

**KULPMONT BOROUGH  
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 3, 2022**

Magisterial District Judge William C. Cole performed the swearing in of Newly Elected Mayor, Robert M. Slaby and a Councilmembers Mike Balitchick, Wm. Mike Bradley, Robert Chesney and Stephen Bielskie.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present.  
Kulpmont borough Council held its Re-Organization meeting  
Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

Robert M. Slaby Called the meeting to order

Roll call was taken, and the following members were present: Robert M. Slaby, Mike Balitchick, Stephen Bielskie, Mike Bradley, Robert Chesney, Joseph J Dowkus II and Stephen Motyka.

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Solicitor Edward Greco, Borough Secretary Rhonda Wilk and Borough Supervisor Bruce Graff

Robert M. Slaby stated at this time he is going to resign his position as a Council member with a two-year term remaining and being vacant. Solicitor Greco stated Borough Council now has 30 days to fill that vacancy.

**MOTION-** Mr. Bielskie made a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Slaby as Council Member and was seconded by Mr. Chesney.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

Robert M. Slaby stated he was this towns Mayor for 12 years, a position he is going to return to this evening and has been on Council for 4 years. He continued to say it has been a pleasure working with Council and stated in his opinion this is probably the best Council in 20, 25 years. He added stated Council could be very proud of that because he had been through some terrible times here and stated he hopes to continue to work with Council as Mayor.

Mayor Slaby declared all appointed Borough positions vacant and stated at this time a President must be selected.

Mr. Dowkus made a nomination to nominate Mr. Bielskie as Council President.

Mr. Bradley made a nomination to appoint Mr. Bielskie as Council President.

No additional nominations for Council President.

**MOTION**- Mr. Dowkus made the motion to close nominations seconded by Mr. Bradley.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

Mr. Bielskie Council President presided over the meeting.

Mr. Bielskie asked if there were any nominations for Vice President of Council.

Mr. Bradley made a nomination to nominate Mr. Dowkus as Council Vice President.  
Mr. Motyka made a nomination to appoint Mr. Dowkus as Council Vice President.  
No additional nominations for Council President.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

**MOTION**- Mr. Motyka made the motion to appoint Edward Greco as solicitor at the same retainer and per hour rate and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

**MOTION**- to appoint Paul Niglio as Treasurer by Mr. Dowkus and seconded by Mr. Chesney at current rate.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

**MOTION**- Mr. Bradley and seconded by Mr. Dowkus to appoint Bruce Graff as Borough Supervisor and approving current rate.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

**MOTION**- Mr. Chesney and seconded by Mr. Motyka to appoint Rhonda Wilk Borough Secretary and Right to Know Officer by Mr. Chesney and seconded by Mr. Motyka.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

**MOTION** – Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to appoint Paul Niglio as Vacancy Board Member.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

**MOTION** – Mr. Motyka made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Dowkus to name a delinquent tax collector as Statewide Tax Recovery.

**VOICE VOTE** –

Unanimous

**MOTION** – Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Motyka to name Kevin O’Hearn as EMA Director.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

**MOTION**- Mr. Dowkus made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Chesney to adopt all same and current procedures governing Borough Council.

**VOICE VOTE**-

Unanimous

**MOTION** to table any decision on the Borough Depository by Mr. Dowkus and seconded by Mr. Chesney.

**VOICE VOTE**-

Unanimous

Mr. Bielskie asked that Council Members get to him the committees they would be interested in.

**MOTION**- Mr. Dowkus made the motion to table the committee appointments and was seconded by Mr. Balitchick.

**VOICE VOTE-**

Unanimous

**MOTION**-by Mr. Motyka and seconded by Mr. Dowkus to approve the meeting schedule for 2022 as every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday as each month at 7:00 p.m. with every other Wednesday being reserved for meeting for General Purpose if needed and advertise.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

**MOTION** – A motion by Mr. Dowkus and seconded by Mr. Bradley to advertise open positions and request a letter of interest to fill the vacant 2-year term for council position, tax collector, Borough Physician and Heath Board Officer.  
Letters of interest being due on January 26<sup>th</sup> by 4 pm.

Solicitor Greco stated we have 30 days to make appointment of Tax Collector and Councilmember. Mr. Motyka stated we could call a meeting on Wednesday January 26<sup>th</sup> to fill vacancies. Solicitor Greco stated if the Borough does not appoint within 30 days, it would then go to County.

Mr. Dowkus stated he did reach out to the board of elections for a list of all the write ins of registered voters and we would at least be able to look at that.

Mayor Slaby stated time is of the essence. Mayor Slaby stated a tax collector will need to be bonded and would not suggest a person that has been convicted of a crime. Mr. Bradley questioned if the person filling the spot would need to be the same political party. Mayor Slaby replied, “No,” it is not a requirement.

**ROLL CALL VOTE-** BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

Solicitor Greco stated there are two seats open on the Sewer Authority. Both Mr. Slaby and Mr. Bielskie seats are both open.

**MOTION-** Mr. Motyka made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Bradley to include members of KMHJMA to be advertised for 2 vacant positions on the board.

Mayor Slaby commented there have been rumors that once he becomes Mayor, he would be forbidden to serve on the KMHJMA Board. He stated he has since then received confirmation from PSAB that he would be able to continue the KMHJMA Board.

Mr. Bradley stated the Sewer Authority member does not need to be someone sitting on Borough Council. Mr. Bradley questioned if it is a non-paid position. Mayor Slaby

agreed, it is a non-paid position. Mr. Slaby stated in his opinion you should not be able to sit on the board if you are o a member of Borough Council. Mr. Bradley stated it is hard to get someone to volunteer when it is a nonpaid position. Mayor Slaby commented especially when you get ridiculed.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**- BALITCHICK (yes), BIELSKIE (yes), BRADLEY (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), MOTYKA (yes)  
6- 0

Mayor Slaby stated he will swear in Mr. O’Hearn within the net week or so.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR**

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**RHONDA WILK  
SECRETARY**

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**DATE OF APPROVAL**