



## **Organizational Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 4, 2016 ~ 7:30 P.M.

Louis J. R. Goorey Worthington Municipal Building  
John P. Coleman Council Chamber  
*6550 North High Street  
Worthington, Ohio 43085*

### **City Council**

*Rachael Dorothy  
Bonnie D. Michael  
W. Scott Myers  
David M. Norstrom  
Douglas K. Smith  
Michael C. Troper*

*D. Kay Thress, Clerk of Council*

**CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance**

Worthington City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, January 4, 2016, in the John P. Coleman Council Chambers of City Hall, 6550 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio. President Michael called the meeting to order at or about 7:30 P.M.

**Members Present:** Rachael R. Dorothy, W. Scott Myers, David M. Norstrom, Douglas K. Smith, Michael C. Troper, and Bonnie D. Michael

**Member(s) Absent:**

**Also present:** Clerk of Council D. Kay Thress, City Manager Matthew Greeson, Director of Law Pamela Fox, Assistant City Manager Robyn Stewart, Director of Finance Molly Roberts, Director of Parks and Recreation Darren Hurley, Director of Service and Engineering William Watterson, Director of Planning and Building Lee Brown, and Chief of Police James Mosaic

There were approximately thirty six visitors present.

*President Michael invited those in attendance to stand and join in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS**

*Mr. Greeson shared that it is in accordance with our Charter and it is customary at the first organizational meeting of the year that we swear in newly elected council members. Tonight that includes Ms. Michael, Mr. Smith and Mr. Foust. He believes that Justice Stratton will swear in Ms. Michael and Mr. Smith and Mayor Holmes will swear in Mr. Foust.*

**ADMINISTER OATHS OF OFFICE**

*Justice Stratton shared that she has always felt that City Council members and School Board members really have the people job because they deal with people day in and day out. Members hear the complaints and discuss issues. That is a really tough job. This is where you have people that you have elected to represent you. She really thinks this is when democracy is at play and where America is at its finest.*

*Justice Stratton shared that she grew up in three different countries: Thailand which was a constitutional monarchy that was run by military dictatorship (she lived through twelve coos while there), Vietnam started as a democracy and ended up communism, and she ended up in Malaysia that was basically run by Muslims as a very theocratic nation. So coming to America, she has such an appreciation for our system of democracy. She really appreciates the freedoms we have in this country. She added that she is very honored to be asked to swear in new members because this is where America really happens. It is a great privilege to do so.*

Justice Stratton invited Bonnie Michael and Douglas Smith to stand and recite the Oath of Office.

**The Oath was administered.**

*Mr. Foust shared that he has the greatest appreciation and respect for Justice Stratton but Scott Holmes came to mind because he was the attorney for his parents and it just had to be Scott that swore him in this evening.*

*Mayor Holmes thanked Mr. Foust for the privilege. He is honored to swear Doug in as a council member. He was chatting with Doug earlier this evening and he realized that there are four generations of the Foust family that have lived or are living in Worthington. He and his wife Kim were neighbors of Doug's parents for thirty years. Doug and his brother Dave and Mayor Holmes' three brothers all went to school together. So it is a great privilege for him to swear Doug in.*

**The Oath was administered.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**MOTION** A motion was made by Ms. Dorothy and seconded by Mr. Troper to nominate Bonnie Michael to serve as President of Council for the next two years.

**MOTION** A motion was made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Mr. Foust to nominate David Norstrom to serve as President of Council for the next two years.

There being no additional candidates, the nominations were closed.

Ms. Michael shared that the process is to vote on the first nomination and if that passes then there is no need to vote on the second nomination.

**The motion to elect Bonnie Michael to serve as President of Council carried by a vote of five (Troper, Dorothy, Smith, Myers, Michael) to two (Norstrom and Foust).**

Jim Seals, 123 E. New England Ave.

