

**BOROUGH OF WILKINSBURG
COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2012**

Mayor Thompson administered the Oaths of Office to Councilwoman Paige Trice, Councilwoman Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson and Councilwoman Eve Goodman. The Council members took their seats at the dais.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:11 p.m. by Mayor John A. Thompson.

Roll Call

The roll was called to establish a quorum. The following members of Council were present: Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Ervin, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Goodman, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin and Ms. Moore (participating via telephone). Also present were Mayor John A. Thompson and Marla P. Marcinko, Borough Manager. A quorum was established.

Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed for victims of violent crime and those troops still serving our country.

Presentation of Proclamation of Appreciation

Mayor John Thompson presented a Proclamation of Appreciation to outgoing Councilman Carl Lewis for his years of service to the community. Mr. Lewis thanked everyone he served with on this Council and prior Councils. Mr. Lewis stated he will remain visible and active in the community.

Nomination and Election of Council President

Ms. Evans nominated Jason Cohn for the seat of Council President

With no further nominations received, nominations were closed by Mayor John A. Thompson.

Yes: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Goodman, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Ms. Evans, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Macklin, Ms. Moore

No: Ms. Ervin

Motion carried 8:1

Nomination and Election of Council Vice President

Mr. Lefebvre nominated Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson for Council Vice President. Ms. Ervin nominated Pamela Macklin for Council Vice President.

With no further nominations received, nominations were closed by Mayor John A. Thompson.

Roll call vote was taken on the election of Ms. McCarthy-Johnson to Council Vice President.

Yes: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Goodman, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Evan, Mr. Lefebvre

No: Ms. Trice, Ms. Ervin, Ms. Macklin, Ms. Moore

Motion carried 5:4.

Following the vote, Mayor John Thompson turned the meeting over to President Cohn. President Cohn read a statement regarding his intentions in serving as President and efforts to continue to move the community forward.

Appointment of Borough Solicitor

A motion was made by Mr. Lefebvre, second by Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, to appoint Witherel & Associates as Borough Solicitor. Ms. Ervin questioned the process for selecting a solicitor. President Cohn commented that Council had met with Mr. Witherel several years ago. Ms. Trice and Ms. Macklin also expressed concern regarding the process. Mr. Cohn advised that Mr. Witherel will be in attendance at the meeting on January 4 and he charges a monthly retainer of \$1,000 and an hourly rate of \$125.00 for general matters and \$175.00 per hour for litigation. Mr. Lefebvre commented that the average monthly bill for the solicitor for the last two years was \$6,400 dollars.

Yes: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Goodman, Ms. Evans, Mr. Lefebvre, President Cohn

No: Ms. Trice, Ms. Ervin, Ms. Moore

Abstain: Ms. Macklin

Motion carried 5:3 with one abstention.

Appointment of Borough Engineer

A motion was made by Mr. Lefebvre, second by Ms. Evans, to appoint Glenn Engineering as the Borough Engineer.

Yes: Ms. Macklin, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Goodman, Ms. Trice, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Ervin, Ms. Moore, President Cohn

Motion carried

New Business

President Cohn proposed to table the advertisement of the meeting schedule based upon the new schedule being proposed and to be discussed at the meeting on January 4, 2012. A motion was made by Ms. Evans, second by Mr. Lefebvre, to table advertisement of Resolution 12-001.

Borough of Wilkinsburg
Council Reorganization Meeting
January 3, 2012

Yes: Ms. Ervin, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Ms. Goodman, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin,
Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Moore, President Cohn

Motion carried

Being no further business, on motion by Mr. Lefebvre, second by Ms. Evans, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:32 p.m.

Jason Cohn, Council President