

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL**LANCASTER, OHIO****ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

January 2, 2020

PRAYER**CALL TO ORDER**

President Uhl called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m., in City Hall, 1897 Room.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Uhl led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Uhl asked the Clerk to call the roll.

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council were present: Mrs. Bobbitt; Mrs. Downour; Mr. Hall; Mr. James; Mr. Mattlin; Mr. McDaniel; Mr. Schoonover; Mr. Stoughton; and Mrs. Tener.

President Uhl asked that the record reflect that all nine members are in attendance tonight.

President Uhl welcomed everyone this evening. There is no opportunity for public comment, and moved right into tonight's business.

President Uhl stated that we are here tonight, per the Rules of Council, to make two very important appointments. The first is the Clerk of Council. For the benefit of those new to City Council, this part-time, paid position is responsible for all of the administrative work of Council, including taking, filing, and posting minutes, posting out required notices, receiving and filing correspondence, and keeping the public informed regarding committee meetings, regular meetings, and special meetings of City Council through the website and other vehicles.

This position has been filled for several terms by Teresa Sandy. While this body is free to nominate and elect anyone they like to fill this role, I have spoken to Ms. Sandy and she would like to remain in the position for the coming term, should that be the will of Council.

The second appointment tonight is President Pro Tempore. According to the Rules of Council, those position has two main responsibilities: To lead any meeting of Lancaster City Council at which the president is unable to attend, and to work with members of Council at the beginning of each term to organize standing committees.

Standing committees are a vital part of the Council structure. Due to the nature of our Council position and given the size and scope of the work of the City of Lancaster, there is just too much for any member to completely involve themselves in on a part-time basis. Council Standing Committees allow for members to really dive deep into three areas of

interest and/or expertise. Each member of Council will serve on three committees, chairing one and serving as one of the three members on two other committees.

President Uhl stated, that in his mind, there are four qualities that a President Pro Tempore must embody. One is leadership. They must be able to take the helm in the absence of the president and lead the meeting forward via the Rules of Council and Roberts Rules of Order in an efficient and effective manner. President Uhl said that due to the change in vocation and its location out of town, it is possible that for the first time ever, he will miss some meetings in the coming term. The President Pro Tempore will chair those meetings.

The other qualities, though this certainly isn't an exhaustive list, are teamwork and the ability to compromise. The approach to structuring standing committees should be a collaborative one, because while the President Pro Tempore will recommend standing committees to this body, Council must still accept and pass those committee appointments by majority vote.

President Uhl stated it is his hope that this quick overview of the Clerk and President Pro Tempore positions has provided some needed context to members here, especially our new members, and to the public at large.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CLERK

With that, President Uhl stated we will now begin the selection process for these two positions, beginning with the Clerk. The process for nomination will be the same for both positions, though he recommended that the method of voting differ.

For nomination, President Uhl opened the floor and any member can nominate any person for clerk of council they wish to have serve. Once the President feels all nominations are in, he will close nominations and Council will then vote. The nomination for Clerk will be via voice vote.

President Uhl asked Law Director Ullom if it could be voice vote, or must it be by roll call.

Law Director Ullom answered that he thinks that it can be by voice vote.

President Uhl stated then it will be a voice vote unless there is no way to determine with that a roll call vote will take place.

With that, President opened the floor for nominations for Clerk of Council and asked Council who they would have to serve

Mrs. Bobbitt made nominated Teresa Sandy as Clerk, seconded by Mrs. Tener. Motion carried.

President Uhl asked if there were any other nominations this evening, with none, he closed the floor for nominations.

President Uhl stated he would accept a motion to cast a unanimous ballot to Teresa Sandy as Clerk of Council.

Law Director Ullom after further review of the code, a roll call vote in alphabetical order needs to occur.

President Uhl asked for a motion to case a unanimous ballot for Teresa Sandy as Clerk of Council.

Mr. McDaniel offered that motion, with a second by Mrs. Downour.

President Uhl asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Hall asked for point of order and asked if that can be done with the explanation that Law Director Ullom provided.

President Uhl stated yes, and that a roll call vote will take place.

President Uhl asked if there was any other discussion, with none, he requested the Clerk to call the roll. The motion carried 9-0.

President congratulated the Clerk and her willingness to serve.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. Stoughton called point of order in regards to multiple nominations, as was done in the past.

President Uhl stated he and the Law Director did some research and better way of doing this has been put into place.

President Uhl stated he is going to open the floor nominations of President Pro Tempore of City Council. If there happens to be more than one nomination, a ballot has been put together and passed out. Each nomination will appear on the ballot and each Council Member will select their choice. The ballots will be collected by Law Director Ullom and the votes will be tallied up. This will allow Council the opportunity to vote on all the names that are put forth to this body, rather than one at a time as was done last time.

Mr. Stoughton asked with this being a new process, does it require five votes to win the nomination.

President Uhl answered that yes, it requires a majority vote.

Law Director Ullom added in regards to the voting purposes, a motion with a roll call vote should take place to use the ballots.

President Uhl stated that Council will fix the method of voting, should we have more than one nomination to a ballot vote as opposed to a roll call vote that is typically done to allow the use of this process.

President Uhl asked if there were further questions on the process, with none he opened the floor to accept nomination for the President Pro Tempore.

Mr. Stoughton made a motion to nominate Mrs. Downour as President Pro Tempore, seconded by Mr. McDaniel.

President Uhl asked if there were any other nomination for this evening

Mrs. Tener made a motion to nominate Mrs. Bobbitt as President Pro Tempore.

President Uhl asked if there was a second.

Mrs. Bobbitt declined and stated she is not interested.

President Uhl stated that Mrs. Bobbitt declined the nomination.

President Uhl asked if there were any other nominations from the floor, with none, he closed the floor for nominations. With only one candidate, that has been nominated for President Pro Tempore.

President Uhl stated he will accept the unanimous ballot for Holly Miller-Downour as President Pro Tempore.

Mr. Stoughton moved for the motion and seconded by Mr. McDaniel.

President Uhl opened the floor for discussion, with none, he requested the Clerk to call the roll. Motion carried 8-1, with Mrs. Tener voting no

President Uhl congratulated Mrs. Downour as President Pro Tempore and thanked her for her willingness to serve.

President Uhl stated the next step for the President Pro Tempore, which is significant, working through the process of appointing, or making recommendations for the appointment of Standing Committees. If you have not had the opportunity to connect with Mrs. Downour to be ready to discuss what committees each would like to serve to do so. The expectation is that the President Pro Tempore recommendations will come before Council at their regular meeting on January 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

President Uhl thanked everyone for being here and thanked Clerk Sandy for keeping Council in line as well as great swearing in ceremony.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

1. Monday, January 13th at 6:30 p.m.
 - a. Public Hearing – Temporary Ord. 20-19* at 6:30 p.m.
2. Monday, February 10th at 6:30 p.m.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS


1. Finance– January 27th at 6:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

SPECIAL SCHEDULED MEETINGS

1. Council of the Whole - Monday, January 13th at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Downour made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:13 p.m.



 Teresa Lee Sandy, Clerk of Council