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NEW HOPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
- - -
DECEMBER COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
- - -
NEW HOPE BOROUGH COMMUNITY ROOM
123 NEW STREET
NEW HOPE, PENNSYLVANIA 18938
- - -
MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022
COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.
- - -

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

CONNIE GERING
DANIEL DOUGHERTY
TINA RETTIG
LAURIE MCHUGH
KEN MAISEL
PETER MEYER
- - -

ALSO PRESENT:

LAURENCE KELLER - BOROUGH MAYOR
JOHN C. FENNINGHAM, ESQ. - BOROUGH COUNCIL SOLICITOR

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 MAYOR KELLER: Call the meeting to order.
3 Everybody please stand up for the Pledge of Allegiance.
4 Okay. I want to start off and announce
5 that I have all four elected Council members, I have their
6 affidavit of residency and I also have mine here and they
7 have all been notarized. So I will hand these to our
8 Borough Manager tomorrow and take care of them.
9 So now I would like to start off by doing
10 the oath of office. So I think that I will start off with
11 -- we will do Peter Meyer first.
12 Repeat after me. I, Peter Meyer.
13 MR. MEYER: I, Peter Meyer.
14 MAYOR KELLER: Do solemnly swear.
15 MR. MEYER: Do solemnly swear.
16 MAYOR KELLER: That I will support, obey
17 and defend.
18 MR. MEYER: That I will support, obey and
19 defend.
20 MAYOR KELLER: The Constitution of the
21 United States.
22 MR. MEYER: The Constitution of the United
23 States.
24 MAYOR KELLER: And the Constitution of the
25 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 MR. MEYER: And the Constitution of the
3 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
4 MAYOR KELLER: And that I will discharge my
5 duties of office.
6 MR. MEYER: That I will discharge my duties
7 of office.
8 MAYOR KELLER: As a member of New Hope
9 Borough Council.
10 MR. MEYER: As a member of New Hope Borough
11 Council.
12 MAYOR KELLER: With fidelity.
13 MR. MEYER: With fidelity.
14 MAYOR KELLER: Congratulations.
15 MR. MEYER: Thank you very much, sir.
16 MAYOR KELLER: All right. If I can call
17 Tina up.
18 Left hand on the Bible, right hand up.
19 Repeat after me. I, Tina Rettig.
20 MS. RETTIG: I, Tina Rettig.
21 MAYOR KELLER: Do solemnly swear.
22 MS. RETTIG: Do solemnly swear.
23 MAYOR KELLER: That I will support, obey
24 and defend.
25 MS. RETTIG: That I will support, obey and

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 defend.
3 MAYOR KELLER: The Constitution of the
4 United States.
5 MS. RETTIG: The Constitution of the United
6 States.
7 MAYOR KELLER: And the Constitution of the
8 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
9 MS. RETTIG: And the Constitution of the
10 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
11 MAYOR KELLER: And that I will discharge
12 the duties of my office.
13 MS. RETTIG: And that I will discharge the
14 duties of my office.
15 MAYOR KELLER: As a member of New Hope
16 Borough Council.
17 MS. RETTIG: As a member of New Hope
18 Borough Council.
19 MAYOR KELLER: With fidelity.
20 MS. RETTIG: With fidelity.
21 MAYOR KELLER: Congratulations.
22 Dan, left hand on the Bible and right hand
23 up. I, Dan Dougherty.
24 MR. DOUGHERTY: I, Dan Dougherty.
25 MAYOR KELLER: Do solemnly swear.

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 MR. DOUGHERTY: Do solemnly swear.
3 MAYOR KELLER: That I will support, obey
4 and defend.
5 MR. DOUGHERTY: That I will support, obey
6 and defend.
7 MAYOR KELLER: The Constitution of the
8 United States.
9 MR. DOUGHERTY: The Constitution of the
10 United States.
11 MAYOR KELLER: And the Constitution of the
12 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
13 MR. DOUGHERTY: And the Constitution of the
14 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
15 MAYOR KELLER: And that I will discharge
16 the duties of my office.
17 MR. DOUGHERTY: And I will discharge the
18 duties of my office.
19 MAYOR KELLER: As a member of New Hope
20 Borough Council.
21 MR. DOUGHERTY: As a member of New Hope
22 Borough Council.
23 MAYOR KELLER: With fidelity.
24 MR. DOUGHERTY: With fidelity.
25 MAYOR KELLER: Congratulations.

