

MINUTES – ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, January 1, 2018

7:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met for their Organization meeting on Monday, January 1, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Solicitor John Haas, called the meeting to order. A moment of silent prayer was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Solicitor Haas called for nominations for the selection of a temporary Chairperson. Councilwoman Aeh nominated Solicitor Haas. Solicitor Haas called for other nominations and there were none. Councilwoman Aeh moved that the nomination be closed.

The motioned carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, Solicitor Haas was appointed as temporary Chairman.**

Chairman Haas called for nominations for acting City Clerk. Councilwoman Aeh nominated Diana Ratliff. Chairman Haas called for other nominations and there were none. Councilwoman Aeh moved that the nomination be closed.

The motioned carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, Diana Ratliff was appointed as acting City Clerk.**

Solicitor Haas administered the Oath of Office for Councilman Sean Dunne for the 1st Ward, Councilman Kevin E. Johnson for the 3rd Ward and Councilman Gene Meadows for the 5th Ward.

Chairman Haas called for a motion to accept the letter on performance bonds from the City Auditor.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to accept the City Auditor letter regarding performance bonds. The motioned carried viva voce: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, the letter was accepted.**

Roll Call showed the following member to be present:

Sean Dunne	1 st Ward
Jo Ann Aeh	2 nd Ward
Kevin E. Johnson	3 rd Ward
James D. Kalb	4 th Ward
Gene Meadows	5 th Ward
Thomas K. Lowe	6 th Ward

Also present were City Solicitor John Haas, and Acting City Clerk Diana Ratliff

Chairman Haas opened nominations for President of Council with the title of Mayor.

Councilwoman Aeh nominated James D. Kalb for President of Council with the title of Mayor.

Chairman Haas called for other nominations and there were none. Councilwoman Aeh moved that the nominations be closed.

There were no other nominations and the roll was called: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, Councilman James Kalb was appointed Mayor.**

Chairman Haas opened nominations for Vice President of Council.

Councilwoman Aeh nominated Kevin E. Johnson for Vice President of Council.

Chairman Haas called for other nominations, Councilman Lowe nominated Councilman Gene Meadows for Vice President of Council.

Councilwoman Aeh moved to close the nominations.

Chairman Haas asked for a roll call vote for Councilman Kevin E. Johnson: **VOTE: ayes 3 – nays 3 (G. Meadows, T. Lowe, S. Dunne)**

Chairman Haas asked for a roll call vote for Councilman Meadows: **VOTE: ayes 3 – nays 3 (J. Aeh, K. E. Johnson, J. Kalb)**

Chairman Haas stated that he needed a few minutes to look up the procedure for a tie. He found the instructions in the City Charter “In case the members of Council within 5 days after the time herein fixed for their

**Elected
James D.
Kalb as
President
of
Council
with title
of Mayor**

organizational meeting, are unable to agree upon a President or a Vice-President, of such Council, then a President, or Vice President or both, as the case may be shall be selected from all the members of such Council by lot conducted by the City Solicitor who shall certify the result of such lot upon the journal of such Council.” Councilwoman Aeh stated that we had to wait 5 days and if we don’t come up with a solution then everyone’s name with the exception of Mayor Kalb would be put into a hat and whoever’s name was pulled out would serve as Vice President whether they were nominated or not. Solicitor Haas stated if there was no consensus within 5 days then on the 8th (the next meeting) a name will be pulled from a hat.

Chairman Haas opened nominations for City Clerk.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that Diana Ratliff be appointed as City Clerk.

Chairman Haas called for other nominations. Councilwoman Aeh moved to close the nomination.

There were no other nominations and the roll was called: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, Diana Ratliff was appointed City Clerk.**

Re-
appointed
Diana
Ratliff as
City Clerk

Solicitor Haas administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Kalb and City Clerk Ratliff.

Chairman Haas asked for a motion to accept the rules of City Council setting the times and dates of regular Council meetings.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to adopt the current rules of City Council as they presently exist and that Council meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:00 p.m. of each month.

Councilwoman Aeh stated that Council can at any time change the meeting dates and times.

There were no questions or comments, the roll was called: **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, the rules of Council were adopted.**

REMARKS FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL:

There was no one present who wanted to address members of City Council.

REMARKS TO THE CITIZENS BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1st Ward – Councilman Dunne thanked all of the citizens that supported him in his campaign and also thanked Kevin W. Johnson for his 8 years of service on City Council.

2nd Ward – Councilwoman Aeh thanked everyone for coming out on this cold, cold night.

3rd Ward – Councilman Kevin E. Johnson thanked all that were in attendance this evening because it wasn’t one of the nicest nights to be out and he also thanked the media for coming whether there were things going on like in the recent weeks or whether it’s a quiet night for routine business. He thanked all of the citizens that supported his campaign and he looked forward to the next 4 years of serving the city that he grew up in and that he loves.

4th Ward – Councilman Kalb explained to his fellow citizens that it had always been his ambition to do better in the year we’re in than we did in the previous year and he planned to do that and thanked Councilmembers for their support for his position as Mayor.

5th Ward – Councilman Meadows thanked the citizens who re-elected and had faith in him to do what’s best for the 5th Ward for the next 4 years and he welcomed Mr. Dunne as he starts on his journey with Council.

6th Ward – Councilman Lowe thanked the citizens for electing Mr. Johnson, Mr. Dunne and Mr. Gene again. He said that it appeared that Council will have some stability and was looking forward to the next 2 years of working with this Council.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh.

City Clerk

Mayor

