



CITY OF WASHINGTON
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
January 2, 2024 12:00 P.M.



City Council

Ken Westcott, Councilman
Joe Pintola, Councilman
Andrew Callan, Councilman
Joseph DeThomas, Councilman

ROLL CALL:

Councilman Joseph DeThomas	Present
Councilman Andrew Callan	Present (arrived at 12:17 P.M.)
Councilman Joe Pintola	Present
Councilman Ken Westcott	Present
Solicitor: Jack Cambest	Present

MOMENT OF SILENCE: For the upcoming year

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Individuals or group representatives who have signed in prior to the meeting, will have 5 minutes of microphone time to address Council during the public participation portion of the meeting. We prefer if there is a group, a representative be chosen to speak. Audience comments will not be permitted following the public participation portion of the meeting; therefore, we ask that you please review the agenda for any item(s) you may wish to discuss. We have, in the past, had individuals' direct comments to Mayor and Council that were not correct or could not be documented. For that reason, we ask that your information be to the point and factual. Although we may not be able to answer your question at this meeting, we will refer your request or recommendation to the proper department for any necessary action.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one signed in to speak

THE CITY CLERK VERIFIED AND READ ALOUD THE ELECTION CERTIFICATES OF MAYOR JOJO BURGESS, COUNCILMAN KENNETH J. WESTCOTT, COUNCILMAN JOSEPH PINTOLA, CONTROLLER NICHOLAS DUBINA, AND TREASURER ANTHONY NICOLELLA.

THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR MAYOR JOJO BURGESS, COUNCILMAN KENNETH J. WESTCOTT, COUNCILMAN JOSEPH PINTOLA, CONTROLLER NICHOLAS DUBINA, AND TREASURER ANTHONY NICOLELLA WAS HELD.

COMMENTS FROM NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Burgess- Mayor Burgess said that it was a tremendous honor to be elected as Mayor. He stated, "We want to make sure to pick up and continue the great work Scott Putnam did as mayor. Me taking over is not an indication of anything that he did, because he served the city well. We want to make Washington the place to be. Knowing the City Council members that we already have and the people working here in the city, I'm just here to captain the ship that's already running."

Councilman Westcott- Thanked the voters for reelecting him and congratulated the other elected officials. Wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilman Pintola- Noted that there was a nice turn out for today's Reorganization Meeting. He thanked everyone who voted for him and his colleagues.

Nick Dubina- Shared that he was glad to be here for another 4-year term and he appreciated the support.

Tony Nicolella- Thanked everyone that got out and voted.

Mayor Burgess appointed Lieutenant Steve Devenney as the City of Washington Police Chief effective January 2, 2024, and amend the Salary Resolution accordingly.

Oath of Office for City of Washington Police Chief Steve Devenney was held.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola and carried unanimously to accept the Election Certificates for the record and authorize the City Clerk to file the same.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Pintola and carried unanimously to appoint Councilman Westcott as the Director of the Department of Accounts and Finance.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott and carried unanimously to appoint Councilman Pintola as the Director of the Department of Streets and Public Improvements.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Pintola and carried unanimously to appoint Councilman Callan as the Director of the Department of Parks and Public Buildings.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Callan and carried unanimously to appoint Councilman DeThomas as the Director of Public Safety.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Callan and carried unanimously to appoint Dodaro, Matta and Cambest as the Solicitor for the City of Washington.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Callan and carried unanimously to appoint Harshman CE Group as the Engineering Firm for the City of Washington.

Elected Officials Comments:

Councilman DeThomas: Welcomed everyone and thanked the great voters of the City of Washington. Thanked Councilman Westcott, who he believes could be the longest serving councilman for the city. Thanked Mayor Burgess for stepping up and becoming the first Black Mayor of the City of Washington.

Councilman Callan: Congratulated the Mayor and thanked everyone for attending. Stated that he looks forward to doing great things for the city.

Councilman Pintola: Echoed everyone else's sentiments. Stated; "Everything's been working smooth and there's no reason it's not going to continue. It can only get better."

Councilman Westcott: Stated; "We have a great city here in the City of Washington. You have 5 individuals up here that are ready to go to work and do what's best for the City of Washington." He thanked the voters for their support.

Mayor Burgess: Thanked his family and friends for their support. He acknowledged Butch and Mike Marino for their encouragement to go out for wrestling in sixth grade. He shared how they put him on the path for taking care of other people and changed his life when he was just a young kid.

The Agenda Meeting will be held immediately following today's January 2, 2024


Reorganization Meeting. The next regular meeting of the Washington City Council will be held on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

The City Building will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2024 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 8:30 A.M.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.


CITY OF WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA

BY:



JoJo Burgess, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michelle R. Sperl, City Clerk