



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Monday, January 3, 2022

5:15 PM

Council Chambers

Organizational Meeting

Seating inside Council Chambers is limited. The meeting will be live streamed - simply go to the City website under Public Meetings and click on the words In Progress which appears when the meeting starts - here is the link:

<https://allentownpa.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Mr. Matt Tuerk asked Judge D'Amore to come over here. Everyone is already seating. He asked his family to stand up and be a part of this.

Judge Michael D'Amore sworn in Matt Tuerk as Mayor of the City of Allentown.

Mayor Matt Tuerk was sworn in by Judge Rashid Santiago in Spanish.

Ms. Cynthia Mota was sworn in as Councilperson by Judge Rashid Santiago.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks was sworn in as Councilperson by Judge David Howells, Jr.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks was sworn in as Councilperson by Judge David Howells, Jr.

Mr. Ed Zucal was sworn in as councilperson by Judge Rashid Santiago.

Ms. Natalie Santos was sworn in as councilperson by Judge Rashid Santiago.

[15-4819](#)

Oath of Office:

Signed Oath of Office - Matt Tuerk (Santiago)

Signed Oath of Office - Matt Tuerk (D'Amore)

Signed Oath of Office Daryl Hendricks

Signed Oath of Office - Cynthia Mota

Signed Oath of Office - Natalie Santos

Signed Oath of Office - Ed Zucal

Attachments: [Signed Oath of Office - Cynthia Mota](#)
[Signed Oath of Office - Ed Zucal](#)
[Signed Oath of Office - Matt Tuerk \(D'Amore\)](#)
[Signed Oath of Office - Matt Tuerk \(Santiago\)](#)
[Signed Oath of Office - Natalie Santos](#)
[Signed Oath of Office Daryl Hendricks](#)

Swearing In of Mayor and New Councilpersons

Mayor Matt Tuerk made remarks as an exciting moment and a new day in Allentown. He thanked the city of Allentown and the people of Allentown trusting him to serve as their Mayor for the next four years. He thanked his wife, beautiful children Amelia and Margot, his mother, godmother and mother-in-law. He thanked the voters of the city of Allentown. He wants everyone to put their feet on the ground and get the temperature of the city. It was important for him to meet with the staff. He stated that he plans to listen. They will present a narrative on the realities of the City of Allentown. Communication is a key component. People working in the City of Allentown are truly phenomenal. They care a lot. They are brilliant intellects and have a lot of great ideas that will help move our city forward. The same is true about our residents and for the businesses that are invested in our city. Today is a fresh start in Allentown. We have for the first time a female majority City Council. This is the first time in the history of the city that we have that. We have our youngest member of City Council. A have a new day and a fresh start. We have the opportunity to put the trauma of the past behind us. He thanked to people who work in the city of Allentown.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated thanked everyone that made it possible for her to be here. Being a Councilwoman is such a huge honor to be chosen by her community to represent. She is proof that dreams come true. She stated that she loves Allentown and grateful to be a part of this leadership group. She thanked Mr. O'Connell for his service. She welcomed and thanked the new Mayor Tuerk. She stated 2022 Allentown, we are all in. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks extended his concern thanks to his family, friends, and loyal supporters who installed in him the values and capabilities that would allow him to be able to discharge his duties and responsibilities as a Councilman. He thanked all the people who trusted him and placed their faith in him while working for his re-election. He is now entering his third term on Council. He must give pause and reflect on his soon to be anniversary in which he would have completed 44 years of continuous service to the citizens of our great city. He values the most is the many friends and loyal co-workers he has met along the journey. He congratulated his re-elected colleagues as well as the newly elected members. He stated that he looks forward to serving them all along with

the incumbents members as we face a new term and a new beginning. He congratulated the Mayor Tuerk and pledged his full cooperation in working diligently with his administration.

Ms. Natalie Santos thanked everyone who came out to vote especially the young voters. She looks forward to working with her new colleagues and working to making Allentown better. She thanked them and stated that she looks forward to working with them.

Roll Call

Ms. Cynthia Mota called this meeting to order. Noting under Council Rules that this is an Organizational Meeting. They will be electing new leadership and act on one Resolution on the Agenda.

