

NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATION MEETING

JANUARY 1, 2021- 12:00 PM

MINUTES

The North Brunswick Township Council held its Reorganization Meeting (*Via Go To Meeting*) on Friday January 1, 2021 at 12:02 pm at the Municipal Complex located at 710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

Mayor Womack welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Invocation was done by Deacon David DeFrance – Our Lady Of Peace Church.

Alessandra and Gianna Socio, Samantha and Joseph Guadagnino, Sophia and Frankie Cortes and Lopez led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miss Tangie Cobb sang Star Spangled Banner

Ms. Russo certified the election.

Mayor Womack asks for a moment of silence to honor the loss of Director of Public Safety Kenneth McCormick, Councilman Bob Corbin, Gerald Tamburro (Mayor of Monroe Township) and Rosemarie Hanson.

Councilman Socio introduced dignitaries and special guests at today's meeting. Middlesex County Democratic Organization Chairman Kevin McCabe, Charlie Kenny, Ken Armwood and Shanti Narra. From CME John Kristkowski. Township Clerk Lisa Russo, Clerk 2 Nellie Sowell and Administrative Secretary Marilu Ruiz. Director of Public Works Eric Chaszar. Director of Community Development Michael Hritz, CFO Cavel Gallimore, Deputy Chief Joseph Battaglia, Interim Business Administrator Justine Progebin, Director of Parks Recreation and Community Services Lou Ann Benson, Emergency Management Coordinator Mark Cafferty, Confidential Secretary to the Mayor Janice Larkin, Deputy Court Administrator Kim Molnar, Special guest Deacon David DeFrance, Rabbi Mendy Carlebach, Tangie Cobb, Brian Zychowski, Ronald Rios, Kenneth Graulich and Jeff Dunham.

Mayor Womack administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Claribel Cortes – bible held by daughters Sophia and Frankie.

Ronald Rios wishes everyone a Happy New Year and is looking forward to moving forward in 2021. Mr. Rios wished Councilwoman Cortes congratulations on being the first Latino elected for governing body in North Brunswick. Mr. Rios states this shows a lot of support, progress and what is right. Mr. Rios says thank you to North Brunswick and that there is a lot of promise shown in this Township. Mr. Rios wishes everyone a safe and healthy New Year.

Mayor Womack gives thanks to County for all their support.

Chairman McCabe wishes everyone a Happy New Year to all. Chairman McCabe states Councilwoman Cortes will do great in the place of Councilman Robert Corbin. This defiantly gives the gravity after losing Mayor of Monroe Township, Gerald Tamburro yesterday. Chairman McCabe speaks of how hard it is to lose people. Chairman McCabe states that Councilman Robert Davis is a strong voice in North Brunswick and coagulations on the re-election. Chairman McCabe states he got to know Councilwoman through work. The impact she has made in the school board is amazing. Chairman McCabe states Councilwoman Cortes is an asset to the council and she is a trailblazer. North Brunswick continues to be a model of what municipal government should be. Chairman McCabe gives thanks and congratulations to the Mayor, Council and everyone.

Councilwoman Cortes gives thanks to all for their kind comments and wishes all a Happy New Year. Councilwoman Cortes gives thanks to North Brunswick Township and Middlesex County, the Chairman and County Commissioner. Councilwoman Cortes states she may be the first Latino elected but will not be the last. Councilwoman Cortes gives thanks to many more as well as the Mayor and council members. North Brunswick is the third most diverse Township in the state. Councilwoman states she is proud to be on a council for such a town. Councilwoman Cortes speaks of her parents and their hardship with coming to this country. Councilman Cortes promises to keep every resident in mind while serving. Thanks to all.

