

## **REORGANIZATION MEETING**

**January 1, 2016**

**2:00 p.m.**

The Clerk of Ewing called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Before introducing the Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Charlie Geter, she wished everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. She then welcomed Mr. Charlie Geter, former radio personality in Philadelphia and Trenton, a member of Ewing Lawrence Sewerage Authority and community activist to the podium for welcoming and opening remarks.

Mr. Geter commented that the Clerk said that very well and he would see that she gets a raise (Laughter). He said he just saw the Mayor flinch and also the Business Administrator (Laughter).

He further went on to say that it was a pleasure seeing everyone and he welcomed everyone. He said today we are here for the reorganization and it gives him great pleasure to introduce a young man who has come into the Mercer County area who will give our invocation. He said this young man has made a mark in the City of Trenton and the County of Mercer and further said that he is a great friend, Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Reverend Darrell Armstrong. Reverend Armstrong gave the invocation.

Mr. Geter then asked that all remain standing as he introduced the Ewing Police Honor Guard to present the colors of our Country and our Community. He led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Geter thanked all the members of the Police Department for attending: Sgt. Daniel McGuire. Officer Robert Birchenough, Officer Edward Lester, Officer Abdelbasset Jibbou, Piper/Lt. David LaBaw and Snare/Christopher LaBaw

At this time, Mr. Geter turned over the inaugural proceedings to Clerk Kim Macellaro who will read the Open Public Meetings Statement.

The Clerk read Open Public Meetings Statement.

The notice requirements provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied. Notice of this Reorganization meeting was properly transmitted to the Times of Trenton and the Trentonian, filed with the Clerk of the Township of Ewing and posted in the Ewing Township Municipal Complex, all on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

The Clerk then announced that the Ewing Township Municipal Reorganization Meeting is now formally in session.

The Clerk presented the Municipal Council for the Township of Ewing for 2016.

### **ROLL CALL**

- Councilman Kevin Baxter - Present
- Councilwoman Jennifer Keyes-Maloney - Present
- Councilman David Schroth - Present
- Councilwoman Sarah Steward - Present
- Councilwoman Kathleen Wollert - Present

Municipal Clerk Kim Macellaro said that she would now hear nominations for Council President. Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney nominated David Schroth, seconded by Councilman Baxter. See no questions and no further nominations, the Clerk asked for a roll call

### **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Baxter	YES
Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
Mr. Schroth	YES
Ms. Steward	YES
Ms. Wollert	YES

The nomination was carried and the newly elected President received the Oath of Office from Mercer County Clerk, Paula Sollami-Covello while Monica Viachek held the Bible.

The Clerk noted that the minutes will reflect that she now relinquishes the floor to Council President Schroth.

The Council President announced that nominations were open for Council Vice President. Councilwoman Wollert nominated Councilwoman Steward and it was seconded by Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney. Seeing no questions on the motion, the Clerk called for a roll call.

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Ms. Keyes-Maloney</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Wollert</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Mr. Baxter</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Steward</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>President Schroth</b>	<b>YES</b>

The nomination was carried and the newly elected Vice President received the Oath of Office from County Clerk Paula Sollami-Covello with the Bible being held by her Mom and Dad.

President Schroth introduced Mayor Steinmann for his comments

Mayor Steinmann took the opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry and Happy 2016. He said he personally is glad that 2015 is behind him. He congratulated Council President Schroth and Vice President Steward for being nominated by their peers and he knows it will be a great year and they will do a fantastic job moving forward. He further went on to say it was a great pleasure to serve and have conversations and dialogue with the former President Ms. Keyes-Maloney and her insight into what we were trying to accomplish and the questions that she asked were certainly relevant at that time and sometimes raised his eyebrow on occasions, but that is what this is all about. He said he is happy and proud and the majority of the time, we were on the same page. The vision has paid off dividends for Ewing Township in 2015. He knows the vision will be maintained in 2016. He said economic development will be at a faster pace in 2016. We are working very hard with Ewing Township Council to work on our infrastructure. The other area we are concentrating on is technology. We are making improvements to make our lives and our citizens lives a lot easier. We have been working for the last six months on a new website. We hope to be ready to launch in the next 2-3 months. He further stated that starting January 1<sup>st</sup> they are launching a new program regarding building permits, inspections, etc. He said he is looking forward to a very bright and happy 2016 and he is really looking forward to moving Ewing to where Ewing Township has never been and he is excited about the future. He thanked everyone for being there to pay their respects to Council and him. He again congratulated everyone on Council. He said that he didn't notice Congresswoman Bonnie Watson-Coleman in the audience but wanted to mention that she has been a mainstay of his for a very long time and a very great supporter of him. He said that when he went through his difficult time, she constantly called and kept him in her prayers and that meant more to him than anything else and he is forever grateful to our Congresswoman for keeping his family in her prayers during their most difficult time. He then turned it back over to President Schroth.

