

**KULPMONT BOROUGH
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2020**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the body present.
Kulpmont borough Council held its Re-Organization meeting
Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers

Stephen Bielskie, Vice President called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Mayor Bozza, Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Robert Fanella, Michael Sinopoli, and Robert Slaby

ABSENT: George Malakoski and Walter Lutz

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

PRESENT: Code Official Heather Owens

OTHERS PRESENT: Joseph C. Dowkus, Janet Dowkus, Corinne Klose, Brynn Vrendowski, Bernard J. Novakoski, Amy Herb, Judy Slaby, Pam Slaby, Stephanie Niglio, Kedvin O'hearn, Jeff Gilotti, Ray Siko, Russ Moroz, Joseph Leschinskie, Tonya Leschinskie, Natalia Leschinskie and George Leshock.

The Mayor declares all appointed Borough Positions Vacant and we need to appoint the following: President, Vice President, Solicitor, Borough Treasurer, Borough Supervisor, Delinquent Tax Collector, Vacancy Board, Borough Physician, Health Board Officer and Emergency Management Coordinator.

calls for a nomination of President.

Magisterial District Judge William C. Cole performed the swearing in of Newly Elected a Councilmembers Robert Chesney, Joseph Dowkus and Stephen Motyka, Mr. Slaby stated this is special for his family and stated the last time he was sworn in was as Mayor and stated when he was Mayor in 2006 his granddaughter Pamela was not even born yet commenting she just turned 13 years old. Mr. Slaby stated he expected that to be the end but then 18 months ago he was asked to take a position on council. Mr. Slaby stated after applying was appointed and now has been elected to Borough Council. Mr. Slaby stated it is special for him to be sworn in this evening with his granddaughter Pamela by his side and her good friend Judge Cole. Robert Slaby stated this is now the fifth time he has been sworn in for public office here in Kulpmont. Robert Slaby then was sworn into office by Judge William C. Cole.

Mayor Nicholas Bozza performed the swearing in of the Fire Chief Jeff Gilotti, Deputy Fire Chief Kevin O'Hearn, Assistant Fire Chief Ray Siko and Emergency Management Coordinator Kevin O'Hearn

Mayor Bozza called the meeting to order and roll call was taken.
The following members were present: Mayor Bozza, Stephen Bielskie, Robert Chesney, Joseph Dowkus, Robert Fanella, Stephen Motyka, Michael Sinopoli and Robert Slaby

ABSENT: None

Mayor Bozza declares all appointed borough positions vacant

President, Vice President, Solicitor, Treasurer, borough Secretary, Right to Know Officer, Borough Supervisor, Delinquent Tax Collector, Vacancy Board, Borough Physician, Health Board Officer and Emergency Management Coordinator.

Mayor Bozza opened nominations for Council President.

Mr. Bielskie made a nomination to appoint Mr. Slaby as Council President.
Mr. Dowkus made a nomination to appoint Mr. Motyka as Council President.
No additional nominations for Council President.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion to close nominations seconded by Mr. Sinopoli.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (Slaby), CHESNEY (Slaby), DOWKUS (Motyka), FANELLA(Slaby), MOTYKA (Motyka), SINOPOLI (Slaby), SLABY (Slaby)
5 Slaby – 2 Motyka

The newly elected Council President, Robert Slaby presides over the meeting.

Mr. Slaby asked for any nominations for Council Vice President of Council.

Mr. Chesney nominated Mr. Bielskie as Council president. There were no additional nominations for Vice President of Council.

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to close nominations for Vice President.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (Bielski), CHESNEY (Bielskie), DOWKUS (Bielskie), FANELLA(Bielskie), MOTYKA (Bielskie), SINOPOLI (Bielskie), SLABY (Bielskie)
7- Bielskie

Mr. Slaby stated at this time we will move onto appointing borough officials.

Mr. Slaby stated the first position is the Borough solicitor with retainer at \$6000.00 and \$70.00 per hour for extra services.