Mayor Womack administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Robert Davis – bible held by Nannette Koppel

Councilman Robert Davis wishes everyone a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous New Year. Councilman Davis appreciates all the nice words said. He hopes 2021 will be a “bounce back” year from COVID. Councilman Davis speaks that this will be the first year in 18 years Councilman Corbin will not be here to represent North Brunswick. His thoughts and prayers are with Councilman Corbin’s family. Councilman Davis is thrilled that Councilwoman Cortes is on the council. He is proud to serve with his fellow council. Councilman Davis gives thanks to his family for all their support and thanks to North Brunswick Democratic Commission. Councilman Davis states he is proud of all employees in all areas. He appreciates the police and all they do, as well as The Fire Department and 1st Aid and rescue squad. Councilman Davis asks for all residents to make donations to these organizations. Councilman Davis states he will do his best to benefit the North Brunswick residents. The council and himself will do the best for the Township. Thank you and God Bless.

Mayor Womack called the meeting to order.

Roll call:

**Present (via telephonically) Ms. Cortes and Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Lopez, Davis, Socio and Andrews
Absent: None**

Ms. Russo announced that the notice requirements of the Sunshine Law have been satisfied. Notices were sent to the following newspapers on December 28, 2020: The Home News & Tribune, the Star Ledger and the North Brunswick Sentinel. Also, notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and filed in the Clerk’s office on December 28, 2020.

Mayor Womack speaks of 2020 not being a fun year to be Mayor. Between losing Councilman Corbin, Director Of Public Safety Kenneth McCormick, Business Administrator Kathy Monzo (to another town) COVID and the shootings occurring at the home of Judge Ester Salas. He gives thanks to Council president Andrews and for all the great work he did.

Council President Andrews gives thanks to all Council and Mayor. Council president speaks of 2020 being a challenging year.

Mayor Womack called for a motion for election of Council President. So moved by Mr. Andrews to nominate Mr. Socio, second by Mr. Lopez

**Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Cortes & Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Lopez, Davis, Socio & Andrews
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None**

Mayor Womack administered the Oath of Office to Council President Cologero Socio – bible held by wife Deb and daughters Alessandra and Gianna.

Council President Socio gives thanks to Councilman Andrews and said he did a great job and hopes he can do as well. Council President Socio gives thanks to his wife and daughters. 2020 brought different mode of meetings. Because of the meeting being virtual he has family streaming in from Italy, Austria and Arizona, he thanks family for attending virtually. Council president says that 2020 was such a challenging year but with a great council and Mayor it helped in these difficult times. Council President misses Councilman Corbin and his humor, he wishes his family well. Best wishes for a better 2021.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to approve Resolution # 1-1.21 – Authorizing A Professional Service Agreement With Ronald Gordon, Esq. Of The Firm Rainone Coughlin Michello LLC To Serve As Municipal Attorney. So moved Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Socio.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Cortes & Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Lopez, Andrews, Davis & Socio
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

Mayor Womack administered the Oath of Office to Township Attorney, Ronald Gordon, Esq.

Mayor Womack asked that items a through az. be approved on the consent agenda. Motion made by Mr. Davis seconded by Mr. Socio

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Cortes & Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Lopez, Andrews, Davis & Socio
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

Consent Agenda

Mayor Womack speaks of Business Administrator Kathy Monzo leaving to another Township and how Justine Progebin has stepped in and went through tireless hours through the pandemic and all the water issues.

Mayor Womack administered the Oath of Office to Business Administrator Justine Progebin
Business Administrator Progebin says she is honored and gives thanks to all.

Mayor Womack administered the Oath of Office to Acting Chief of Police Joseph Battaglia – bible held by Mother
Chief Battaglia thanks Mayor, Council and Business Administrator for all their support. Chief Battaglia sapeaks
Director McCormick and how his leadership brought him to where we are today. Chief Battaglia gives thanks to all
looks forward to working with all.

Mayor Womack administers the Oath of Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator to Mark Cafferty – bible held
wife Maryann.
OEM Coordinator Cafferty gives thanks to his wife Maryann for all her support.

Mayor Womack administers Oath to Acting Court Administrator Kim Molnar.
Court Administrator Molnar gives thanks to Mayor and everyone.

