

# **Point Marion Borough Council Reorganization Meeting Minutes**

**JANUARY 02nd, 2024**

**Council meeting was opened with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Carl Ables**

**Members present: J. Corcoran, J. Stewart, M. Cottrell, J. Cottrell, Anthony Jordon, Mayor C. Ables, Bob Goodwin and Solicitor Doug Sholtis (Arriving Late).**

**Absent Billie: Jo Nicklow**

**Others present: Rebecca Townsend and Cyndi Fisher**

**Mayor Carl Ables called the reorganization meeting to order followed by a moment of silent meditation and Pledge of Allegiance.**

## **Roll Call**

**Roll call was taken and quorum was established**

**Mayor C. Ables opened nominations for council President. Councilman M. Cottrell moved to nominate J. Corcoran for council President for 2024. Given no further nominations and by unanimous vote J. Corcoran will be Borough President for the calendar year 2024.**

**The remainder of the reorganization meeting was then turned over to the President of council.**

**Nominations were opened for council Vice President a motion was made by Jack Stewart for Mitch Cottrell given no further nominations Mitch Cottrell will be council Vice President for 2024.**

**Motion by Jack Stewart nominate Jim Cottrell for President Pro-Tem given no further nominations the vote was unanimous Jim Cottrell will be President Pro-Tem for the calendar year 2024.**

**Motion By Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Jack Stewart to retain Harold Whyel as Secretary/Treasurer and to have signature authority on checks, to have administrative access over bank accounts, and to have the authority to access the bank accounts and to transfer funds as becomes necessary to conduct borough business for 2024. M.C.**

**Motion by Jack Stewart second by Mitch Cottrell to retain Sholtis as solicitor for 2024. Motion Carried.**

**Motion by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to retain Mark Gordon as Code Enforcement Officer for 2024. M.C.**

**Motion by Jack Stewart and seconded by Jim Cottrell to use United Bank and First United as Borough Depositories for 2024. M.C.**

**Motion by Jack Stewart and second by Bob Goodwin to retain Gibson Thomas as engineering firm for 2024. Motion Carried.**

**Motion by Jim Cottrell and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to retain Beer Ream as the CPA firm to perform the audit for 2024. Motion Carried.**

**A motion by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to retain Hoffman Kennels as animal control for 2024. M.C.**

**Motion by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Mitch Cottrell that the meetings for calendar year 2024 will be the second and fourth Mondays beginning January 22nd 6:30 P.M. with the exception being January 8<sup>th</sup> there will be no meeting on this date. Motion Carried.**

**Being no further reorganization business, the President called for adjournment.**

**A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jack Stewart to adjourn the meeting. M.C.**

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_____ President	_____ Date	_____ Secretary	_____ Date
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**Regular Meeting of the Point Marion Borough Council**

**President J. Corcoran then opened the first regular meeting of the calendar year.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was conducted in the reorganization meeting.**

**Roll call and quorum was already previous established with council members already listed in the reorganization meeting minutes.**

**Minutes of the December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting were presented a motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Jack Stewart to accept the minutes as presented. M.C.**

**Engineering Report:**

**Becky Wadsworth was present to present Gibson-Thomas annual engineering report. A discussion centered around the approximately \$132K grant and how it is to be used depends on the language of the grant. Becky handed out copies of the PA APPA grant handbook and took questions on grants. Council had asked Becky to set up a meeting with Peter Buss and to get back with council on specific dates of the meeting.**

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Carl Ables presented the monthly police activity report. After much discussion on safety a motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to allow the Borough officer to take the police vehicle home after a GPS tracker has been installed. M.C.

### **Secretary's Report:**

A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to pay the bills M.C.

Also, the secretary brought before council that an inadvertent error was made by the Secretary in not recording a previous motion in passing the rental agreement ordinance. A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to amend those minutes. Solicitor Sholtis concurred with the motion. M.C.

### **Solicitor's Report:**

Ordinance 2024-01 Digging Ordinance was presented, a motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Bob Goodwin to accept and pass the Ordinance. M.C.

The Ordinance to vacate 143 feet of church alley needs to be published once more in the newspaper and will be ready to be voted on in the meeting of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

### **Code Officer's Report:**

Jack Stewart presents the code officers report of code enforcement activities for the prior month. A discussion ensued concerning unsafe structures within the borough after the discussion a motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Bob Goodwin to direct the solicitor to send the owner of 203 Penn St a letter concerning the condition and UCC violations. Also, necessary steps would be taken to block off the sidewalk around the building to protect the public.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Public Safety:**

Report of public safety activities was given under Mayor's report.

#### **Infrastructure:**

Council Jim Cottrell gave the following report of activities: Daily operations of Water, Sewage, and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Pump Station, treated roadways 3 times within the past 2 weeks, replaced stop sign at the corner of Broadway and Morgantown St. also at the corner of Penn and Main St. Washed the borough and salt trucks. Cleaned up at the water plant, marked PA 1 calls. All Around fence replaced damaged fence at park and sewage plant. Graveled Sadler Street.

#### **Administration**

President Joe Corcoran went over access to the Secretary's Office. If you need anything ask.

**Community Development and Enhancement:**

Bob Goodwin stated that All around fence company did show up

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Council President stated Tri-County Borough's Association meeting would be Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 6 PM at Cokeburg.

Anthony Jordon presented some ideas about how to enhance revenues for the Borough.

A motion was made by Jim Cottrell and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to enter into executive session at 9:10 PM M.C.

A Motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to exit executive session at 10:10 PM M.C.

Give no further business before council President Joe Corcoran called for Adjournment.

A motion was made by Jim Cottrell and seconded by Mitch Cottrell to adjourn the meeting M.C.

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President

Secretary

Date