*Mr. Seals shared that this is very difficult for him. He thinks that some members know that he sent two different mailers to 6,000 households in Worthington addressing about 10,000 adults and the primary reason for doing that was because he was not happy with the way things were going over the past year. He named two people in those mailers: 1) President Bonnie Michael and 2) City Manager Matthew Greeson. In some sense that was metonymy that is it was not personal in any sense. He did not really know Ms. Michael personally. He did know Matt to some extent and he will say publically that he likes Matt a lot. He thinks he is a very bright guy and he thinks that particularly with regards to service he is going an outstanding job although he has some concerns about*

*development and some other directions that the city is going. So he did his best to see that Ms. Michael did not get re-elected to City Council. He worked very hard at it and spent a lot of money on the effort. Ms. Michael did get re-elected and he is here to say that he respects the will of the people, the will of the voters.*

*Mr. Seals shared that he has an authentic and live olive branch that he would like to present to Ms. Michael. He would like to say publically that he would like to put their differences aside and he would like for all to put it aside. He pledged to work with her anyway that he can to make Worthington successful. He hopes that they can work together to preserve the residential areas of Worthington, to preserve traditional zoning and to make Worthington economically viable. He looks forward to working with Ms. Michael and Mr. Greeson.*

*Ms. Michael thanked Mr. Seals. She appreciates his gift and looks forward to working with him in keeping Worthington wonderful and working together as we all move this community forward.*

**President Michael said she would entertain nominations for President Pro-Tem of Council.**

**MOTION** A motion was made by Ms. Dorothy and seconded by Mr. Troper to nominate Scott Myers to serve as President Pro-Tem of Council.

There being no additional candidates, the nominations were closed.

**The motion to elect Scott Myers to serve as President Pro-Tem of Council carried unanimously.**

#### **ELECTION OF MAYOR & VICE-MAYOR**

**President Michael said she would entertain nominations for Mayor of Worthington.**

**MOTION** A motion was made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Ms. Dorothy to re-appoint Scott Holmes as Mayor of the City of Worthington.

There being no additional candidates, the nominations were closed.

**The motion to re-appoint Scott Holmes to serve as Mayor of the City of Worthington carried unanimously.**

**President Michael said she would entertain nominations for Vice Mayor of Worthington.**

**MOTION**                    **A motion was made by Mr. Norstrom and seconded by Mr. Myers to re-appoint James J. Lorimer to serve as Vice-Mayor of the City of Worthington.**

There being no additional candidates, the nominations were closed.

**The motion to appoint James Lorimer to serve as Vice-Mayor of the City of Worthington carried unanimously.**

#### **ADMINISTER OATHS OF OFFICE**

**Justice Stratton administered the Oaths of Office to President Bonnie Michael, President Pro-Tem Scott Myers, Mayor Scott Holmes, and Vice-Mayor James Lorimer.**

*Vice Mayor Lorimer shared that this is the twenty-fifth time that the city of Worthington has honored him with representing it in some capacity. During that time we have recognized many special people in our community. He is especially pleased and honored tonight to have a very special man here to witness the swearing in of the city council and to share this evening with him. He is in town now working on a full length movie. He told the studio people that he would only make it if he could make it in Columbus, Ohio. Filming began the middle of last month when he came here directly from Paris where he addressed an international assembly of 190 nations. He was a featured speaker on world warming. So he comes from that setting, that world setting to this community setting here tonight with us and that says something very special about the kind of man he is. He is a man that Mr. Lorimer is so proud to call a friend and has called him a friend for forty-five years.*

*Mr. Lorimer shared a story of when in 1970 he ran the World Bodybuilding Championships here in Columbus, Ohio and invited the top six bodybuilders in the world to come. One of the competitors was a young Austrian who said he wanted to be here but our Sunday event was a problem since he had a commitment on Saturday evening in London, England to participate in the Mr. Universe contest. He didn't know how he could make it to Columbus. Mr. Lorimer told him that if he would compete on Saturday evening in London, then catch the last flight out of Heathrow airport to New York City, he would pick you up by jet in New York City and bring him to Columbus to compete. He said he would do that if Mr. Lorimer would do that.*

*Mr. Lorimer shared that his next question was where he would get the jet. The law director at the time, Rick Brentlinger was a very good friend of his who also worked with him to bring this world championship here. He discussed his dilemma with Mr. Brentlinger and he thought he could help. It turns out the Volkswagen people had a jet and they also had a proposal in front of city council with respect to the Volkswagen property, which is now the location of the Fire Department. He knew that council would approve their request for that property. He called the President of Volkswagen and he agreed to have the jet available. So when Arnold arrived that weekend there were 4,000*

people in Veterans Memorial Auditorium. He was brought in by a jet and won the competition. Mr. Lorimer shared that after the competition Arnold came up to him and said that his event was the best event he had ever been in. When he finished competing in the sport, he wished to go into promoting of the sport and raise the image of the sport. He would return to Columbus, Ohio and ask Mr. Lorimer to be his partner. Mr. Lorimer replied "ya".