Mayor Womack administers Oath to Fire Chief to Jeffery Dunham, First Assistant Chief Dave Klisch and Second Assis

Chief Kenneth Graulich, - bible held by son Lucas

Mayor Womack administers Oath of Chief Financial Officer Cavel A. Gallimore – bible held by husband Clive William

Chief Financial Officer Gallimore gives thanks to Mayor.

Mayor Womack opened the Public Hearing at 1:80PM. No discussion.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to close Public Hearing, so moved by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Guadagnino

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Cortes & Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Lopez, Andrews, Davis & Socio

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Council President Socio gives thanks to all the council children for a great job with the pledge. Council President states has been a pleasure to watch them all grow. All council members are proud of their children.

Mayor Womack called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, so moved by Mr. Socio, second by Mr. Davis.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ms. Cortes & Ms. Guadagnino, Messrs. Lopez, Andrews, Davis & Socio

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Adjourn 1:09 P.M.

Benediction given by Rabbi Mendy Carlbach – Chabad of North and South Brunswick

Municipal Clerk

Lisa Russo

NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

REORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA
710 HERMAN ROAD
NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

January 1, 2021
12:00 PM

1. **Welcome**
2. **Invocation**

Deacon David DeFrangé - Our Lady of Peace Church
3. **Salute to Flag**

Alessandra and Gianna Socio
Sofia and Frankie Cortes
4. **Star Spangled Banner**

Tangie Cobb
5. **Certification of Election: Council**
6. **Administration of Oath to:**

Councilman Robert Davis
Councilwoman Claribel Cortes
7. **Call to Order, Roll Call, Sunshine Notice**
8. **Election of Council President / Administration of Oath**
9. **Resolution / Professional Service Contract / Township Attorney:**

1-1.21-Authorizing a Professional Service Agreement with Ronald Gordon, Esq. of the firm Rainone Coughlin Minchello LLC to serve as Municipal Attorney
10. **Administration of Oath / Township Attorney**
11. **Resolutions on Consent Agenda**

Professional Services:
 - a. **2-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with David P. Lonski of the firm Shamy, Shippers & Lonski, PC to serve as Municipal Prosecutor**
 - b. **3-1.21 Authorizing PSA with T&M Associates to provide Environmental Engineering Services**
 - c. **4-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Michael Policastro, Esq. to serve as Public Defender**
 - d. **5-1.21 Authorizing a Professional Service Agreement with Shamy, Shippers & Lonski, PC to serve as Conflict Tax Appeal Counsel**
 - e. **6-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Maser Consulting, PA to provide Landscape Architectural Services**

- f. 7-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with McCarter & English, LLP and McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC to provide Bond Counsel Services
- g. 8-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas, LLP to provide Environmental Legal Services
- h. 9-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Hodulik & Morrison, P.A., a Division of PKF O'Connor Davies to provide Municipal Auditing Services
- i. 10-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with CME Associates to serve as Municipal Consulting Engineer
- j. 11-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Harry Haushalter, Esq. to serve as Tax Appeal Counsel
- k. 12-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Arcari and Iovino Architects, LLC and USA Architects, Planners and Interior Designers Ltd. to provide Architectural Services
- l. 13-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with CME Associates to provide Mechanical Engineering Services
- m. 14-1.21 Authorizing an agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. to provide Risk Management Consulting Services
- n. 15-1.21 Authorizing an agreement with BRB Valuation and Consulting Services and Sockler Realty Services Group Inc. for Appraisal Services
- o. 16-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to provide Wastewater Collection System Oversight Services for the North Brunswick Wastewater System
- p. 17-1.21 Authorizing an agreement with T&M Associates to provide Water and Wastewater Consulting Services
- q. 18-1.21 Authorizing an agreement with the Rodgers Group, LLC to assist the Police Department in maintaining Accreditation from the New Jersey State of Association of Chiefs of Police
- r. 19-1.21 Authorizing agreements with Acacia Financial Group Inc. and Phoenix Advisors to provide Financial Advisory Services
- s. 20-1.21 Authorizing a Professional Service Agreement with CME Associates and Maser Consulting PA to provide Traffic Engineering Services
- t. 21-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP to serve as Municipal Labor Counsel
- u. 22-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with Burton Trent Public Affairs LLC to provide Relations Consulting Services
- v. 23-1.21 Authorizing a PSA with DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP to serve as Litigation and Special Projects Counsel

