

MINUTES

OATH OF OFFICE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MUNICIPAL COURT /COUNCIL CHAMBERS 10 LAWLOR DRIVE, OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY SUNDAY JANUARY 7, 2018 AT 12:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Mayor Schwager at 12:03 pm.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

INVOCATION: Pastor Russell Stammer gave the Invocation.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor Schwager advised that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, duly announced, advertised and posted in the Municipal Building.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Schwager introduced John McCann, Esq.who administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Russell Talamini:

Councilman Talamini's Message:

I'd just like to say thank you to all my supporters. I want to say thank you to Pat Pignatelli for running with me and to John McCann for being our campaign manager. I'd also like to thank everyone who voted in the election whether they voted for me or not. It is very important that people participate in all of our elections. I'm looking forward to a productive year working with the Mayor and Council. I'd also like to thank all of the Borough employees who make our jobs a lot easier. Finally, I'd like to thank my wife, Lucy, and my three children for supporting me and allowing me to spend as much time as I do being a Councilman. Happy New Year!

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Schwager introduced Brian Chewcaskie, Esq. who administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Pasquale A. Pignatelli.

Councilman Pignatelli's Message:

Good afternoon and Happy New Year. I hope this year brings peace to our world and our community. I want to thank the voters of Oakalnd for electing me to the Borough Council. I truly appreciate the opportunity that this position provides in order to use my energy and ideas for the betterment of Oakland.

This past election cycle could not have been possible without the support of so many people especially my wife, Kathy, and my family. Thank you for your support and encouragement. There were two other people who so graciously gave of their time. Thank you to Lucy Talamini and John McCann. Thank you to my friends and to the members of the Oakland Republican Club.

I feel confident that Oakland will see many positive accomplishments for our community in 2018. This year we will be able to welcome a much anticipated remodeling of our library Not only will it help our residents expand their knowledge but it will also serve as our community center for many exciting programs. We need to double our efforts to secure funding for the Patriots Way

Bridge. No matter the outcome of funding, we must provide a safe entrance and exit for our residents and emergency responders. We will experience a change in the federal tax code this year. Therefore, I ask my fellow Councilmembers to join with me to lessen the burden of our property taxes. We should all recognize that this requires the County and the School boards to do the same for 2018.

I would be remiss if I didn't express my gratitude to the many volunteers who make Oakland a great place to live. One of the reasons for the efficient running of Borough Hall is the dedication of our staff. I have seen them operate under difficult situations and they always come through. Thank you for all your hard work.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Mayor Schwager thanked all the Councilmembers, including former Councilwoman Sandra Coira, for all the accomplishments from 2017. The Borough has a working website, a Facebook account and Reverse 911 in order to get the word out to residents. Our Recreation is the pride of the town. We are lucky to have such a wonderful program for our children. She thanked Recreation Commission Chairman Mike Guadagnino for his efforts. This year, there will be new sport camp programs established to fill in the gap between the end of summer camp and the beginning of the school year. Last year, we put outdoor exercise equipment by the walking path for the use and enjoyment of the residents. This year, we are finally going to have the fully renovated Library. We have a fantastic Library Director who has brought many new programs to the residents. The Senior Center has expanded programs. Senior Center Director Rose Burik is doing a super job. Mike Guadagnino is doing a great job with Great Oak Park and is seeking funding for a Bandshell. The Station Park ad-hoc committee had been established. The Public Events Committee makes the programs better each year. She thanked Chairman Chopper Russo. Mayor Schwager advised that resident Mike Rose has come up with an idea to have a holiday decorating contest in order to make the town more festive during the holiday season. She will appoint an ad-hoc committee to run this event. The Access for All Committee will move forward in 2018. Mayor Schwager advised that sewers are coming to Oakland. The Borough is working with Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority and the DEP to make sewers a reality. This will help businesses and the downtown. The Borough was advised that we are receiving a grant for the Patriots Way Bridge. It is from the 2017 grant cycle. We have been advised that we may be able to get more money from the 2018 grant fund. Mayor Schwager commented that Oakland is blessed with its volunteers. She gave a special thank you to the Fire Department and First Aid Squad.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Schwager administered the Oath of Office to the following Oakland Volunteer Fire Department Officers:

2018 OFFICERS

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Chief | Vincent Dies |
| Captain | Vincent Incorvaia |
| Lieutenants | Donald Johnston |
| | Matthew Sorce |
| | Steven Longa |
| Fire Engineer | Leigh Dodd |

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Mayor Schwager.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Schwager called the meeting to order and the Clerk called the roll. Present: Mayor Schwager, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini. Absent: None. Also Present: Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk; Richard Kunze, Borough Administrator; Brian Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, this portion of the meeting be opened for public discussion.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini.

No comments made.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Levy, this portion of the meeting be closed for public discussion.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini.

ADOPT 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, the 2018 meeting schedule be adopted.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini.

ADOPT OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Kulmala, The Record be adopted as the official newspaper.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini.

APPOINT COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Talamini, nominated Councilman Robert Knapp as Council President. Councilman Knapp declined the nomination.

On motion of Councilman Levy, seconded by Councilman Knapp, Councilman John Biale be appointed as Council President.

ROLL CALL: Yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy.
Nays, Councilmembers Pignatelli, Talamini.

Council President Biale congratulated Councilman Pignatelli and Councilman Talamini. He thanked his colleagues for placing their confidence in him. He is grateful for the privilege of serving as Council President. In 2018, we will complete the Library, complete work at the Van

Allen House. We will work on rebuilding the Patriots Way Bridge, saving the Bi-County property and making sewers a reality. We will also work on getting sidewalks for Ramapo Valley Road on the north end of town and work on getting more LED lights. Station Park is becoming a reality and plans are being developed for the downtown shopping area. Councilman Biale will continue to listen to the issues of the residents.

BENEDICTION: Pastor Russell Stammer gave the Benediction.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

On motion of Councilman Knapp, seconded by Councilman Biale, the meeting be adjourned at 12:40 pm.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Kulmala, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini.

Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk

Linda H. Schwager, Mayor

January 24, 2018

Date Approved