

KIRTLAND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

December 1, 2023

The inaugural ceremony began at 7:00 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the invocation was given by Deacon John Grazia of Divine Word Catholic Church. Mayor Potter introduced Hon. Marisa L. Cornachio, Judge, Willoughby Municipal Court. Ward Council Members Julie Symonds, Scott Haymer, Joseph Smolic and Suzanne Grazia were administered the Oath of Office by Judge Cornachio. Immediately following, Mayor Kevin Potter was administered the Oath of Office by Judge Cornachio. The inauguration ceremony concluded with a benediction given by Deacon Grazia.

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The organizational meeting of Kirtland City Council was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Councilman Joseph Smolic. The members of Council present were: Ronald Fenstermaker, Suzanne Grazia, Scott Haymer, Joseph Smolic and Julie Symonds.

Administrative personnel present were: Mayor Kevin Potter, Law Director Matthew Lallo, Finance Director Louis Slapnick, Service Director Joseph Fornaro, Fire Chief Anthony Hutton and Senior Center Coordinator Teresa Szary. Police Lieutenant Jamey Fisher was present in the absence of Police Chief Brian McCallister.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-75 - **A RESOLUTION RECORDING THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL FOR THE TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**
(Council as a Whole)

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Smolic announced that nominations were open for the Office of President of Council. Ms. Grazia nominated Joseph Smolic, with the second by Mr. Fenstermaker. There being no further nominations, Ms. Grazia moved to close the nominations, with the second by Mr. Fenstermaker. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

Mr. Fenstermaker moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Fenstermaker moved to declare an emergency and adopt the legislation recording Mr. Smolic as President of Council. Ms. Grazia provided the second. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-76 - **A RESOLUTION RECORDING THE ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FOR THE TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**
(Council as a Whole)

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Smolic announced that nominations were open for the Office of Council President Pro Tempore. Mr. Smolic nominated Ronald Fenstermaker, with the second by Ms. Grazia. There being no further nominations, Mr. Smolic moved to close the nominations, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-76 (continued)

Mr. Haymer moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Haymer moved to declare an emergency and adopt the legislation recording Mr. Fenstermaker as Council President Pro Tempore. Ms. Grazia provided the second. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-77
(Council as a Whole)

- **A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DENISE A. ROELLE AS CLERK OF COUNCIL AND ESTABLISHING WAGE AND DUTIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Fenstermaker moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Fenstermaker moved to declare an emergency and adopt the resolution, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Council President Smolic thanked the Clerk for her service to the City, and she thanked Council for the appointment.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-R-78
(Council as a Whole)

- **A RESOLUTION RELATING TO ESTABLISHING RULES, TIME AND PLACE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 1, 2023, THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Fenstermaker moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Ms. Symonds moved to declare an emergency and adopt, with the second by Mr. Fenstermaker. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: FENSTERMAKER, GRAZIA, HAYMER, SMOLIC AND SYMONDS. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

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Mayor Potter thanked Judge Cornachio, noting that it is meaningful to have the local Municipal Court Judge perform the oaths of office. Mayor Potter also recognized former Judge Larry Allen, who is in attendance this evening. The Mayor thanked the Clerk of Council and commended her for her work with Council and the Zoning Department.

Mayor Potter thanked all Department Heads, including those who could not be in attendance tonight, noting it has been phenomenal working with them over the past four years and he looks forward to working together in the future.

The Mayor congratulated Council President Smolic, noting he is one of the hardest working Council members the City has seen. He said Mr. Smolic is a tremendous Council President and friend. He congratulated Councilwoman Grazia and thanked her for her willingness to step up and bring her wisdom and knowledge to Council. Mayor Potter thanked Councilwoman Symonds for stepping up and carrying out a campaign that was respectful and impactful. He noted she has been a great friend to the community and has done a lot of work behind the scenes, including helping to get the City website up and running. The Mayor congratulated Councilman Haymer and thanked him for all the work he does for the City.

Mayor Potter congratulated Councilman Fenstermaker and thanked him for his willingness to step into the leadership role as Council President Pro Tempore, noting that he serves the City tremendously.

Mayor Potter congratulated the Kirtland Hornets on their State Championship win today. He commended Coach Tiger Laverde, his coaching staff and the parents who support their children and the team year after year.

Mayor Potter thanked the community for allowing him to continue to serve as Mayor; he promised to work harder than during the first four years. He noted that a lot was done the last four years, but there are still challenges going forward. He noted that when the voters came to the polls on November 7, they affirmed the things the City has been working toward. He noted that a friend who worked for Senator Voinovich mentioned that he always said to do the right thing, and the politics will take care of itself. Mayor Potter said that Kirtland is one of the best communities around, noting that everyone will continue to work together. The Mayor thanked everyone who came out tonight in support.

Council President Smolic said the Mayor has worked hard and done a fantastic job for the City, and he looks forward to working together for the next four years. Mr. Smolic thanked Judge Cornachio, and he congratulated her on her second term in office. Mr. Smolic commented on the significance of the support of family when running for office. He thanked the Administration for setting up tonight's event and thanked everyone for coming out in support.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Haymer moved to adjourn, with the second by Mr. Fenstermaker. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

President of Council

Clerk of Council