

SELINGSGROVE VACANCY BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 - 4:00 P.M.

VACANCY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman W. Reuning, C/P D. Anderson, C/P P. Carroll, C/P B. Farrell, C/P C. Handlan, C/P S. Hendricks, and C/P E. Viker,

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor R. Cravitz; Mgr. J. Bickhart; Borough Treasurer Sheri Badman; Borough Residents Linda Derr, Delores & Earl Moyer, Joseph & Margaret Siro; Candidates Tim Charles, Bob Derr and Kim Riegel

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Reuning called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. Mgr. Bickhart called the roll to establish a quorum.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD: Chairman Reuning asked if any of the candidates would like to comment. None did.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

Review letters of interest pertaining to the appointment of a qualified individual to complete a portion of the unfulfilled term of Margaret Siro

C/P Farrell asked the candidates if they will be running for a Council position this year. All three candidates stated they would. C/P Viker stated that he had a conversation with Candidate Richard Mease in which C/P Viker understood that Mr. Mease would also be willing to run for more than just the one-year appointment.

C/P Carroll asked Candidate Derr how many years he has lived in the Borough and Mr. Derr replied since 2002. C/P Carroll asked Candidate Riegel if she lived in the Borough, as she had not put her address on her letter of interest. Ms. Riegel stated she lives in the Borough at 204 South Market Street right at the Penn Township line. C/P Viker asked how long she has lived there and she replied 15 years.

C/P Handlan thanked everyone for their interest in stepping forward to fill the vacancy. She asked Candidate Charles to share his reasons for stepping forward and what he feels he would bring to the table at this time. Mr. Charles stated he was on Council before, from 1991 to 1994. At that time he was appointed to Council to fill a vacancy when someone resigned and then he ran successfully for a two-year term. Near the end of that term his job situation changed and he went on swing shift. He stated he enjoyed being on Council but it would have been difficult for him to attend Council meetings without taking vacation time. He stated he knows what is required of a Council member. He is not currently upset with anyone and has no issue. He is not looking to get on Council to change things. He stated he is now retired and has the time to devote to Council meetings. He realizes it is time consuming and it is not just a matter of picking up papers on Thursday, looking them over and showing up for the meeting on Monday. C/P Handlan stated it is important, as Mr. Charles stated, to understand the time commitment involved with being a Councilperson.

C/P Handlan then asked Candidate Derr what his interest is in joining Council and what he feels he would bring to the table. Mr. Derr stated that for several years when he lived in Mifflinburg he covered their Borough Council meetings and the school board meetings for the Daily Item. He stated he has always had an active interest in his community, and now he is retired and living in Selingsgrove. He feels that his occupational experience speaks to his being able to work with a wide variety of people. He stated he is especially interested in helping to make Selingsgrove a more vibrant business community. He stated he

has a lot of experience in public relations and he feels he could assist the Borough with his experience. He is interested in doing something for the community and jokingly stated he is willing to pay for the litter bags at the dog park. He stated he would feel privileged to work with the people of Selinsgrove. C/P Handlan stated lot has been accomplished in the Borough in the last nine years that she is aware of.

C/P Handlan asked Candidate Riegel the same question. Ms. Riegel stated that she is just becoming involved and has been attending Borough Council meetings. She has lived in Selinsgrove for almost 30 years now. She stated she has some ideas and insights to share. She stated she does not understand everything that goes on at Council meetings but she is not afraid to ask questions and is willing and eager to learn new things. She is a people person who works in human services, and she feels she has the time to devote to Council. She is employed full time but her job is Monday through Friday 9:00 to 5:00.

C/P Hendricks stated for the record that he is related to Tim Charles. Mr. Charles is C/P Hendricks' uncle.

Consider appointment – Chairman Reuning stated that the appointment will proceed by having a Vacancy Board member make a nomination of one of the candidates. Another Board member will second the nomination and then the entire Board will vote. C/P Viker stated that he recognizes that this is a fast track opportunity to keep Borough Council at its full complement. He stated he is approaching the candidates from the perspective that he sees a win/win/win/win situation. The way that he can parse out the best choice of four good choices is to recognize that ideally the person should be able to sit down and begin work with Council with a minimal climb of gaining knowledge and understanding of how things work. Therefore, he feels it would be ideal to appoint someone who is already familiar with the processes of the business of municipal government.

Motion by C/P Viker to nominate Tim Charles to fill the vacancy on Borough Council. Seconded by C/P Hendricks.

AYES: SIX (6)

NAYS: ONE (1) – C/P Carroll

MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Reuning stated that with this vote the Vacancy Board has accomplished its purpose. He stated that this vote is no reflection on any individual and he encouraged all the candidates to run for Council in the future. He stated he served ten years and he knows it is very important to have interested people serve on Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Attachments: None

Respectfully submitted by
Dawne R. Long, Independent Transcriptionist
Recording Transcriptionist