at the position of Council President and take possession of the gavel. He will then call for nominations for the position of President of Council. **THE NOMINATIONS DO NOT REQUIRE A SECOND.**

A motion was made by Council Member Smith to nominate Woody VanSciver as President of Borough Council.

There being no other nominations, the nominations were closed. The motion carried unanimously.

4. NOMINATION – VICE-PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:

Mayor McGlone called for nominations for the position of Vice President of Council. A motion was made by Council Member Raymond to nominate Jack Smith as Vice President.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith to nominate Catherine Raymond as Vice President.

There being no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

The Mayor called for a vote for Council Member Smith. Council Members Edge, VanSciver and Raymond voted affirmatively.

The Mayor then called for a vote for Council Member Raymond. Council Members Lynch, Crawford and Smith voted affirmatively.

There being a tie vote, the Mayor asked each nominee if they were willing to serve as Vice President. Council Member Raymond stated that she would be willing to serve but felt that Council Member Smith would be the better candidate as he has worked as the Finance and Administration Chair for a number of years and has more experience. Council Member Smith stated that he would prefer that Council Member Raymond take this position for this term. Having served as Vice President before, he felt it would be better to move the position around.

Mayor McGlone appointed Council Member Raymond as Vice President of Council.

The Mayor turned over the seat and the gavel to Council President VanSciver.

5. APPOINTMENTS – BOROUGH OFFICIALS:

A motion was made by Council Vice President Raymond, seconded by Council Member Lynch and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0 to reappoint the following:

To reappoint Sandra L. Kelley as Borough Manager for the year 2008.

To reappoint MaryLou Whitcomb Treasurer for the year 2008.

To reappoint Michael J. McMahon as Chief of Police for the year 2008.

To reappoint Edward J. Tiernan as the Code Enforcement Officer, Zoning Officer and Building Inspector for the year 2008.

To reappoint Edward B. Walsh & Associates, Inc. as Borough Engineer for the year 2008.

To reappoint Lentz, Cantor & Massey, Ltd. as Borough Solicitor for the year 2008.

To reappoint John E. Good as Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor for the year 2008.

To reappoint Lentz, Cantor & Massey, Ltd. as Planning Commission Solicitor for the year 2008.

6. FIRE COMPANY APPOINTMENTS:

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Lynch and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0, to appoint the following:

To appoint Paul Wilkins as Fire Chief for the year 2008.

To appoint Neil Vaughn as Fire Marshall for the year 2008.

7. CITIZEN COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

A motion was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Smith and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0, to reappoint the following:

To reappoint Louis G. Thomas, Jr., as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board for a 3 year term to expire January 1, 2011.

To reappoint William F. Huffman as a member of the Civil Service Commission for a 6 year term to expire January 1, 2014.

To reappoint Vicki Sharpless and James E. Vike as members of the Planning Commission for a 4 year term to expire January 1, 2012.

To reappoint Clem Wachinski as a member of the Shade Tree Commission for a 5 year term to expire January 1, 2013.

To reappoint David N. Edge as Council liaison to the Malvern Fire Company for a 2 year period to expire January 1, 2010.

To reappoint Lynne F. Hockenbury as a member of the Historical Commission for a 5 year term to expire January 1, 2013.

To reappoint Dale Levin as Chair of the Vacancy Board and to include all members of Borough Council as members of the Vacancy Board for a one year term to expire January 1, 2009.

Tony Dufour, speaking as a Board Member of the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund, asked Council if a liaison could be appointed to this Board. He stated that he had previously been advised that there was a legal reason for not having a liaison to the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund. The Manager will discuss the matter with the solicitors.

Council President VanSciver stated that Council is always open to communication, but all questions go through the Manager.

8. ANNOUNCE VACANCY IN BOROUGH COUNCIL:

Following the acceptance of resignation of Henry H. Briggs, Council President VanSciver announced that there is now a vacancy on Council. To be considered for the position of Council Member, you must be a registered elector of the borough and have resided in the borough for one year, continuously, prior to appointment. Is there anyone who is interested in being considered for the position of Borough Council member?

Council President VanSciver questioned whether Henry Briggs resigned the position he held and the one he was elected to. Council Member Smith stated that he felt Henry Briggs had made his intentions clear and a letter had been mailed to the residents of the community.

Council President VanSciver stated that Council would want to try to expeditiously fill the vacancy but felt it was uncertain about when Mr. Briggs resignation takes place.