President Schroth thanked everyone for being there today and thanked specifically Charlie Geter for hosting this afternoon. He thanked Reverend Armstrong for being there and honoring us with his presence. He thanked Reverend Coleman, in advance (Congresswoman Bonnie-Watson Coleman's other half) for giving the benediction. He further thanked all of the public officials that were present today. He thanked his family, sister and brother-in-law, two great nieces, his Mom and his Fiancé Monica. He thanked his fellow Council members, Jennifer for her dedicated leadership as President this past year and her unwavering and unparalleled commitment to the community. He thanked Sarah, Kevin and Kathy for their dedication and he knows without exception that they will make Ewing a better place. He thanked Mayor Steinmann and said he shares in his vision for making Ewing Township a better community. He further said that the Township has improved in so many ways, it has brought stability to the Township, particularly in the area of economic development and he looked forward to working with him. He thanked the Township employees who are so dedicated and work so hard for all of us and don't get the thanks that they deserve and he said each one is deeply appreciated. He wished everyone the best in the coming year!

President Steward expressed her gratitude to everyone there today and said she is very honored to be selected as Vice President. She thanked Mercer County Clerk Paula Sollami-Covello for swearing her in today and she thanked all the community leaders who would be recognized a little later in the program. She also thanked Mayor Steinmann and her colleagues for being great teammates and making Ewing a better place. She specifically thanked outgoing President Jennifer for doing a fantastic job and incoming President Dave who she is looking forward to working with. She thanked the Township Professionals, Jim, Maeve, Kim and Joanna who provide such excellent Counsel and support to us throughout the year. For the people who serve and protect our community, Police, Fire and EMT, seen and unseen, she is very grateful for. She also thanked Township volunteers on Boards and Commissions and said that this was her first year on Green Team and it highlighted just how much work the volunteers do behind the scenes and it inspires her to do more. She thanked her family and friends for supporting her not only now but through the rest of the year. She thanked the residents of Ewing for their continued support this past year and the year to come. She further went on to say that Ewing is not only a beautiful place to live but also to work and raise a family. The things we have planned and underway are important as well as exciting. We have a great team to build our success! She looks forward this year to working with the Green Team as we are pursuing our Sustainable Jersey re-certification which means that we engage in a number of projects to enhance sustainability in the community. We are currently Bronze certified and are shooting for Silver. In all things as we track Ewing's path forward, her and her colleagues invite feedback and participation and encourage you to attend every second and fourth Tuesday night Council meeting. She finished by saying that she is humbled and honored to continue to serve the people of Ewing and will do her best in the upcoming year.

