

MINUTES – SPECIAL SESSION

PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Saturday December 23, 2017
10:00 A.M.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in special session on Saturday December 23, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., in the Lobby of the Municipal Building.

Mayor James D. Kalb called the meeting to order and ask for a roll call.

Roll Call showed the following members to be present:

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

Also present was Solicitor John Haas, Auditor M. Trent Williams and City Clerk Diana Ratliff.

Clerk's Report

In accordance with Section 4 of the City's Charter, Mayor James D. Kalb requested a special meeting of Council for Saturday December 23, 2017 for the following purpose:

- a. A Resolution appointing an Acting City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Notices were given to each Council Member, the Solicitor and Auditor and acknowledgements were not received from all. The Clerk asked for a verbal response from each member and received acknowledgements from all.

The City Clerk's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilman Kevin W. Johnson. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes – 0 nays.**

Someone from the audience started the Pledge of Allegiance and afterwards Mayor James D. Kalb thanked the person and stated that it had been an upsetting morning and he had missed that on the agenda.

Solicitor Haas stated that the item that was on the agenda this morning was to appoint an acting City Manager and that would be the only thing to be commented on this morning. The reason Council needed to appoint someone as Acting City Manager was that there was no administrator to run the city, sign forms, put the insurance in place. He added that this was something that needed to be done until the other matter could be resolved. He said that everyone would have any opportunity to speak at the meeting Thursday December 28th.

STATEMENT OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Amy Partlow – 1538 Charles Street Portsmouth, OH – She stated that she would like to put Derek Allen in as Acting City Manager.

Richard Pridemore – 2464 Orizaba Lane Portsmouth, OH – He said that on the temporary hiring of a temporary City Manager, he's not sure why Council followed the City Charter to hire someone Council wanted in but did not go by the City Charter to fire the person that was already there doing the job he was paid to do. How could Council legally hire someone when they have not legally fired the previous City Manager.

Rich Saddler -1508 Charles Street Portsmouth, OH – He stated that he was a past City Council member and was one of the people that helped hire Derek Allen as our City Manager. He added that he was very disappointed and upset that this town was moving backwards 20 years and going through the processes that we went through years ago. He stated that recalls were on the way unfortunately but that was our system. He said that he would like to see City Council move to reinstate Derek Allen as City Manager and alleviate our city from a huge financial loss and a huge employment loss from somebody that came to this town and was very dedicated in turning this town around.

LEGISLATION

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to a Resolution appointing an Acting City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio, effective December 23, 2017.

Councilwoman Aeh nominated Sam Sutherland as Acting City Manager until the issues were all sorted out.

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson nominated Derek Allen as Acting City Manager. Mayor Kalb asked Solicitor Haas if that was legal and he replied that it needed to be a Department Head under the Charter.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 4 ayes – 2 nays (K. W. Johnson and K. E. Johnson), the Resolution was adopted.**

**Res. #20-17
Appointing
Sam
Sutherland
Acting City
Manager**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:09 a.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh.

City Clerk

Mayor