

Ross Township Board of Commissioners
1000 Ross Municipal Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
January 6, 2020
7:00 p.m.

REORGANIZATION MEETING

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Stephen Korbel, Jeremy Shaffer, Patrick Mullin, Jeremy Piring, Jack Betkowski, Sara Poweska, Daniel L. DeMarco, Joseph Laslavic and William McKellar

SOLICITOR: P. J. Murray, Esq.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER: Ronald L. Borczyk

RECORDING SECRETARY: Noreen A. Re

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

INTRODUCTION – Introduction of Katie Duerig as the township's new Junior Commissioner. Katie is a Junior at North Hills High School. Katie will be sworn in with the new commissioners.

Miss Katie Duerig was introduced as the new Junior Commissioner.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

SWARING IN OF ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable Richard G. Opiela swore in newly-elected Commissioners Poweska and McKellar, along with re-elected Commissioners DeMarco, Betkowski and Mullin, as well as Tax Collector Matthew Mager and Junior Commissioner Katie Duerig.

Commissioner Korbel recognized those elected officials in attendance at the meeting tonight.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Motion to nominate Commissioner Korbel for president made by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion to close nominations made by Commissioner Laslavic and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative**

Motion to appoint Commissioner Korbel as president made by Commissioner Betkowski and seconded by Commissioner Laslavic.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative**

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Motion to nominate Commissioner DeMarco for vice president made by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion to close nominations made by Commissioner Mullin and seconded by Commissioner McKellar.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative**

Motion to appoint Commissioner DeMarco as vice president made by Commissioner Betkowski and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative**

APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP MANAGER/SECRETARY

Motion to hire Ronald L. Borczyk as Township Manager effective January 6, 2020, and for the appropriate township

officials to execute an employment agreement defining the terms and conditions of employment made by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Piring.

Motion passes unanimously

APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

Motion to appoint Attorney P. J. Murray as township solicitor made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Piring.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative**

APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Motion to appoint Gateway Engineers as Interim Township Engineer made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Laslavic.

Motion passes unanimously

ESTABLISHMENT OF 2020 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion to hold meetings of the Board of Commissioners on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., except that the Board of Commissioners will meet on the Tuesday following a township holiday and will meet on Wednesday following the General Election made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Piring.

Motion passes unanimously

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

Motion to designate the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette as the township's official newspaper made by Commissioner Laslavic and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Commissioner Korbel commented to the legislators in the audience that when the Post-Gazette goes fully digital, there will not be a newspaper in Allegheny County, as required.

Motion passes unanimously

DESIGNATION OF TOWNSHIP DEPOSITORIES

Motion to designate First National Bank and PLGIT as the township's depositories made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer.

Motion passes unanimously

MISCELLANEOUS REORGANIZATION ITEMS:

Committee Appointments:

Administration, Operations and Policy

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioner Laslavic as the chair and Commissioners DeMarco and Mullin as members.

Public Safety

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioner McKellar as the chair and Commissioners Betkowski and DeMarco as members.

Public Works, Sanitation and Sewers

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioner Mullin as the chair and Commissioners Piring and Shaffer as members.

Finance, Budget and Pension

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioner Poweska as the chair and Commissioners McKellar and Betkowski as members.

Planning, Zoning and Economic Development

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioner DeMarco as the chair and Commissioners Poweska and Betkowski as members.

Parks and Recreation

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioner Piring as the chair and Commissioners Laslavic and Mullin as members.

Representatives to Other Boards/Entities:

COG – North Hills Council of Governments

Commissioner Korbel stated Commissioner Betkowski has agreed to stay on, and Commissioner Poweska has agreed to be the backup.

CONNECT – Congress of Neighboring Communities

Commissioner Korbel stated Commissioner Betkowski has agreed to stay on, and Commissioner Poweska has agreed to be the backup.

Intergovernmental Liaisons (NHSD, West View Borough, etc.)

Commissioner Korbel appointed Commissioners Piring, Poweska and himself to be the liaisons.

Township Boards and Commissions – To be appointed after interviews with candidates

Commissioner Korbel commented that interviews for various township boards and committees will be held at the next meeting on January 20, 2020. Appointments will hopefully be made at the first meeting in February.

Miscellaneous RFPs

Motion to direct the township manager to prepare and advertise Requests for Proposals for the following professional services: Township Insurance Product, Special Labor Counsel, Township Engineer, ZHB Solicitor and Towing made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Poweska.

Motion passes unanimously

JUNIOR COMMISSIONER REPORT

Katie gave an update on upcoming events happening in the school district. Among the highlights given is the North Hills Middle School Winter Musical is “The Little Mermaid Junior.” The show will be held on January 30th, 31st and February 1st. Also, Mr. Joe Welch has been named Teacher of the Year for 2020. He is the third teacher from North Hills to be named Teacher of the Year.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Laslavic and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:26 P.M.

Manager/Secretary

**President,
Stephen Korbel
Ross Township Board of
Commissioners**

**Minutes transcribed by Noreen A. Re, Certified Realtime
Reporter**