Councilwoman Keyes-Maloney thanked everyone for being with us today. She said that 2015 brought many blessings to our community. She said that a continued strength and partnership with our school and higher education communities, from the joint meeting we held with our school board to examine the growth and impact of our community, to the continued collective work with the College of New Jersey on Campus Town. We are strengthening the bonds that make our community great. We also renewed our relationship with the faith community by bringing all faiths together to share the work of the township and re-establish those critical links when disaster strikes. Our inaugural Thanksgiving gathering was but the first manifestation of that collaboration and she said she was proud to be a part of it. She further said we have a new community art space in the 1867 sanctuary that will provide a new venue for locals. She continued that we have a new dining and retail space that brings both the college community and the community as a whole in Campus Town. We invested in our infrastructure as a town this year, from road improvements to the upgrades in our first responder technology and equipment. These critical items help solidify our community. From the Green Teams inaugural bike ride to the art commissions student art show to the rec's robust summer and school year's schedules, we have a lot to be proud of in Ewing. She thanked the first responders for keeping our homes and streets safe. She thanked the public works department for keeping the parks clean. She thanked the Health Department for keeping our children, our seniors, our neighbors and our pets healthy. She thanked the Rec Department who provide programming for the young and the mature among us. She knows the difference this makes to kids and seniors, particularly in light of her father's dementia. She thanked code enforcement for keeping the places we dine, live and visit safe. She thanked the Clerk's Office, who often serves as the front line to our citizens' questions and concerns, she said your service is one of the faces of our township that is so critical and you do it so well. To the professionals who make sure we know the rules and abide by them, she thanked them. Also our volunteers who serve on any number of critical boards, who help us make decisions that affect peoples' lives. She thanked the Administrative team, from our CFO who keeps the township on a firm economic footing, to our Business Administrator for keeping the township operationally sound by successfully fielding the myriad of challenges that cross his desk and to our Mayor, who provides a firm strategic vision for our town and pushing us to grow and thrive in a time of change. She said that without your leadership our bond rating would not be as exceptional as it is and the services our citizens receive would not be as strong. To all the employees and volunteers, you make Ewing a better place to live and grow and for that she says thank you. She wished all her colleagues a successful and healthy 2016. She told President Schroth that he will do a tremendous job as President. She told Sarah that you are David's second and said she knows you will be there any time he needs you. She thanked them all for sharing their experiences, expertise and passion for Ewing. She finally said she would be remiss if she did not extend

her thanks to the citizens of Ewing who put their confidence in us to serve. She said she hopes to continue to make them proud, proud of the town we call home. She finished with a quote from John F. Kennedy as it sets the stage for the coming year – “as we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them”. She ended by saying may God’s providence be upon us in this coming year.

Councilwoman Wollert said that it is so great to see all of our friends, relatives, employees, committee and commission members who support this town in so many wonderful ways as we take on a new year and the challenges we all face in that new year. From all of my fellow colleagues, you have heard about all of the great things being worked on in 2016. As we do this, we will have problems and upsets, but she said she remembers two things everyday – there is nothing new under the sun, there is no problem that we face on any level that has not been faced by others who have gone before us. She said she is hopeful that we can continue to produce good results with that in mind. She said we are unique in and of this time but not so unique that we can’t apply the lessons from those who have gone before us. The second thing, in the immortal words of Scarlet O’Hara, “Tomorrow is another day”! She said that no matter how down we get, no matter how bad things may seem, tomorrow is another day! She wished everyone, from the bottom of her heart, a wonderful, healthy and prosperous year in 2016. She said that it is such a pleasure to work with this Council. She said we have great employees and a great Mayor who has done his level best to move everything possible forward and he deserves the town’s appreciation for that. She further stated that we have a great business administrator and great CFO who have gotten us back on a great financial footing. She sent her best wishes from herself and her family and wished everyone a wonderful and blessed New Year.

Councilman Baxter said that the beauty of going last is that he doesn’t have to say a whole lot, they have said it all. He wished everyone a happy and safe 2016. He is thankful that we have seen another year and all of you have come out this afternoon to honor Dave and Sarah as they take the reins of this Council. He says he knows they will do a great job and he has seen their attentiveness and diligence and we are all in good hands. He said that he remembers when they all started together and now the circle has just about gone around and Dave is in the hot seat. He said he is ready and his lovely fiancé will keep him in excellent order. He congratulated President Schroth and said he is only a call away if he needs anything and he counted on Vice President Steward to hold him up. He told them both to have their vision and know where you want to take the town and be firm and resolute. He said the Mayor barks loud, but he doesn’t bite. He said Jimmy is the biter (laughter). He said the Mayor has a great vision and is doing an awesome job even through the most difficult times. He further said that all of our professionals and employees, especially the Clerk’s office, the office that we deal with the most. He said they are really the champions because they teach us, tell us and set us straight. He looks forward to the year and appreciates Dave re-appointing him to the Recreation Board, as it is a passion of his. Working with the youth in our community is what drives him. Our children are our future. He thanked the school board members and he looks forward to working with them all. He thanked everyone once again for coming out and let them know that they are there if needed.