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 All right. Connie.
3 I, Connie Gering.
4 MS. GERING: I, Connie Gering.
5 MAYOR KELLER: Do solemnly swear.
6 MS. GERING: Do solemnly swear.
7 MAYOR KELLER: That I will support, obey
8 and defend.
9 MS. GERING: That I will support, obey and
10 defend.
11 MAYOR KELLER: The Constitution of the
12 United States.
13 MS. GERING: The Constitution of the United
14 States.
15 MAYOR KELLER: And the Constitution of the
16 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
17 MS. GERING: And the Constitution of the
18 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
19 MAYOR KELLER: And I will discharge the
20 duties of my office.
21 MS. GERING: And I will discharge the
22 duties of my office.
23 MAYOR KELLER: As a member of the New Hope
24 Borough Council.
25 MS. GERING: As a member of the New Hope

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 Borough Council.
3 MAYOR KELLER: With fidelity.
4 MS. GERING: With fidelity.
5 MAYOR KELLER: Congratulations.
6 I want to announce also that I was sworn in
7 earlier today by one of our Commonwealth Court Judges, Ann
8 Covey. And that is always a prerequisite before I swear
9 in a member of Council.
10 So I have paperwork that I will also give
11 to our Borough Manager for that. And before you leave
12 tonight, I need everybody to sign here. These are all of
13 the oaths of office for the Council members. So sign at
14 the top because I will sign at the bottom and you can pass
15 the four across, Peter.
16 So the other -- I would like to
17 congratulate all four of you and tell you that honestly --
18 I don't want to say a lot. It is all friends here but I
19 am very happy to have been reelected again, but in
20 24 years as Mayor, I can tell you that we have had some
21 great members of Council that have done stellar jobs in
22 their own right.
23 But this is the first Council that I can
24 remember in my 24 years where we had all so many of our
25 Council members that are working and participating in the

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1 COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
2 running of the Borough because it is usually two or three
3 and everybody participates here. So I just want to tell
4 you how much I admire that.
5 I know I am at the end of the table but I
6 know what I see and I wanted to compliment all of you on
7 that.
8 MR. MAISEL: Thank you.
9 MAYOR KELLER: I want to start out, one of
10 the traditional things we have to do is we have to decide
11 on a Council Vice President and a Council President.
12 So I would ask that I need a nomination if
13 I could for Council Vice President.
14 MS. RETTIG: I nominate Dan Dougherty.
15 MS. McHUGH: I second that.
16 MAYOR KELLER: Okay. All in favor say aye.
17 MR. MEYER: Aye.
18 MS. GERING: Aye.
19 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
20 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
21 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
22 MAYOR KELLER: Okay. Six nothing. Dan
23 Dougherty is Council Vice President.
24 MR. DOUGHERTY: Am I permitted to vote for
25 myself? I don't know the answer.

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

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2 MAYOR KELLER: Yes.
3 MR. DOUGHERTY: Otherwise it would be five.
4 I didn't say anything.
5 MAYOR KELLER: Then I would like a
6 nomination for position of Council President.
7 MR. MEYER: I recommend Connie Gering.
8 MS. RETTIG: I will second that.
9 MAYOR KELLER: Tina Rettig seconded that.
10 All in favor of Connie Gering for Council President say
11 aye.
12 MR. MEYER: Aye.
13 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
14 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
15 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
16 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
17 MAYOR KELLER: Okay. We are going with a
18 six/zero with that as well. I am very pleased to announce
19 that I get to pass the gavel back down to Connie.
20 MS. GERING: Thank you.
21 MAYOR KELLER: Lets get a nomination for
22 President ProTem.
23 MR. DOUGHERTY: I nominate Tina Rettig.
24 MS. GERING: Second that.
25 MAYOR KELLER: Okay. All in favor of Tina

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

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2 Next on the agenda is can I have a motion
3 to approve the resolution designating various banking
4 institutions as the Borough's depositories?
5 MR. DOUGHERTY: I will make that motion.
6 MS. McHUGH: I will second.
7 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
8 MR. MEYER: Aye.
9 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
10 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
11 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
12 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
13 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
14 Can I have a motion to approve the
15 resolution for appointment for Borough offices and
16 positions?
17 MR. MEYER: So moved.
18 MS. McHUGH: I will second.
19 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
20 MR. MEYER: Aye.
21 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
22 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
23 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
24 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
25 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

1
2 Rettig.
3 MR. MEYER: Aye.
4 MS. GERING: Aye.
5 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
6 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
7 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
8 MAYOR KELLER: Okay. Tina Rettig is our
9 Council President ProTem.
10 Now, Connie.
11 PRESIDENT GERING: Thank you. We have to
12 do roll call.
13 Tina Rettig?
14 MS. RETTIG: Here.
15 PRESIDENT GERING: Peter Meyer?
16 MR. MEYER: Here.
17 PRESIDENT GERING: Dan Dougherty?
18 MR. DOUGHERTY: Here.
19 PRESIDENT GERING: Connie Gering is here.
20 Laurie McHugh?
21 MS. McHUGH: Here.
22 PRESIDENT GERING: Ken Maisel?
23 MR. MAISEL: I am here.
24 PRESIDENT GERING: We will -- Louise Feder
25 is out and Peter Gray is out. Thank you.

