

MILFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 4, 2015

The Annual Organizational Meeting of Milford City Council was held Monday, May 4, 2015 in the Joseph Ronnie Rogers Council Chambers of Milford City Hall at 201 South Walnut Street, Milford, Delaware.

PRESIDING: Honorable Mayor Bryan W. Shupe

IN ATTENDANCE: Councilpersons Christopher Mergner, Garrett Grier III, S. Allen Pikus, James Burk, Owen Brooks, Jr., Douglas Morrow and James Starling, Sr.

City Manager Hans Medlarz, Police Chief Keith Hudson and
City Clerk/Recorder Terri Hudson

COUNSEL: City Solicitor David Rutt

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shupe called the Organization Meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

The invocation, given by Councilman Starling, followed the Pledge of Allegiance.

CERTIFICATION BY BOARD OF ELECTION

Mayor Shupe welcomed everyone present.

He then stated that pursuant to 15 Del.C §7558 of the Delaware Code titled "Election results; recounts; contests" reads as follows:

"A person certified as being elected shall not take office before the seventh day following certification of the election."

The Election Board of the City of Milford, consisting of Karen Boone, Joanne Leuthauser and Phyllis Fox, shall be Judges of the election and shall decide upon the legality of the votes offered. Because no election was necessary this year, I am reading the certification letter, duly signed by each of the three members dated April 26, 2015, into record:

Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council:

There being only one candidate for each Office of Council Member in Ward One, Ward Two, Ward Three and Ward Four, the Election Board of the City of Milford hereby declares the following candidates elected for a two-year term beginning May 4, 2015:

Christopher H. Mergner - Ward One
James F. Burk - Ward Two
Douglas E. Morrow Sr. - Ward Three
James O. Starling Sr. - Ward Four

Said candidates are entitled to assume office without a formal election pursuant to 15 Del.C. §7555(j) which states as follows:

§7555. Candidates; eligibility; declaration of candidacy.

(j) Where the number of qualified candidates for an office is equal to or less than the number of seats up for election, the Board of Elections shall declare the candidate or candidates elected.

*Respectfully submitted,
City of Milford Board of Elections*

ELECTION REPORT

City Manager Hans Medlarz read the official results of the 2015 City of Milford Election:

“Due to uncontested races for the First, Second, Third & Fourth Ward Council seats, the Annual City of Milford Election scheduled for April 25, 2015 was officially canceled.

State law permits an unchallenged candidate to assume office without a formal election pursuant to 15 Del.C. §7555(j).

Given, First Ward Councilman Christopher H. Mergner, Third Ward Councilman Douglas E. Morrow and Fourth Ward Councilman James O. Starling, Sr. will retain their respective seats; James F. Burk has been elected to fill the recently vacated Second Ward Council seat, all to serve two year terms beginning this date, the 4th day of May 2015.”

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Shupe announced that Honorable William J. Walls, Jr. of Kent County Family Court, was present to administer the Oath of Office to City Council.

Judge Walls first administered the Oath of Office to First Ward Councilman Elect James F. Burk (first year term).

Following, the Oath of Office was administered by Judge Walls to Council Members, as follows:

Christopher H. Mergner - Ward One
Douglas E. Morrow Sr. - Ward Three
James O. Starling Sr. - Ward Four

Family members participated in the ceremony.

After the swearing in procedure concluded, the reelected Council Members signed their Oaths of Office.

Mayor Shupe then welcomed Councilman Burk stating that he knows him personally and believes he will serve the city well noting he has a very positive outlook for its future.

He also thanked Councilmen Mergner, Morrow and Starling for serving their city again. He feels that this group works well together, has the vested interested of the residents and will get a lot accomplished over the next couple years. He then congratulated each councilman.

VICE MAYOR NOMINATION & ELECTION

Mayor Shupe then opened the floor to nominations for Vice Mayor.

Councilman Grier nominated Councilman Morrow; the nomination was then seconded by Mr. Brooks.

Mr. Pikus moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Mr. Brooks. With no further nominations, nominations were closed.

All present voted in favor of electing Councilman Morrow as the Vice Mayor with no one opposed.

CITY SOLICITOR APPOINTMENT

On motion of Mr. Grier, seconded by Mr. Brooks, Esquire David Rutt was reappointed Solicitor for the City of Milford.

All present voted in favor of reappointing David Rutt as the City Solicitor with no one opposed.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENTS

Motion made by Mr. Mergner and seconded by Mr. Grier to reappoint the following persons as Workforce Development Commissioners:

Mayor Bryan Shupe
Sylvia Henderson*
Councilwoman Katrina Wilson
David Markowitz
Grant Curtis

*MSD Designee for Superintendent

Motion carried with no one opposed.

OUTGOING COUNCILMAN DIRK GLEYSTEEEN

Mr. Brooks thanked outgoing Councilman Dirk Gleysteen for his service on council.

Mayor Shupe then thanked Mr. Gleysteen adding that he was always the finance person who always looked at numbers before anything else. He thinks that is an area council needs to continue to concentrate on as a responsibility to our citizens.

Mr. Gleysteen then congratulated Mr. Burk and wished him luck in this new endeavor.

CERTIFICATES OF OFFICE

Certificates of Office were then distributed to the newly elected Council Members.

ADJOURN

Mr. Morrow moved to adjourn the Organizational Meeting, seconded by Mr. Burk. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Terri K. Hudson, MMC
City Clerk/Recorder