Directors / Other appointments:

- w. 24-1.20 Confirming the appointment of Justine Progebin to the position

of Business Administrator

- x. 25-1.21 **Confirming the appointment of Joseph Battaglia to the position of Acting Chief of Police**
- y. 26-1.21 **Appointing Mark Cafferty Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township of North Brunswick**
- z. 27-1.21 **Appointing Kim Molnar as Acting Court Administrator for the Township of North Brunswick**
- aa. 28-1.21 **Confirming the appointment of Cavel S. Gallimore as Chief Financial Officer for the Township of North Brunswick**
- ab. 29-1.21 **Designating a representative to the Middlesex County Housing and Development Committee Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex**
- ac. 30-1.21 **Appointing Fran Cipot Tax Search Officer**
- ad. 31-1.21 **Appointing Justine Progebin Public Agency Compliance Officer**
- ae. 32-1.21 **Designating a Senior Citizen & Disabled Protected Tenancy Officer**
- af. 33-1.21 **Twp. Fire Chief / 1st and 2nd Asst. Chiefs / Chief: Bureau of Fire Prevention**
- ag. 34-1.21 **Appointing Ralph Andrews Council Representative to the North Brunswick Planning Board**
- ah. 35-1.21 **Appointments to the Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Authorize

- ai. 36-1.21 **Establishing a cash management plan and naming official cash depositories**
- aj. 37-1.21 **Establishing a fee schedule for Zoning Permit Fees, Engineering Permit Fees, Land Use Application Fees, and Construction Application Fees for the Department of Community Development**
- ak. 38-1.21 **Authorizing an Extension of Time under Article 21 within Chapter 352 "Water Utility" of the Code of the Township of North Brunswick**
- al. 39-1.21 **Authorizing purchases from vendors approved under State Contract**
- am. 40-1.21 **Authorizing the purchase of goods and services from vendors approved under Cooperative Purchasing Agreements**
- an. 41-1.21 **Increasing the quote and bid threshold and appointing a Qualified Purchasing Agent**
- ao. 42-1.21 **Authorizing fee for returned checks**
- ap. 43-1.21 **Cancel property Tax Refund or Delinquency less than \$10.00**
- aq. 44-1.21 **Mayor / Council to hold Executive Session**
- ar. 45-1.21 **Collecting of interest for delinquent payment of utility charges**
- as. 46-1.21 **Fixing interest rate on delinquent taxes**

- at. 47-1.21 Tax Assessor to file tax appeals on behalf of Twp.
- au. 48-1.21 Authorizing the purchase of Admission Tickets and Services for Recreation Programs under the Department of Parks, recreation and Community Services
- av. 49-1.21 Authorizing a Management Employment Agreement for the position of Police Chief

Designate

- aw. 50-1.21 Designating Official Newspapers for Calendar Year 2021
- ax. 51-1.21 Providing for an "Annual Notice of Meetings" pursuant to Open Public Meetings Law
- ay. 52-1.21 Date, Place and Time of Township Council Meetings

12. Administration of Oath:

- a. Justine Progebin - Business Administrator
- b. Joseph Battaglia - Acting Chief of Police
- c. Mark Cafferty - Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator
- d. Kim Molnar - Acting Court Administrator
- e. Cavel A. Gallimore - Chief Financial Officer
- f. Fire Chief - Jeffrey Dunham
- g. First Assistant Chief - Dave Klisch
- h. Second Assistant Chief - Kenneth Graulich
- i. Chief: Bureau of Fire Prevention - Thomas Lettieri

13. Public Hearing (15 minute session)

14. Adjourn

15. Benediction

a.

Rabbi Mendy Carlbach - Chabad of North and South Brunswick