

Manchester Borough Council
January 3, 2022

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING - Mayor Patty Witt called the January 3, 2022, meeting to order. Those attending the meeting were led in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following officials were present:

Wade Witt Larry Weirich Joseph Paniagua (via phone until arrival at 7:15pm)

Mayor Witt proceeded to swear in elected officials, Bruce Almoney, Adam Bowman, Ryan Neely, Dennis Howell and Kelly Neely, by taking the Oath of Office for Council/Tax Collector for four-year terms. Mayor Witt followed the Reorganization Meeting Procedure as recommended by the Borough's Association. The mayor then accepted nominations for President and Vice President.

Ryan Neely nominated Adam Bowman and Bruce Almoney nominated Wade Witt for President. The mayor asked the remaining council how they would like to vote. Dennis Howell voted in favor of Adam Bowman, while Larry Weirich voted for Wade Witt making this a tie. Wade reached out to Councilman Paniagua (via telephone) to get his vote while he was enroute to the council meeting. He voted in favor of Wade, making it a 3-2 vote. The Borough's President will now be Wade Witt.

Mayor Witt then accepted nominations for Vice-President. Larry Weirich nominated Bruce Almoney. The mayor then addressed council for their votes. It was decided that Bruce Almoney will be the Borough's Vice President.

MUNICIPAL BUSINESS – President Wade Witt conducted the meeting:

The December 13th and recessed minutes for December 29th were approved by Council on the motion of Bruce Almoney and seconded by Larry Weirich. Majority agreed.

Treasurer's Report – Wendy Snyder

The General Checking Account (M & T Bank) balance as of December 1, 2021, was \$273,611.12. Receipts for the month were \$50,950.07. Disbursements for the month of December were \$85,290.89, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$239,270.30 at the end of the month. This does not reflect the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds of \$26,054.00 that was transferred on 12/30/21. This would now make the 12/31/21 ending balance \$265,324.30. The Santander Money Market account has been closed and funds that total \$453,983.04 have been transferred to Members First Credit Union. The PLIGIT accounts were not reviewed for the month of December since the statements were not available online yet. Council approved the financial reports on the motion of Joseph Paniagua and seconded by Bruce Almoney. Majority agreed.

Bills were reviewed for payment that totaled \$37,944.87 and approved by Council, a motion was made by Joseph Paniagua and seconded Bruce Almoney. Majority agreed.

MISCELLANEOUS

* Resolution 2022-1 (Millage Rate) – It was previously mentioned (2020 reorganization meeting) that new legislation provides for the millage rate to be enacted by Resolution rather than an Ordinance which requires advertising unless the millage rate is changed. Council approved the 2022 rate of 2.90 mills. A motion to the millage rate of 2.90 was made by Joseph Paniagua and seconded Larry Weirich. Majority agreed.

* **2022 Appointments:**

- **Solicitor** – will not be appointed at this meeting since interviews will be conducted for this position next week by Wade Witt, Larry Weirich and Bruce Almoney. They will then present their selection to council at next month's meeting. In the meantime, it was mentioned to temporarily appoint our current solicitor Blakey, Yost, Bupp and Rausch (John Baranski)

until a final decision can be made. A motion to temporarily obtain Blakey, Yost, Bupp and Rausch as solicitor until next month's decision was made by Larry Weirich and seconded by Bruce Almoney. Majority agreed.

- **Engineer** – C. S. Davidson, Inc. was approved on the motion of Bruce Almoney and seconded by Larry Weirich. Majority agreed.

- **Playground/Recreation** – Joseph Paniagua and Wade Witt. Motion made by Bruce Almoney and seconded by Larry Weirich. Majority agreed.

- **Building Committee** – Dennis Howell and Bruce Almoney (head of shop). Motion made by Larry Weirich and seconded Joseph Paniagua. Majority agreed.

Miscellaneous Appointments: as approved by the Council on the motions of Larry Weirich and seconded by Joseph Paniagua. Majority agreed.

NE Sewer Authority – Judy Hilliard and Dale Benedict

Planning Commission – Dale Benedict, Judy Hilliard, Bruce Almoney and Wade Witt

Zoning Hearing Board – Ken Cole, Judy Hilliard and Penny Ayres Segarra, Attorney

Street Tree Committee – Ken Cole, Loretta Simmons, Cathy Dosch

Crossing Guards – Charlene Dellinger, Royce Weirich; substitute(s) – Larry Weirich, Dale Sowers

Auditor – Mark Kephart, Kochenour, Earnest, Smyser & Burg

Borough Office – Larry Weirich

Tax Collector – Kelly Neely

* Wade mentioned that he needs a motion to obtain/maintain bonding for the tax collector, secretary and treasurer. A motion to maintain bonds were made by Bruce Almoney and seconded by Larry Weirich. Majority agreed.

* Depositories for the Borough will be M & T, Members First Federal Credit Union and PLIGIT.

* Gary mentioned that at last meeting there was discussion on looking into getting key readers for the Borough doors. He received a recommendation from the fire company and said the gentleman will be out on Wednesday the 5th to look at the building. He will present the estimated cost to council at next month's meeting. Lastly, he mentioned that the new truck is here but will be going back to the shop next week to complete some things that were not finished. And mentioned that MJR was bought out by a company by the name of Stevens.

* It was mentioned that the Borough lost its computer IT support as of January 1st and are open to suggestions for potential candidates to fill the position. There were many suggestions offered and will be discussed and hopefully a decision will be made at next month's meeting.

* Wade mentioned that he would like to make a change to the meeting agendas old/new business section. He would like to have the old business addressed in detail and remain on every agenda until the problem/issue/concern is resolved.

* It was suggested by a citizen that there be a "Slow Children at Play" sign installed on Farm Lane due to the number of children in the neighborhood and the heavy/speeding traffic on the road. Wade mentioned that the Borough now has those radar speed signs and can place one on Farm Lane to help regulate the speeding. It was discussed and council will look into putting up a sign soon per the citizen's request.

* Judy Hilliard wanted to mention on behalf of the sewer authority that they will be replacing pipe and laterals on Malvern Drive & Fenwick Drive. They are also talking about working/revisiting the reoccurring issue with the manhole located at 101 N Main Street. Lastly, they are looking at increasing the quarterly sewer rate by \$10.00. This will now make the rate from \$130 to \$140/per quarter.

A motion to adjourn at 8:15pm was made by Adam Bowman and seconded Larry Weirich. Majority agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mari Strayer