The Clerk presented the reorganization consent agenda for approval.

**REORGANIZATION CONSENT AGENDA – (Resolution #16R-01/)**

*All items listed under Item P, Reorganization Consent Agenda, are considered routine by the Township Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Reorganization Consent Agenda and considered separately. There will be one motion for all items listed.*

- 1. A Resolution setting observance of holidays.**
- 2. A Resolution designating official newspapers.**
- 3. A Resolution of meeting dates of various township boards, commissions and the Township Council.**
- 4. A Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Ewing Township Cash Management Plan 2016.**
- 5. A Resolution adopting procedures for the conduct of Council, 2016.**
- 6. A Resolution authorizing the appointment of James P. McManimon as Business Administrator for the Township of Ewing.**
- 7. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Attorney to Maeve Cannon, Esq. of Stevens & Lee.**
- 8. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Engineer to Robert Mannix of Remington & Vernick Engineers.**
- 9. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Public Defender to Antonio Martinez, Esq.**
- 10. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Municipal Prosecutor to Bertha Scott, Esq.**
- 11. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Special Tax Appeals Attorney to Harry Z. Haushalter, Esq.**
- 12. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Conflict Engineer to Alaimo Group Consulting Engineers.**
- 13. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Planner to Charles W. Latini, Jr. of the firm of L & G Planning, LLC.**
- 14. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Special Litigation Attorney / Condemnation Board to Charles P. Allen, Jr., Esq.**
- 15. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Appraisal Services to Colleen McLane Schwartz of McLane Schwartz, LLC.**
- 16. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Appraisal Services to Pamela J. Brodowski of BRB Valuation & Consulting Services.**
- 17. A Resolution authorizing the award of non-fair and open contracts to Peter E. Sockler, Mai and Sockler Realty Services Group, Inc., Robert P. Esposti and Post Appraisal Group, and Charles Ciolino and Garden State Appraisers & Consultants to provide Conflict Appraisal Services.**

18. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Bond Counsel and Special Legal Counsel to Edward McManimon, III, Esq. and McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC.
19. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Rent Control Attorney and Special Litigation Attorney to Edwin W. Schmierer, Esq. of Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC.
20. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for a Township Labor Negotiator to Rocky L. Peterson, Esq. of Hill Wallack
21. A Resolution authorizing the award of a non-fair and open contract for Township Auditing Services to Eugene J. Elias and Warren A. Broudy of Mercadien, P.C.

Mr. Baxter moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Keyes-Maloney

ROLL CALL	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Steward	YES
	Ms. Wollert	YES
	President Schroth	YES

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

1. The Clerk read **(Resolution #16R-02)** A Resolution authorizing the appointment of David P. Schroth to the Planning Board as a Class III member, term expiring December 31, 2016.

Ms. Keyes-Maloney moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Steward

ROLL CALL	Ms. Steward	YES
	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Wollert	YES
	President Schroth	YES

2. The Clerk read **(Resolution #16R-03)** A Resolution consenting to the reappointment of members to the Redevelopment Agency. They are as follows:

- Reappointing Robert Kull to a five year term to expire on December 31, 2020
- Reappointing Terrance Stokes to a five year term to expire on December 31, 2020

Mr. Baxter moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Wollert

ROLL CALL	Ms. Wollert	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Ms. Steward	YES
	President Schroth	YES

3. The Clerk read **(Resolution #16R-04)** A Resolution consenting to the reappointment of members to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. They are as follows:

- Reappointing Mary Corrigan to a four year term to expire on December 31, 2019

Ms. Steward moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Wollert

ROLL CALL	Ms. Wollert	YES
	Ms. Steward	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	President Schroth	YES

4. The Clerk read **(Resolution #16R-05)** A Resolution consenting to the appointment/reappointment of members to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission: They are as follows:

