

BOROUGH OF WEST READING – BOROUGH COUNCIL
Reorganization Meeting
January 2, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

West Reading Borough Council held its Reorganization Meeting at Borough Hall on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 with the following persons present: Mayor Andrew W. Kearney Council Members Nicholas Imbesi, David Amato, Nicholas Gardecki, Christopher Lincoln, Suzanne Thompson, Philip C. Wert, Kirk Mullen; Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman; Police Chief Stephen Powell; Solicitor Timothy Malloy; Treasurer Jeanette Rentschler; Manager's Assistant Cynthia Madeira.

VISITORS:	Karen Livingood	Resident
	Helen Moyer	Recreation Director
	James T. Rogers	Resident
	Nathalie Kulesa	Resident
	Carl Garman	Resident
	Oswald Herbert	Resident
	Sharon & Naomi Wert	Resident
	Emily Thiel	Resident
	Mr. & Mrs. Imbesi	Resident Family Members
	Ann Woodward	Resident Family Member

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Andrew Kearney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Mr. Herbert inquired as to the names of the three ordinances that were enacted during the last Council meeting. Mrs. Hoffman noted the ordinances pertained to an increase to water, sewer and tax rates.

Mr. Rogers requested the amount of revenue that would be generated by the tax increase. Mrs. Rentschler stated $\frac{1}{4}$ mill increase would generate approximately \$40,000.

Mr. Garman requested new Council members demonstrate common sense and make decisions that benefit the majority.

Mrs. Kulesa wished new Council members the best of luck and suggested they enjoy serving the community in their new positions.

3. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**
Nominations for Council President – Suzanne Thompson nominated Nicholas Imbesi as Council President. There were no other nominations. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Mr. Imbesi then chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Nominations for Council Vice President – Christopher Lincoln nominated Philip Wert as Council Vice-President. There were no other nominations. **In favor of the motion** – Mr. Wert, Mr. Mullen, Mr. Gardecki, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Amato and Mr. Imbesi. **Against the motion** – Ms. Thompson. **Motion carried 6-1.**

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **2018 Appointments** – Motion to approve the following list appointments. **Moved** by Mr. Lincoln and seconded by Ms. Thompson. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Position	Name	Term
Business Privilege Tax Collector and LST Collector	Steven Love	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Borough Manager/Secretary	Cathy Hoffman	1/1/18 – 12/31/19
Assistant Borough Secretary	Cynthia Madeira	1/1/18 – 12/31/19
Borough Treasurer	Jeanette Rentschler	1/1/18 – 12/31/19
Code Enforcement Officer	John Wascavage	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Assistant Code Enforcement Officer	Keith Yeager	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Commercial Building Inspector	Matt Davenport	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Residential Building Inspector	John Wascavage	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Plumbing Inspector	SDE Inc.	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Sewage Enforcement Officer	Scott McCaffrey, SDE Inc.	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Zoning Officer	Steve Moyer, SDE Inc.	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Engineer	Thomas Unger, SDE Inc.	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Fire Department	Chief Mark Burkholder	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Deputy Fire Chief Chad Moyer	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Assistant Chief Jeffrey Reinert	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Captain Jason Witman	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Lieutenant Nick Stoner	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Safety Officer	Daniel Strause	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Fire Police	Lieutenant Timothy Goodhart	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Fire Marshal	Chad Marks	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Deputy Fire Marshal	Mark Civitarese	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Planning Commission	Nicholas Imbesi	1/1/18 – 12/31/21
	Christin Kelly	1/1/18 – 12/31/21
	Lynne Burns	1/1/18 – 12/31/22
	Mayor Andrew Kearney	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Philip Wert	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Dean Rohrbach	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Aaron Gantz	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Robin Horman	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Brett Bagenstose	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Christin Kelly	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Economic Advisory Council	Vacancy	1/1/18 – 12/31/21
Emergency Management Coordinator	Tom Bausher	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Deputy Emergency Management	Mike Fesh	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Emergency Management Board Members	Cathy Hoffman	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
	Vacancy	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Zoning Hearing Board	Denise Drobnick, Secretary	1/1/18 – 12/31/23
	Kevin Conrad, Alternate Member	1/1/18 – 12/31/19
Vacancy Board	Katherine Young-Ulrich	1/1/18 – 12/31/18
Deputy Tax Collector	Janice Kaucher	1/1/18 – 12/31/21
Joint Municipal Authority of Wyomissing Valley Authority Member	Fred Geiger	1/1/18 – 12/31/22
	William Gernert	1/1/18 – 12/31/22
	James Beane	1/1/18 – 12/31/22
	Janice Jackson	1/1/18 – 12/31/20
	Vacancy	1/1/18 – 12/31/20
	Vacancy	1/1/18 – 12/31/20