Interested applicants included the following:

a) Cecelia Oswald, 119 Longford Avenue, stated that she would like to be considered for the position of Council Member. Ms. Oswald stated that she has a B.S. in Biology and an M.S. in Environmental Science. She is a professional environmental scientist with extensive experience evaluating the impacts of new developments and projects on their

surrounding communities. She has worked with governmental agencies to prepare and review permit applications for a wide variety of projects. In addition, she reported that she has been a Borough resident since 2001, and, as a mother of three small children, would bring a different perspective to the existing composition of Borough Council. She stated that she has proven her enthusiasm for this position since she ran for this position as a Write-In Candidate in the November 2007 election. She feels she has collected many valuable insights into issues that concern residents, and she feels she has some interesting ideas about how our Borough can be improved. She has her evenings free and would like to be a part of the group.

b) David Knies, 114 Warrington Way, stated that he would like to be considered to fill the vacancy on Borough Council. Dr. Knies' educational background includes a B.A. in Physics, an M.S. in both Engineering Sciences and Transportation Engineering and a Ph.D. in Systems Engineering. Dr. Knies reported that he has been a resident of the Borough since 2004 and a resident of Chester County for thirty-five years. Dr. Knies stated that he currently serves on the Planning Commission and he recently developed and redesigned the Borough website. He stated that he has served the Great Valley School District as a volunteer on the Tax Study Commission and as a Core Team Member in creating a five-year Strategic Plan and Objectives. He has a background in tax management and a broad background in Change Management. He feels that we will see a lot of change in the next number of years and he would be pleased to help with that. He stated that his general approach to activities is highly collaborative; he has excellent problem solving skills and can be expected to think strategically and long-range. Dr. Knies would consider it a privilege to serve as a Council Member.

c) Council President VanSciver reported that he received a telephone call today from Dr. James Vike who also expressed interest in the position. Dr. Vike was unable to attend this evening, but Council is familiar with his background and what his contributions have been in the past.

Council President VanSciver stated that he is pleased to have so many people interested in the position. He stated that Council is not obligated to make a choice this evening, but must choose by the next meeting.

Council Vice President Raymond believes all three candidates would be excellent Board Members but she, too, does not want to choose this evening.

Council Member Smith stated that he would want to read the resumes before choosing.

Resident Vicky Sharpless, 328 Broad Street, a member of the Planning Commission, stated that she would like Council to keep in mind that Cecelia Oswald did run at the last election and had a strong mandate from the people in the town. She feels that would be something to consider.

Peter DeLaurier, 113 Broad Street, stated that Council has three excellent candidates and they have to choose one of them. He concurs with the comments from Ms. Sharpless. He stated that with whoever Council does not choose, they still have many good choices for future nominations and elections.

Joe Bones, 25 High Street, lended support to Cecelia. He feels she certainly has some big shoes to fill but she is up to the task. She is committed to thoughtfulness for the Borough and that area of town is thinly represented.

Tony Dufour, 25 W. Broad Street, echoed Joe Bones' comments verbatim.

Both Council President VanSciver and Council Member Smith stated that we have never had as many qualified people who are interested in this position.

Council Member Lynch asked if the candidates could be contacted for thoughts and ideas if individual members were interested in calling to ask questions. Council President VanSciver responded that he believes Council can do that.

9. ANNOUNCE VACANCIES ON VARIOUS BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

Council President VanSciver announced that vacancies currently exist on the following Boards & Commissions:

Planning Commission
Historical Commission
Park & Recreation Committee

Interested parties should send a letter of interest, along with a current resume or letter stating past experience, to the Borough Manager at P O Box 437, Malvern, PA 19355.

10. ANNOUNCE – WORKSHOP ON RAIN GARDENS AND MORE:

The Manager announced that the Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association, Habitat Resource Network of Southeast PA and Penn State Brandywine, were conducting a workshop entitled “Rain Gardens and More” on Saturday, February 9, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Penn State Brandywine Commons Athletic Building, Room 203, 25 Yearsley Mill Road, Media, PA 19063. There are two presenters with one topic being “Designing and Constructing Rain Gardens” and another topic being “Installing and Operating Rain Barrels”. Admission is \$5; however, because Malvern Borough is one of the sponsors, the workshop is free to all Malvern residents.

The Manager reported that a flyer of the workshop is available on the tables in the lobby.

11. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Paper Streets – Council President VanSciver stated there have been some official actions on paper streets in the Borough in the past several years. One of the actions involved Cherry Lane and he was wondering if that sort of action mitigates with respect to the twenty-one year law. He feels that Council should be better educated on the paper roads and abutting property owners. He suggested that Lou Colagreco give Council a dissertation on this issue to include the paper streets and alleys in the Borough. Council should be aware of the names of the paper streets and alleys and where they are located. The Manager will contact Lou Colagreco to set up a convenient time for him to attend and brief Council on this matter.

b. Committees – Council President VanSciver stated that Council has had a series of committees over the years, but questioned the need for some of the committees. He asked if Council was inclined to keep that committee structure or would they prefer to work as committees as a whole.

Council Vice President Raymond stated that she thinks it is important to retain the Finance, Public Safety and Public Works Committees.

It was agreed that other committees could be established as needed.

c. Permanent Agenda Items – Council President VanSciver stated that he will be in contact with the Council Members to discuss permanent agenda items.

d. Election Attendance – Peter DeLaurier, 113 Broad Street, reminded Council that at a previous meeting he brought forth ideas of how to get more voters out to the polls. He stated that he recently read of a town in England that started a raffle with a fairly significant prize if you won. He stated that this was just one more idea.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Lynch, seconded by Council Member Edge and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Kelley
Secretary/Manager