- Reappointment of Frances Zenchak with a term to expire on December 31, 2018
- Reappointment of Shirley Csercevits with a term to expire on December 31, 2018
- Reappointment of Carolyn Tonic-Robinson with a term to expire on December 31, 2018
- Reappointment of Marion Miller with a term to expire on December 31, 2018
- Reappointment of Rev. Betty Picott with a term to expire on December 31, 2018
- Appointing Kathleen Wollert (Council Liaison) for a one year term to expire on December 31, 2016

Ms. Keyes-Maloney moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Steward

ROLL CALL	Ms. Steward	YES
	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Wollert	YES
	President Schroth	YES

5. The Clerk read **(Resolution #16R-06)** A Resolution consenting to the appointment/reappointment of members to the Recreation Advisory Board. They are as follows:

- Reappointing Karen Bauer, with a term to expire December 31, 2018
- Reappointing Mike Van Wagner, with a term to expire December 31, 2018
- Appointing Kevin Baxter (Council Liaison), with a term to expire December 31, 2016

Ms. Steward moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Keyes-Maloney

ROLL CALL	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Ms. Steward	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Wollert	YES
	President Schroth	YES

6. The Clerk read (Resolution #16R-07) A Resolution consenting to the appointment/reappointment of members to the Board of Condemnation. They are as follows:

- Appointing Evan Crumiller, filling the unexpired term of Reddie McCall, with a term to expire on December 31, 2019
- Reappointing Stephen Elliott with a term to expire on December 31, 2020

Ms. Steward moved the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Baxter

ROLL CALL	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Steward	YES
	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Ms. Wollert	YES
	President Schroth	YES

7. The Clerk read (Resolution #16R-08) A Resolution consenting to the appointment/reappointment of members to the Arts Commission. They are as follows:

- Appointing Lisa Feldman, filling a vacancy, with a term expiring December 31, 2017
- Reappointing Lauren Weber with a term expiring December 31, 2018
- Reappointing Maria Bua with a term expiring December 31, 2018
- Reappointing Rosanna Bua with a term expiring December 31, 2018

Mr. Baxter moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Wollert

ROLL CALL	Ms. Wollert	YES
	Mr. Baxter	YES
	Ms. Keyes-Maloney	YES
	Ms. Steward	YES
	President Schroth	YES

8. The Clerk read (Resolution #16R-09) A Resolution consenting to the appointments of members to the Municipal Alliance Committee. They are as follows:

- Appointing Bert Steinmann with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing George Long with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Michael Nitti with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Lori Amison with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Nancy Van Saun with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Theresa Hank with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Virginia Hundley with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Rev. Fred Gerlach with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Lisette Ortiz with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Lisa Rubino with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Patty Heenan with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Lt. David LaBaw with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Denise Lugo-Fowler with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Joe Hadge with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Sharon McNellis-Kissel with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Wm. Moore Hank with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Chip Mera with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Krista Bruehl with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Becky Castelize with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Syreeta Washington with a term expiring on December 31, 2016
- Appointing Jennifer Keyes-Maloney (Council Liaison) with a term expiring on December 31, 2016



Ms. Wollert moved the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Steward

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Ms. Steward</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Wollert</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Mr. Baxter</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Keyes-Maloney</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>President Schroth</b>	<b>YES</b>

9. The Clerk read **(Resolution #16R-10)** A Resolution consenting to the appointment of a member of the Ewing Lawrence Sewerage Authority as follows:

- Appointing Allen Lee for a term to expire on January 31, 2020

Ms. Keyes-Maloney moved the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Baxter

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Mr. Baxter</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Keyes-Maloney</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Steward</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>Ms. Wollert</b>	<b>YES</b>
	<b>President Schroth</b>	<b>YES</b>

**MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS NOT REQUIRING ADVICE AND CONSENT OF COUNCIL (NO COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED)** – The following were read aloud by the Clerk for the purposes of being part of the minutes.

