

MINUTES

OATH OF OFFICE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

10 LAWLOR DRIVE, OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY

SATURDAY JANUARY 7, 2017 AT 6:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Mayor Schwager at 6:05 pm.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

INVOCATION: Chaplain Russell Stammer gave the invocation.

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

INTRODUCTION OF CONGRESSMAN JOSH GOTTHEIMER

Congressman Josh Gottheimer thanked those who were getting sworn in for their service. He explained that it is a big commitment to serve the community. He advised that he is available to assist the members of the Governing Body and the Borough of Oakland in any way he can.

Mayor Schwager thanked Congressman Gottheimer for attending and advised she already has his regional director's phone number on speed dial. She will be reaching out on behalf of the residents of Oakland and she knows the Congressman will be responsive to our needs.

MAYOR SCHWAGER ADMINSTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO THE 2017 OAKLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:

Captains	Lewis Thurston III
	John Madden
Assistant Chiefs	Vincent Dies
	Gary Walker
Chief	David Hutsebaut

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Schwager administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Robert Knapp.

Councilman Knapp's message:

Councilman Knapp advised that it is an honor to be a Councilman. He has lived in Oakland his entire life. He has served on the Fire Department for 35 years and held every office in the Fire Department. He has served on the Planning Board for the next several years. His priorities as a Councilman will be to focus on safety and the aesthetics of the town. Councilman Knapp thanked Frank DiPentima for running his campaign. He thanked his opponents for the way they handled their campaign. Councilman Knapp thanked his wife for her support.

OATH OF OFFICE: Mayor Schwager administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Eric Kulmala.

Councilman Kulmala's message:

Councilman Kulmala wished everyone a Happy New Year. He thanked the Council, members of the public, members of Emergency services, the DPW and Oakland's administrative staff. He thanked Congressman Gottheimer who reached out to Councilman Kulmala a few weeks ago. It is nice that the Congressman is calling local officials to thank them. He thanked his wife Brenda and his daughters Cara and Juliana for sharing him with the residents of Oakland. Councilman Kulmala thanked the residents of Oakland for their trust and support. It is an honor and a privilege to represent the residents of Oakland. Some of the highlights of the past three years have been resolving the parking problem at Indian Hills High School, the new website, addressing complaints about speeding by installing the speed signs, the new lights and walking path at the Recreation fields. Going forward, the focus will be on renovations to the Library, public safety and fiscal responsibility.

Councilman Kulmala advised that the residents are the heart and soul of the community-all the volunteers who serve on town committees, recreation coaches, those who serve on the volunteer Fire Department, First Aid Squad and OEM. He spoke of the outpouring of support that the Oakland Diner received after the fire several weeks ago. He thanked everyone again.

Mayor Schwager thanked Councilman Kulmala for the outstanding job he did last year as Council President.

Mayor Schwager's message:

Mayor Schwager advised that she is so proud to be Mayor of Oakland. One of the reasons is our outstanding Volunteer Fire Department, our volunteers and our dedicated Police Officers. She thanked the Borough employees who run the Borough's daily operations. In 2017, we have a lot to look forward to. We are on our way to completing the Oakland Public Library. Now that we have terminated the lease with the non-profit organization for the Van Allen House, the residents will now see work being done. Sewers are coming to Oakland. My husband tells me he doesn't believe it but I don't give up. I go by the motto "it's not over until it's over". Mayor Schwager thanked Mike Guadagnino for all his work on Great Oak Park. She envisions in the future a river walk between Great Oak Park and the recreation fields. Mayor Schwager reminded residents that the elected officials are also residents of Oakland and therefore, what affects the residents also affects the Mayor and Council. She wished everyone a healthy 2017.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Schwager called the meeting to order and the Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Schwager; Councilmembers Biale, Coira, Knapp, Kulmala, Talamini. Absent, Councilman Visconti. Also present, Borough Clerk Lisa Duncan; Borough Administrator Richard Kunze; Borough Attorney Brian Chewcaskie.

MOTION TO OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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

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

No comments made.

MOTION TO CLOSE TO THE PUBLIC:

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilwoman Coira, this portion of the meeting be closed to the public.

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

MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENCE:

On motion of Councilman Talamini, seconded by Councilman Biale, the absence of Councilman Visconti be excused.

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

ADOPT 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilwoman Coira, the 2017 Meeting Schedule be adopted.

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

ADOPT OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilwoman Coira, The Record be the official newspaper for 2017.

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

RESOLUTION 17-01 TEMPORARY BUDGET

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilwoman Coira, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, 40A: 4-19 Local Budget Act provides that (where any contracts, commitments or payments are to be made prior to the final adoption of the 2016 budget), temporary appropriations be made for the purposes and amounts required in the manner and time therein provided:

WHEREAS, the date of this resolution is within the first thirty days of 2017, and

WHEREAS, the total appropriations in the 2016 Budget, less appropriations made for the capital improvement fund, debt services and relief of the poor (public assistance) are as follows:

General	\$ 16,439,291.98
Water Utility	\$ 1,379,400.00
Sewer Utility	\$ 337,400.00

WHEREAS, 26.25 percent of the total appropriations in the 2016 Budget less appropriations for capital improvement fund, debt service and relief of the poor (public assistance) in the said 2017 Budget is as follows:

General	\$ 4,315,314.34
Water Utility	\$ 362,092.50
Sewer Utility	\$ 88,575.38

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

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Russell Stammer gave the benediction.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilwoman Coira, the meeting be adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk

Linda H. Schwager, Mayor

January 25, 2017

Date Adopted