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli to appoint Solicitor Greco as the Borough Solicitor at \$6000.00 retainer and \$70.00 per hour extra services.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (no), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
6 YEAS – 1 NAY

Mr. Slaby stated the next appointment is the position of Treasurer.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion to declare the Treasurer position open with no re-appointment at this time and was seconded by Mr. Chesney.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (no), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (no), SINOPOLI (no), SLABY (yes)
4 YEAS – 3 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the next appointment is for Borough Secretary, currently Rhonda Wilk

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion to appoint Rhonda Wilk as Borough Secretary and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the next position is for Right to Know officer for the Borough of Kulpmont, currently Rhonda Wilk.

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to appoint Rhonda Wilk as Right to Know officer.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the next position is for what he believes to be called the Borough Supervisor, currently held by Mr. Graff.

MOTION- Mr. Fanella made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to appoint Bruce Graff as Borough Supervisor.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Bielskie questioned if we could leave the vacancy board open until we know what we are doing. The Solicitor stated if you are not going to re-appoint and you do not have any additional names, then it will remain vacant adding the Mayor declares the position vacant. Mr. Motyka questioned if that is the case why it was voted on to make the treasurer vacant if that was the case, why was there not an option to nominate someone else. The Solicitor replied you could make a subsidiary motion, you could make a motion on Wednesday. Solicitor Greco stated if you make a motion under Roberts Rules and then a second you have a right to make a subsidiary motion and if that gets a seconded that subsidiary motion would get voted on first. Mr. Motyka stated it is confusing that we did not follow the same rules we just followed for the vacancy on the vacancy board. The Solicitor stated if you want to somebody to make a motion and have a second to declare vacant you could do that.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Chesney to declare the Vacancy Board vacant at the present time and see if we get an interested party.

Mr. Bielskie commented that possibly Paul Niglio will want to stay there.

Mr. Chesney stated just so everybody understands the Treasurer position is open and that means that anyone could apply for that position including Mr. Niglio.

Mr. Motyka asked why we could not have the opportunity to nominate him today.

Mr. Chesney replied he would imagine we could have but there was no other name mentioned.

Mayor Bozza stated a motion could be made Wednesday and questioned if that is correct. The Solicitor replied that is correct.

Mr. Chesney again stated that position is open, and anybody could apply for it including Paul Niglio.

Mr. Slaby then clarified that the Vacancy Board position is declared vacant and stated there is a motion and a second.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (no), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (no), SINOPOLI (no), SLABY (yes)
4 YEAS – 3 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the next position is a Borough Physician, currently unoccupied.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Chesney appointed Borough Physician to remain vacant until we could find somebody.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the delinquent tax collector for the borough is currently Berkheimer.

MOTION- Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to appoint Berkheimer as Tax Collector.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the next position is Health Board Officer and questioned if there is a motion to keep it that way.

MOTION- Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Sinopoli for the Health Board officer position to remain vacant.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Slaby stated the next position is EMA Coordinator presently held by Kevin O’Hearn with the salary as listed.

MOTION- Mr. Sinopoli made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella to appoint Kevin O’Hearn as EMA Coordinator with salary as listed

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

MOTION – Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bielskie to re-adopt Borough procedures.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Slaby stated the Borough is currently banking with BB&T as the depository bank and asked if there is a motion to continue or if there is a desire to change.

MOTION – Mr. Bielskie made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Chesney to retain the services with BBT/Sun Trust Bank as Borough Banking.

VOICE VOTE-

Unanimous

Mr. Slaby stated committee appointments are a task he must do and stated he will review and reach out to Council members and new members, Mr. Motyka and Mr. Dowkus to see what their interest may be. Mr. Slaby stated he will have committees hopefully for the next meeting.

MOTION – Mr. Chesney made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Fanella To advertise borough meetings to be held on the seconded Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. with remaining Wednesday's each month advertised for meetings for General Purpose at 7:00 p.m. as needed.

ROLL CALL VOTE- BIELSKIE (yes), CHESNEY (yes), DOWKUS (yes), FANELLA (yes), MOTYKA (yes), SINOPOLI (yes), SLABY (yes)
7 YEAS – 0 NAYS

Mr. Dowkus questioned if we will put anything in the paper for the vacancies for these appointed positions that are vacant. Mr. Bielskie replied we will not do anything until our first meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Slaby replied that would be the proper thing to do and to keep the personal thing out of it and see what we get.

Mr. Motyka questioned what he will need to do to not take his pay for four years. No motion was made at this time.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

**RHONDA WILK
SECRETARY**

DATE OF APPROVAL