Present: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Joshua Siegel, and Natalie Santos

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Alani Jimenez, 2601 Appel Street, thanked everyone who is here and making an effort to come out and making this event as warm as it could be through this insane season. He congratulated Mayor Tuerk, Cynthia Mota, and Natalie that are all part of his inner circle. He stated that he has been hanging out with them and it has been amazing. All of the other councilmembers Ce Ce Gerlach, Joshua Siegel, Daryl Hendricks, and Ed Zucal. He stated that he would love to get to know them a little bit more.

Organization of New Council: Election of President and Vice President

Council will elect a President and Vice President at its organizational meeting. The President or Acting President will first take nominations from the floor for Council President. Each Councilperson can only make one nomination. After the nominations have been made by councilpersons, the President may offer a nomination. The potential candidates shall be voted on as nominated. The first candidate to receive a majority vote will become the President. The procedures will be the same for the election of the Vice President.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she would like to make brief remarks. She stated that she would like to thank everyone that made it possible for her to be here. This year, 2022 is a year of evolution for Allentown as we recover from the pandemic. This is a time for us to embrace the expectations that come from the new administration in the new year. She took a moment to reflect on her journey and thank the people who put time in, who supported her, and encourage others to vote for her. She stated that her team who pushed her to be the number 1 vote getter. She thanked her family, her husband and her children for giving her the space to pour into our community. She thanked Julio Guridy for his service and stated that 11 years ago Julio inspired her to join City Council as he stepped away, she wished him the best and let him know she appreciates him. Making a way

for Latinos to be included in the decision making of this city. When she was young, she would look out her window and dream. Never to expect a little girl from Second Street will be the senior Latino voice in the city and will be blessed to serve three terms. She stated that she humbly accept this responsibility and promises to continue to make Allentown more inclusive. We are stepping into a new era and she wants to help continue this change and become the first Latino woman to serve as the City Council President. She is really honored.

A motion was made by Joshua Siegel that this be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Joshua Siegel, and Natalie Santos

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Vote on Council President

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked is it any nomination for Council President.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated yes, Ms. Cynthia Mota.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she would like to take nominations for Council Vice President.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Joshua Siegel, and Natalie Santos

Vote of Council Vice President

Mr. Joshua Siegel nominated Councilperson Zucal for Council Vice President.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any other nominations for Vice President.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Joshua Siegel, and Natalie Santos

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-4794](#)

R1

Appointment of Matthew Kloiber as City Solicitor

Sponsors: Administration, Affa, Mota, Hendricks, Santos, Mr. Zucal, Gerlach and Mr. Siegel

Attachments: [R1 Solicitor Appointment](#)

[Resolution #30359](#)

Mayor Matt Tuerk congratulated Council President Mota and Council Vice President Zucal. He is greatly looking forward to working with both of them. He thanked Council for their support of this appointment. What he is particularly excited about is that Mr. Kloiber has a stellar record, a brilliant resume, and he provides continuity. We are in this new administration looking for guidance from our friends who served in previous administrations and Mr. Kloiber has tremendous experience in having worked as our City Solicitor. He stated that he is looking forward to working closely with him. He looks forward to Mr. Kloiber's counsel to him as Mayor and thinks that he is an excellent choice for City Solicitor. He stated that he heartedly embrace Council's endorsement of him with the co-sponsorship.

Mayor Matt Tuerk congratulated Ms. Mota.

Ms. Cynthia Mota congratulated Mr. Kloiber. She asked if there was a statement by Mr. Kloiber.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated as a kid that grew up on Sixth Street across from Stevens School and a family of union workers at Bethlehem Steel and at the railroad. As the first person in his household to go to college, it is really humbling to be put forward and have the support of Mayor Tuerk, Mayor O'Connell before him and of Council. He stated that he looks forward to serving the city. His home where he lived his entire life and raises his family and to continue to serve the city and do the best that he can.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there are any questions from the dais or the audience.

Ms. Cynthia stated that before they adjourn she would like to read the Rules related to the Solicitor's Appointment, Section 309 - Appointment by the Mayor of the Home Rule Charter. She asked if there were any questions from the dais or the audience. She congratulated Mr. Kloiber.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Joshua Siegel, and Natalie Santos

Enactment No: 30359

ADJOURNED: 5:50 PM

[15-4437](#)

Council Rules
Home Rule Charter
Contract Procedures

Attachments: [HOMERULE June 2021](#)
[Council Rules March 2021 Edition](#)
[Contract Procedures](#)