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

1
2 Can I have a motion to adopt the resolution
3 to appoint Ed Duffy as the Vacancy Board Chairman for
4 2022?
5 MS. RETTIG: I will make that motion.
6 MR. MAISEL: Second.
7 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
8 MR. MEYER: Aye.
9 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
10 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
11 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
12 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
13 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
14 Consideration of appointments to Boards and
15 Commissions. Can I have a motion to appoint Jeff Gada to
16 the HARB Board for a three year term?
17 MS. RETTIG: I will make that motion.
18 MR. MAISEL: Second.
19 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
20 MR. MEYER: Aye.
21 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
22 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
23 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
24 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
25 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

1 Can I have a motion to appoint Anita Maximo
 2 to the Shade Tree Commission for a three year term?
 3 MR. MEYER: I will make that motion.
 4 PRESIDENT GERING: Second?
 5 MS. RETTIG: I will second it.
 6 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
 7 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 8 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 9 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 10 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 11 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 12 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
 13 Can I have a motion to appoint Beth Hasher
 14 to the Parks and Rec Committee for a one year term?
 15 MR. DOUGHERTY: I will make that motion.
 16 PRESIDENT GERING: Can I have a second?
 17 MS. McHUGH: Second.
 18 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
 19 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 20 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 21 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 22 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 23 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 24 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
 25

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

1 for the Police Department and the Borough Administration?
 2 MS. McHUGH: I will make that motion.
 3 MR. MAISEL: Second.
 4 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
 5 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 6 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 7 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 8 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 9 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 10 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
 11 Thank you. These are Boards and Committees
 12 for the Council that are liaisons.
 13 We have the Park and Rec Board, it will be
 14 Louise Feder. The liaison for the Shade Tree Commission
 15 is Laurie McHugh. The Finance Committee will be Dan
 16 Dougherty, Ken Maisel and Connie Gering. The HARB Board
 17 will be Ken Maisel. Zoning Board, Connie Gering.
 18 Planning Commission will be Peter Meyer. The Parking
 19 Committee is Laurie McHugh is the Chair, Tina Rettig and
 20 Connie Gering. And then we have a Police Pension Board.
 21 Can I have a motion to approve all of
 22 those?
 23 MS. RETTIG: I will make that motion.
 24 MS. McHUGH: I will second.
 25

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

1 Can I have a motion to appoint Tina Rettig
 2 to the Free Library of New Hope and Solebury?
 3 MS. McHUGH: I will make that motion.
 4 MR. DOUGHERTY: Second it.
 5 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
 6 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 7 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 8 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 9 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 10 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 11 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
 12 Can I have a motion to appoint Laurie
 13 McHugh to the Chamber of Commerce?
 14 MS. RETTIG: I will make that motion.
 15 MR. MEYER: Second.
 16 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
 17 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 18 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 19 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 20 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 21 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 22 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye.
 23 Can I have a motion to appoint JoAnn
 24 Connell and Chief Cummings to be the liaisons to the LGBT
 25

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

1 PRESIDENT GERING: Thank you. All in
 2 favor?
 3 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 4 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 5 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 6 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 7 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 8 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye. We are missing
 9 one. We didn't appoint you. You were appointed under our
 10 offices. Thank you.
 11 Is there any public comment? Can I have --
 12 any announcements? Can I have a motion to adjourn?
 13 MS. McHUGH: I will make that motion.
 14 PRESIDENT GERING: All in favor?
 15 MR. MEYER: Aye.
 16 MR. DOUGHERTY: Aye.
 17 MS. RETTIG: Aye.
 18 MS. McHUGH: Aye.
 19 MR. MAISEL: Aye.
 20 PRESIDENT GERING: Aye. Thank you.
 21 - - -
 22 (The proceedings were concluded.)
 23 - - -
 24
 25

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me in the above cause and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

Karen W. Browndorf, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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