Mr. Malloy noted an appointment of a Solicitor is needed. Motion to appoint Barley Snyder as Borough Solicitor. **Moved** by Ms. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Amato. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Mr. Imbesi reviewed the list of Committees of Council to fill vacant positions. The following appointments were approved:

Committee	Name
Mayor's Advisory Committee	Mayor Kearney postponed appointments to this committee
Hospital Committee	Philip Wert, Chair
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Nicholas Imbesi
	David Amato
Public Safety Committee	Nicholas Imbesi, Chair
	Dean Murray, Public Works Director
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Steve Powell, Police Chief
	Mark Burkholder, Fire Chief
	Andrew Kearney, Mayor
Pension Fund Committee	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Jeanette Rentschler, Treasurer
	James Livingood
	Robin Horman
	Carl Garman
	Nicholas Imbesi
	Steve Powell, Police Chief
	Chad Marks
	Wayne Holben
	Keith Phillips
Police Negotiating Committee	Kirk Mullen
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Suzanne Thompson
Town/Gown	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Andrew Kearney, Mayor
	Dave Amato
Infrastructure Committee	Christopher Lincoln, Chair
	Nicholas Imbesi
	Code Enforcement Officer (as needed)
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Dean Murray, Public Works Director
	Borough Engineer (as needed)
	Nicholas Gardecki
	Andrew Kearney, Mayor

Traffic Committee	Christopher Lincoln, Chair
	Jason Witman, Parking Enforcement
	Code Enforcement Officer (as needed)
	Steve Powell, Police Chief
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Dean Murray, Public Works Director
	Andrew Kearney, Mayor
	Nicholas Gardecki
School Board Ad Hoc	Nicholas Imbesi, Council President, Chair
	Philip Wert
	Kirk Mullen
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
Personnel Committee	Nicholas Imbesi, Chair
	Cathy Hoffman, Borough Manager
	Nicholas Gardecki
	Suzanne Thompson
Recreation Commission	Helen Moyer, Chair
Finance Committee	Nicholas Imbesi, Chair
	David Amato
	Suzanne Thompson
	Oswald Herbert

Mr. Imbesi stated the Finance Committee agenda would be revised to work towards earning more on investments and ease budgeting burdens. The committee has two vacant resident positions, one of which a resident has expressed an interest and will submit a letter. The second vacant position would need to be advertised. Also, the meeting date has been revised to the Thursday prior to Council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

- b. **Real Estate Tax Collector** – Mr. Malloy noted that Jason Ulrich (who was not in attendance) had been elected to the position of Tax Collector and will need to be sworn in.
- c. **Fee Schedule** – Council reviewed the highlighted fee schedule changes.

Mr. Wert inquired as to Street Opening Permit revisions. Mr. Lincoln noted the revisions allow additional fees to be collected based on the length of the opening.

Mr. Mullen inquired as the flat Playground fee per child. Mrs. Moyer noted a discount period and payment plan option, however the fee needed to be increased to cover expenses.

Mr. Gardecki inquired as to the addition of a Public Right-of-Way License. Mrs. Madeira noted an annual license fee pertaining to the addition of wireless communication facilities.

Motion to approve Resolution 2018-1 Fee Schedule. **Moved** by Mr. Gardecki and seconded by Mr. Amato. **Motion carried 7-0.**

- d. **Town Gown Meeting** – Mrs. Hoffman noted this meeting is between the school board, Wyomissing and West Reading Borough to discuss common issues. The committee meets on a quarterly basis and is scheduled to meet next Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at Wyomissing Borough Council Chambers, which conflicts with the Traffic and Infrastructure meeting. Mayor Kearney and Mr. Amato agreed to attend this meeting.
- e. **Other** – Mr. Wert noted draft ordinances the Planning Commission has had difficulty in devoting time to discuss details such as Board of Appeals, Disruptive Conduct, Quality of Life, and Rental Occupancy. Mr. Wert suggested the second Council meeting of the month be an option to discuss details of draft ordinances. Mr. Imbesi requested Council bring suggestions to the next Council meeting.

Mrs. Hoffman noted Western Berks Water Authorities request for two Council members to participate in a study coordinated with Shillington and Wyomissing Borough to accommodate regulations promulgated by DRBC and DEP. Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Gardecki agreed to attend these meetings.

- 5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Council recessed to Executive Session to discuss personnel at 8:05 p.m. When the regular session reconvened at 8:21 p.m. no action was taken.
- 6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
Mr. Rogers inquired as to the hospital's responsibility to repave roadways.
- 7. **ADJOURNMENT:**
Moved by Mr. Lincoln and seconded by Mr. Amato to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. **Motion carried 7-0.**

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Madeira
Assistant to the Manager