

# **MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO**

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January 1, 2004

The meeting of December 16th, 2003 resumed at 12:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a brief prayer. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

Mayor	J. Michael Laumann
President of Council	Samuel D. Keller
Law Director	Mark G. Waters
Safety Service Director	Steven O. Neal
Treasurer	Paul Dorenkemper
Auditor	Daniel Murphy
Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	James E. Morganroth
Council 4 <sup>th</sup> Ward	Debra A. Gooch
Council at Large	Kathleen S. Zech
Council at Large	Charles L. Norman
Council at Large	Michael J. Mestemaker

Mr. Keller dispensed with the normal meeting procedure.

## **Old Business**

Mr. Mestemaker made a motion *To Clarify The Health Insurance Benefit Options Of The Mayor And Law Director; And To Declare An Emergency*. Mrs. Gooch made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD04-02. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Murray with a second from Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Morganroth made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Mestemaker. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Keller invited all who would like to attend to a reception immediately following the Council Meeting at Harvest Home Park.

Mr. Keller announced that Council would dispense with the normal procedure.

## **Nominations for Appointed Positions**

### **O.K.I. Representative**

Mr. Mestemaker received the nomination at the December 16, 2003 meeting. Mr. Mestemaker will serve as the O.K.I. representative for the years of 2004-2005.

### **Clerk of Council**

Mr. Keller opened the floor up for nominations for Clerk of Council. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion for Mr. Ryan Zech to serve as Clerk with a second from Mr. Norman. Mr. Dinkelacker made a motion for Mr. Don Johnson to serve as Clerk with a second from Mr. Morganroth. A voice vote was taken with Mr. Zech receiving 4 votes and Mr. Johnson receiving 3 votes. Mr. Ryan Zech will serve as Clerk for the years of 2004-2005.

### **President Pro-Tem**

Mr. Keller opened the floor up for nominations for President Pro-Tem. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion for Mrs. Kathleen S. Zech to serve as President Pro-Tem with a second from Mrs. Gooch. Mr. Murray made a motion for Mr. Dennis T. Dinkelacker to serve as President Pro-Tem with a second from Mr. Morganroth. A voice vote was taken with Mrs. Zech receiving 4 votes and Mr. Dinkelacker receiving 3 votes. Mrs. Zech will serve as President Pro-Tem for the years of 2004-2005.

## **Recognition of Other City Officials**

Mr. Keller turned the floor over to Mayor Laumann for introduction of other officials who were in attendance. Mayor Laumann thanked everyone for attending the swearing-in ceremony. Mayor Laumann introduced Police Chief David Voss, the Clerk of Courts Fran Kloepfer, the City's Tax Commissioner Gregory M. Nolan, and the Mayor's Assistant Michele Smith. The Mayor wished to

recognize his family including his parents Jack and Joyce Laumann, his wife Debbie and daughter Courtney. Mayor Laumann wished to pass along to the public and those who he had served with that it was an honor for him to serve as Mayor.

### **Swearing in of New Council**

Mayor Laumann presided over the swearing in ceremony. New Mayor Samuel D. Keller, Law Director Mark Waters, Auditor Daniel Murphy, Council at Large members Kathleen S. Zech, Michael J. Mestemaker, and Charles L. Norman all stood and took the oath of office. The members of Council took their seats while former Mayor J. Michael Laumann took a seat in the audience. Mrs. Zech took her seat as President Pro-Tem until a new President of Council can be seated.

### **Recognition of Outgoing Mayor**

Mrs. Zech turned the floor over to Mayor Keller so that he could present a plaque to out-going Mayor J. Michael Laumann. There was a very emotional farewell from Mayor Keller to former Mayor Laumann. The presented plaque will be hung over the entry area of the Cheviot Council Chambers and reads "In Honor of J. Michael Laumann, Mayor of the City of Cheviot for his many years of service".

Mr. Neal presented former Mayor Laumann with an official City of Cheviot Flag. Mr. Neal explained that he and Mayor Laumann were the first to ever fly the City of Cheviot Flag at Cheviot City Hall.