For the next five years he won everything. In 1975 he won his last contest in South Africa. He stopped on his way back from South Africa and said that as he told him five years earlier, he is done competing and he wants to go into the promotion of the sport. They shook hands and they have had a partnership on a handshake for forty years. Our Arnold Sports Festival brings fifty million dollars into this community every weekend. In 2016 he and Arnold will have an Arnold Sports Festival on six continent, every continent in the world. So this is an amazing man. A special man. Two times governor of California and he can't thank him enough for being here this evening.

Arnold Schwarzenegger thanked council for the opportunity to comment. He wished the new council well and said that it was great to be back in Worthington.

Mr. Schwarzenegger shared that Jim Lorimer is one of his greatest friends and that is why he stopped filming early today to rush over to be part of this swearing-in ceremony. Their friendship has been going on for forty-five years and it is really one of the greatest friendships. Not only does Jim give great advice and not only does he have this extraordinary impact here on the city but he has a tremendous impact worldwide. Not only did he hold the World Championships in bodybuilding and weightlifting in 1970 but since 1976 they have held the World Championships every year here in Columbus, Ohio. This championship has grown to 18,000 athletes from around the world, which is more than the 12,000 athletes at the Olympics. Over 200,000 spectators come to this event. The Arnold Classic and International Fitness and Sports event has now been held worldwide. Not only has he made this great contribution worldwide in the sports and fitness but he has also impacted him personally because he was the first one to say Arnold you are very successful but remember one thing, you are an immigrant and it is your responsibility and it is everyone's responsibility to not only think about how much you make but how much you give. He thinks that immigrants have a larger responsibility to give something back. Arnold shared that he took it very seriously when he said that to him. He has since been involved with Special Olympics, after school programs and the President's Council on fitness. He has covered the fifty states to promote health and fitness. He was inspired by Jim Lorimer and ran for governor of California and won and ran that state for seven years. It is really a great honor to be in the greatest country in the world and to be able to be successful and to say that everything that he has accomplished is because of America. America has given him absolutely everything that he has. It is wonderful to give something back. It is one thing to go around the world and give speeches about success. One of the most important points about success is to give back. Another thing is to think about others as there are many who have fallen behind and need help. He thinks this is exactly what all of council and staff do. You are public servants. Jim Lorimer is one of the greatest public servant that he has ever

*known. It is wonderful to be back here. Every time he comes to Columbus, Ohio and he leaves he says he'll be back and he always comes back. When the studio said they wanted him in this movie he told them that he would only do so in Columbus, Ohio so that is exactly where we are shooting. There are also a few scenes that will be shot here in Worthington. It is great to be back and he will be coming back many times.*

*Mr. Schwarzenegger congratulated council members once again and wished them luck. He added that members can always count on him if they need anything.*

*Justice Stratton shared that she never thought she would get the opportunity to tell this story but it is a story that she has to tell. Many years ago when Arnold was the governor of California, the National Association of Counties had him as the keynote speaker and she was asked to serve on a panel. Arnold was called away to Washington so they called her and asked her to be the keynote speaker instead of a panel member. She was very excited and agreed to be the keynote speaker. She thought everyone is expecting Arnold Schwarzenegger and they are getting her instead. Then she shared her comments to the group: "She understands why she was picked to replace Arnold Schwarzenegger. They were both born overseas and they both came to the States in their early youth. They had no money. They made their own way in America. He was starring in movies and she was starring in her campaign commercials. He was called the "Terminator" and she was called the "Velvet Hammer". He ran for public office, she ran for public office and if he ever gets to run for president and changes the rules she will be his running mate. Mr. Schwarzenegger thanked her for her comments.*

*President Michael asked Mr. Foust if he wanted to introduce any family members who were present. Mr. Foust introduced his wife, Nancy (who he met in High School here in Worthington), and his brother, Dave (former council member and twenty years or so as an ARB member). He is pleased to try to carry on the family tradition of public service.*

*President Michael directed everyone who was sworn in to sign their Oaths of Office.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

/s/ D. Kay Thress  
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this  
19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael  
President of Council