



**Council Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers
January 6, 2020**

In compliance with the provisions of the City Charter, the Mayor-elect, members of Council, and members of Council-elect of the City of Shaker Heights, met this date at 7:08 p.m. for the purpose of organization.

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Audio of this meeting may be found [here](#) through April 6, 2020.

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Mayor Weiss thanked everyone in attendance. We are not used to seeing so many faces at a Council meeting on a happy occasion. Those present are a who’s who of Shaker Heights with extended Shaker family and friends. He sees lots of friendly faces and lots of people very actively engaged in our community. He asked family members of the Mayor or members of Council to stand and be acknowledged. Family members are really the unsung heroes who bear the brunt of lots of lonely nights with loved ones here often times late into the evening. We are very appreciative of their support. Campaigning takes a long time, and takes them away from family and friends as well.

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Clerk of Council Jeri E. Chaikin advised that the Board of Elections certified the results of the November 5, 2019 General Election as follows:

- Mayor - David E. Weiss
- Council Term Expiring December 31, 2023
 - Sean P. Malone
 - Nancy R. Moore
 - Carmella Williams
 - Earl Williams, Jr.

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Judge K. J. Montgomery administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-elect David E. Weiss.

Mayor Weiss thanked Judge Montgomery for administering the oath of office.

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CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS

Judge K. J. Montgomery administered the Oath of Office to the Council-elect:

- Sean P. Malone
- Nancy R. Moore
- Carmella Williams
- Earl Williams, Jr.

Mayor Weiss thanked Judge K. J. Montgomery for administering the oaths of office to members of Council.

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Mayor Weiss called the organizational meeting of the Shaker Heights City Council to order.

Council members present: Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Zimmerman

Council members absent: None

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It was moved by Ms. Anne Williams and seconded by Mrs. Moore, that Council member Mr. Roeder serve as Vice-Mayor of City Council.

Council member Mrs. Moore stated that she would like to offer an explanation to everyone present on the method that Shaker Heights has historically used for selection of the Vice Mayor. It is not a popularity contest. It is not a trading of favors. It is not political gamesmanship. It is a rotational charge that is made by each member of Council to select a leader for the next two years. It is based on seniority. When two members of Council are both senior members and ready for that rotational leadership experience, they decide cooperatively who shall be first. In this cycle they are happy that Mr. Roeder has agreed and all of Council has endorsed the agreement for him to be nominated as Vice Mayor. They look forward to all the leadership skills of Council being developed sequentially in the same manner.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Zimmerman

Nays: None

Motion Carried

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It was moved by Mr. Zimmerman and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams that Council member Mr. Malone be elected the Council representative on the City Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

years we reconstitute those committees. It was changed a little to add the new Administration Committee. Mayor Weiss announced the following Council appointments to the various standing City Council committees serving from 2020 - 2021:

Administration Committee	Carmella Williams, Chair Tres Roeder Rob Zimmerman
City Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	Mayor Weiss, Chair Sean Malone
Finance Committee	Nancy Moore, Chair Tres Roeder Anne Williams Earl Williams
Neighborhood Revitalization and Development Committee	Tres Roeder, Chair Nancy Moore Anne Williams Rob Zimmerman
Recreation Committee	Earl Williams, Chair Anne Williams Carmella Williams
Safety and Public Works Committee	Rob Zimmerman, Chair Sean Malone Carmella Williams Earl Williams
Sustainability Committee	Anne Williams, Chair Sean Malone Nancy Moore

Mayor Weiss stated that a member of Council serves as chair of each committee and we have residents and citizen members who serve along with them. We are in the process of either reappointing or filing vacancies in each of these committees.

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Ordinance No. 20-01, by Mr. Earl Williams, affirming the Mayor's appointment of Jeri E. Chaikin as Clerk of Council for a two-year term, and designating the Director of Law and the Assistant Directors of Law as Clerks of Council Pro Tem in the absence of the Clerk of Council.

It was moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 20-01 be placed upon its final enactment.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Zimmerman
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Mr. Earl Williams, and seconded by Ms. Anne Williams, that Ordinance No. 20-01 be enacted as read.

Roll Call: Ayes: Mr. Malone, Mrs. Moore, Mr. Roeder
Ms. Anne Williams, Ms. Carmella Williams
Mr. Earl Williams, Mr. Zimmerman
Nays: None

Ordinance Enacted

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Mayor Weiss stated that he is honored and it is a privilege to serve this community as Mayor. It has been a truly remarkable experience over the almost two years he has served. It was not new to him having served as a member of Council in the late nineties, but he had forgotten just how much fun it was to be so active and involved in an elected position in this community. It is a very special place, made special by residents first and foremost, who are active, passionate, and engaged in all that we do. We also recognize that they entrust the Mayor and Council as elected officials to make decisions that are in the best interest of the community. We are a little different in Shaker than many other communities in that we are all elected at large, meaning there are no wards or parts of the community that are represented by any individual on Council. We represent the entire community and are charged with making the best decisions they can make on behalf of the entire community. He appreciates the faith residents have put in them. The Mayor and Council are always busy with long agendas. They have been consistent over the past several years in those areas we are trying to make progress, and he believes that will continue. Those areas of focus include economic development which is first and foremost, fiscal stewardship with a good use of hard earned taxpayer dollars, and doing things to attract and retain residents. We love the diversity we have in the community and want to do things that will make us more competitive. He jokes when he is out that there are two types of people, those who live in Shaker and those who will eventually live in Shaker. He hopes we will do all the things residents expect us to do to maintain attractive neighborhoods and attract residents to our community. Government efficiency and modernization remain at the forefront. We are constantly reinvesting in infrastructure in the community. Transparency and communication is another area where we are always trying to make improvements to make sure we are informing residents of what we are doing and so we can hear back as to the things residents would like us to be doing. Regionalism is also a topic that comes up quite a bit in discussions. For efficiency in tax dollars we simply must look across taxing authorities not only within Shaker as we have done with Forward Together discussions between the Library, Schools and the City, but also outside our borders as we have done in many areas. Over the last year or so we have raised the profile and efforts in sustainability with a separate Council

Committee and staff to support our efforts. They will hear more about the progress in the coming year in that area. Finally, but not least is a focus on people, including diversity, equity and inclusion in all that we do. If you look around the room you can see how diverse and inclusive this community is. It is a hallmark of our community. We recognize that we are not perfect and that we must all work together and constantly focus on these issues to make sure we remain as inclusive and diverse as we always have been and want to be in this community. He recognizes the trust and faith residents have placed in the Mayor and members of Council, but they also know they are partners with each and every one of them. We work for the residents and appreciate their comments, criticisms, suggestions, and recommendations for change. This is a true partnership, a special relationship and a very special community.

Mayor Weiss thanked his colleagues who he has served with over the last two years and welcomed their new colleague on City Council, Ms. Carmella Williams, who they look forward to working with in the coming term. He has had the pleasure over the last nearly two years to work with some of the finest staff he has ever had the pleasure to work with. He acknowledged the many directors who are present. It has been an amazing experience and Shaker has some of the most responsive, dedicated, and hard-working staff anywhere and he very much appreciates all their efforts.

Mayor Weiss thanked everyone in attendance.

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There being no further business before Council and upon a motion duly made, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

DAVID E. WEISS, Mayor

JERI E. CHAIKIN, Clerk of Council