#### **PLANNING BOARD**

1. Reappoint Bert H. Steinmann, Mayor, Class I with a term to expire December 31, 2016
2. Reappointing Jo Ann Povia (Envir), Class IV, with a term to expire December 31, 2016
3. Reappointing Shirley Thomas, Class IV Alt No 2, with a term to expire December 31, 2016
4. Appointing Thomas Lanigan, Class IV, with a term to expire December 31, 2019

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

1. Reappointing Jo Ann Povia, Planning Board Rep, for term expiring December 31, 2016
2. Reappointing Bruce C. Black, Alt. No. 1, for a term expiring December 31, 2018
3. Reappointing Jeff Passe – Alt. No. 2, for a term expiring December 31, 2018

#### **SUSTAINABLE EWING GREEN TEAM**

1. Reappointing John Hoegl for a term expiring December 31, 2018
2. Reappointing David Byers for a term expiring December 31, 2018
3. Reappointing Mike Nordquist for a term expiring December 31, 2018
4. Reappointing Valorie Caffee for a term expiring December 31, 2018
5. Reappointing Jim McManimon for a term expiring December 31, 2016
6. Appointing Evan Crumiller for a term expiring December 31, 2018
7. Appointing Sarah Steward (Council Liaison) for a term to expire December 31, 2016

The Clerk turned the floor back to Charlie Geter who recognized the dignitaries.

#### **RECOGNITION OF DIGNITARIES**

Mr. Geter stated that all of us are dignitaries, some just more than others (laughter). Mr. Geter said that he was going to deviate away from the script for just a moment. He introduced a young man who has been leading the County of

Mercer and was overwhelmingly re-elected, the County Executive Brian Hughes (applause). Mr. Hughes started by saying that forewarned is forearmed and he thanked Mr. Geter. Mr. Hughes said that this is really a day for Ewing Township. It's a day for these Council members to exalt in what they have done and what they are going to do on behalf of the community. He saluted them for that. He said there is no greater pride he has then to be involved with the business of public service. He said it is something that is honorable, hard work and unrecognized in the community. He said this group is very conscientious in what they do. He wished everyone a Happy 2016 and all the blessings the Lord will give (applause). Mr. Geter recognized the following dignitaries and thanked them for taking the time out of their day to be here: Senator Shirley Turner, Assemblyman Reed Gusciora, Assemblywoman Elizabeth Muoio, Mercer County Clerk Paula Sollami-Covello, Mercer County Surrogate Diane Gerofsky, Freeholder Ann Cannon, Freeholder and his fellow member on ELSA Pasquale "Pat" Colavita, Ewingite Lucy R.S. Walter, Freeholder Andrew Koontz, Deputy County Clerk Walker Worthy, Freeholder Anthony Carabelli, President of School Board Anthony Messina, Vice President of School Board Stephanie Staub, Kenneth Bradley, Freeholder John Cimino, Bob Dorio who keeps us all in line and also former Mayor of Ewing Township, Josh Moskowitz board attorney for the Mercer County Board of Social Services, Art Sypek County Counsel, former Councilman Don Apai, Chief Ralf Brandmaier of West Trenton, Labor Negotiator Rocky Peterson, Township Attorney Maeve Cannon. Mr. Geter said he saved the best for last and said that this was a fellow that went to Trenton High School who was the President of the class, they were drafted in the Army together, discharged together, joined the Army reserves together and Mr. Geter became his 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. And that is when he got even with him. He introduced Paul Sollami. He also introduced Aaron Watson with DOT, Captain Lenarski and Chief Steve Luck of Pennington Road.

Mr. Geter then told a joke – Two ladies were in a nursing home and they were talking and one said "it is so boring in here today, what can we do to liven this place up?" One said, "I have the perfect idea, let's take our clothes off and run down the hall". So, they took their clothes off and ran down the hall and passed a room where two old men were. One man said, "My God, what was that?" And the other one said, "I don't know but it sure needs pressing!" (laughter)

#### **STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Geter introduced a personal friend of his, a community activist, The Reverend Coleman, associate Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church of Trenton to give the benediction.

Mr. Geter turned the floor back over to Council President Schroth. President Schroth thanked Mr. Geter for sharing the joke with them. He said that is now and forever etched in the official records, the official minutes of this ceremony (laughter). On that note, Council President Schroth asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Wollert moved to closed the meeting, seconded by Mr. Baxter.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

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David P. Schroth, Council President

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Kim Macellaro, Municipal Clerk