Mrs. Zech wished Mayor Laumann farewell. She thanked him for his years of service. Mrs. Zech stated that the City as a whole owes Mayor Laumann a great debt of gratitude for his years of service.

Mr. Morganroth wished Mayor Laumann good luck in the future and thanked him for his years of service.

Mr. Mestemaker mentioned that the Mayor's passion for the City was very commendable and that his years of service earned him a lot of respect. He also thanked Mayor Laumann for his years of service.

Law Director Mark Waters mentioned that Mayor Laumann's retirement is a historical occasion for the City of Cheviot. In the approximate 70 years as a City, Mayor Laumann served as the City's Mayor for 20 of the years. Mr. Waters told Mayor Laumann that he should be proud of his accomplishments and that he left a great mark on the City of Cheviot. Finally he thanked Mayor Laumann for his years of service.

Mr. Dinkelacker thanked Mayor Laumann for his graciousness and his support.

Mr. Murray recalled how he got to know Mayor Laumann and he thanked him for all he had done.

Mr. Norman said that he had read an article about how the Mayor started his political career in 1974 which was 4 years before Mr. Norman was even born. He explained that Mayor Laumann wasn't a politician, but a statesman because he was always thinking of the next generation.

Mr. Gooch said that even though she had a bad start with Mayor Laumann; she still appreciates everything that he did for the City of Cheviot. She stated that she had gained a lot of respect for the Mayor over the years.

Mr. Dorenkemper stated that Mayor Laumann would be missed in the City of Cheviot.

Mr. Murphy thanked Mayor Laumann for everything he did and told Mayor Laumann that he was a good friend, and then jokingly asked if Mayor Laumann was still going to help with the budget. Mayor Keller then reminded Mayor Laumann of his promise to answer any questions when needed.

Mayor Laumann reiterated that it has been a pleasure and honor to serve with everyone.

Mrs. Zech called for a roll call of officials. The following were in attendance:

Mayor	Samuel D. Keller
Law Director	Mark G. Waters
Safety Service Director	Steven O. Neal
Treasurer	Paul Dorenkemper
Auditor	Daniel Murphy
Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	James E. Morganroth
Council 4 <sup>th</sup> Ward	Debra A. Gooch
Council at Large	Kathleen S. Zech
Council at Large	Charles L. Norman
Council at Large	Michael J. Mestemaker

### **New Business**

Mrs. Gooch made a motion to accept the Ordinance *To Make Appropriations For Current Expenses And Other Expenditures For The City Of Cheviot, State Of Ohio, During The 2004 Year Ending 12-31-2004 And Declaring An Emergency*. Mr. Mestemaker made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The Ordinance was assigned as ORD04-01. Mr. Murray made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Morganroth made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

### **Further Business**

Mrs. Zech opened the floor up to any Council member who wanted to address the audience.

Mr. Keller thanked his wife Connie, his daughters, mother and father-in-law, his brothers and sisters, aunts, and uncles who have supported him through the years. He also thanked Mr. Jim Sunderhaus for working on his campaigns, Mayor Laumann for getting him involved, his wife Debbie, and daughter Courtney, the Cheviot Democratic Party for the support, and all the elected officials he has served with.

Mr. Mestemaker thanked everyone for the opportunity to remain on Council. He also thanked his wife and daughter, his mother and his father, and all members of Council.

Mr. Waters said thanks to everyone who supported him in the last election, his wife and kids, Bob Mecklemborg, and Joe Deters who encouraged him to run for office. He wanted to thank everyone that has run for office, whether they won or not. He explained that he sees being elected as a servant, not a person with power, and that it is hard to find someone to run for office these days. He thanks everyone for having the confidence in him to vote for them.

Mrs. Zech took a moment to thank her friends, family, neighbors for the support and encouragement. She wanted to specifically thank her family, especially her husband Charlie, her son Shawn and his daughters for their help, but she especially wanted to thank her son Ryan for acting as her campaign manager. Finally she thanked Mayor Laumann again.

Mrs. Zech reminded everyone that there is a reception at Harvest Home Park immediately following the meeting.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Morganroth with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:43 P.M.