

INAUGURAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
JANUARY 2, 2018

The meeting was called to order by the City Clerk in the City Council Chamber, Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA at 11:30 AM by the City Clerk.

The Clerk called the roll. All Councilors were present.

Councilor Figy nominated Councilor Paul as President pro- tempore.

With no other nominations being offered, and upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That nominations be CLOSED.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That Councilor Paul be ELECTED as President pro-tempore.

Councilor Bean nominated Councilor Beltrandi as President for 2018.

Councilor Morganelli nominated Councilor Flaherty as President for 2018.

With no other nominations being offered, and upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was VOTED: That nominations be CLOSED.

Councilor Flaherty addressed the Council. He informed the Council the President's role, per the Charter, is limited. It is not a speaker of the house position, the President has no special powers and the President does not speak for the Council. He informed the Council that the City Council is an equal branch of government to the Mayor, that it is not a subservient role to the Mayor and that if elected would work with the Mayor on common issues as mandated from constituents. He informed the Council that he has thought about committee assignments and would assign committees based on talent, interest and experience. He informed the Council that he would assign five members to the Finance Committee and Legislative and Ordinance Committees as is allowed by the Council rules. He informed the Council that he would allow incumbents to stay in their current seats, that he would be fair to those at the podium and that he is well-versed on the rules of the Council. He would encourage some changes to the rules as some of the rules have problems. He would ask for the computers in the chamber be turned on to allow internet access during Council meetings. And he concluded by informing the Council that if Councilor Beltrandi is elected he would support Councilor Beltrandi.

Councilor Beltrandi addressed the Council. He informed the Council that as President he would bring people together. He informed the Council that they need to work with the Mayor even though the offices are independent of each other. He did not agree with five members on the Finance Committee and Legislative and Ordinance Committee because it may be hard to reach a quorum. He informed the Council that he is familiar with the rules of the

Council and that as a former Chair of the License Committee he is knows how to run a meeting. He informed the Council that he would assign committees to be most effective and that he would expect each committee to work effectively and professionally and that committee work be done in committee not on the Council floor. And as President he would work to move items through the process.

The vote on the election for Council President for 2018 resulted as follows:

- Councilor Allie voted for Councilor Flaherty.
- Councilor Babinski voted for Councilor Flaherty.
- Councilor Bean voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Beltrandi voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Burns voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Emmershy voted for Councilor Flaherty.
- Councilor Figy voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Flaherty voted for Councilor Flaherty.
- Councilor Harris voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Morganelli voted for Councilor Flaherty.
- Councilor Onyski voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Paul voted for Councilor Beltrandi.
- Councilor Surprise voted for Councilor Flaherty.

The Clerk declared the vote as follows:

Councilor Beltrandi - 7 votes Councilor Flaherty - 6 votes
Councilor Beltrandi was declared the Council President for 2018.

President pro-tempore Paul relinquished the Chair to the newly-elected President, Councilor John J. Beltrandi III.

President Beltrandi thanked the Councilors for their support. He welcomed the newly elected Councilors as well as all the other returning Councilors. He announced that he would officially distribute the Committee assignments at the next regular City Council meeting.

Upon motion of Councilor Bean, it was
VOTED: That the rules of the 2017 City Council be and hereby are ADOPTED as the rules of the 2018 City Council.

Upon motion of Councilor Figy, it was
VOTED: That Unfinished Business of the 2017 City Council now in Committee be REFERRED to corresponding committees of the 2018 City Council.

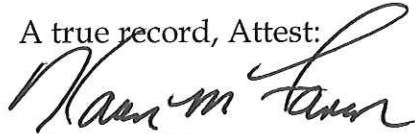
Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that he was back and forth on the seating assignments and informed the Council that he decided to assign seats to get Councilors mixed in differently with each other from the current seating. He announced the seats as follows:

	Seat Number
Councilor Allie	9
Councilor Babinski	7
Councilor Bean	1
Councilor Beltrandi	President
Councilor Burns	8
Councilor Emmershay	11
Councilor Figy	12
Councilor Flaherty	4
Councilor Harris	10
Councilor Morganelli	6
Councilor Onyski	5
Councilor Paul	3
Councilor Surprise	2

Councilor Harris informed the Council that she appreciates President Beltrandi's efforts relative to the seating but respectfully requested that she not have to change her seat because the side of the room next to the wall is warmer. Councilor Morganelli supported President Beltrandi's seating arrangement and informed the Council that it is a good idea to mix up the seating.

At 11:45 AM and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A true record, Attest:



Karen M. Fanion

City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

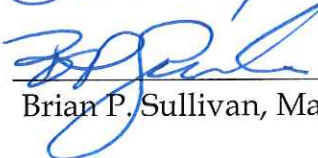
Approved by the Mayor

For approval JAN. 8 2018



Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

JAN 8, 2018



Brian P. Sullivan, Mayor