

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
IN SPECIAL SESSION
January 7, 2009**

A special session of the Winchester Common Council was held on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 in the Council Chambers, Rouss City Hall. Mayor Minor called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Elizabeth Minor, Councilors Jeff Buettner, Michael Butler, Evan Clark, John Hill, Art Major, Milt McInturff, Les Veach, and John Willingham. (9)

ABSENT: None. (0)

1. MOTION TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL AS DESCRIBED IN §2.2-3711(A)(7) OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA SPECIFICALLY IN REGARD TO PROCEDURAL MATTER

Mayor Minor moved to convene in executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilor Butler then unanimously approved by voice-vote.

Upon returning at 7:46 a.m., council members approved a motion to return to open meeting and each member certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed during the closed meeting, and that only those public business matters identified in the motion which convened the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed meeting.

A roll call vote was taken, the ayes and nays being recorded as shown below:

MEMBER	VOTE
Councilor Buettner	Aye
Councilor Butler	Aye
Councilor Clark	Aye
Councilor Hill	Aye
Councilor Major	Aye
Councilor McInturff	Aye
Mayor Minor	Aye
Councilor Veach	Aye
Councilor Willingham	Aye

2. Motion to Appoint Assistant City Manager Anne Lewis as President Pro Tempore per Winchester City Code Section 2-29

Mayor Minor moved to appoint Anne Lewis as President Pro Tempore. The motion was seconded by Councilor Major then unanimously approved by voice-vote.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION - PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

Ms. Lewis accepted nominations for the position of President to serve two years ending December 31, 2010.

Councilor Butler moved to nominate Councilor Buettner. The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark.

After receiving no additional names, Ms. Lewis closed the nominations and the motion was unanimously approved by voice-vote.

- **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION – VICE-PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

President Buettner accepted nominations for the position of Vice-President to serve two years ending December 31, 2010.

Councilor McInturff moved to nominate Councilor Major. The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark.

Councilor Veach moved to nominate Councilor Butler. The nomination did not receive a second.

After receiving no additional names, President Buettner closed the nominations and the motion to nominate Councilor Major was unanimously approved by voice-vote.

- **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION – VICE MAYOR**

President Buettner accepted nominations for the position of Vice-Mayor to serve two years ending December 31, 2010.

Vice-President Major moved to nominate Councilor Butler. Councilor Butler declined the nomination.

Councilor Major moved to table the nomination and election of Vice-Mayor until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Minor then unanimously approved by voice-vote.

4. Discussion of Council committee structure

President Buettner stated that with the downsizing of Council to 9 members, the committee structure could be handled in several ways. He offered for discussion the option of

combining several of the committees and going to every Tuesday night meetings. 7:52:13 AM

Councilor McInturff stated he is in favor of the committee of a whole.

Mayor Minor agreed and stated with the smaller council, everyone will need to have a pulse on what is happening.

Vice-President Major also agreed and stated the committees will lose the diversity of opinions. Most of the councilors attend all of the committee meetings even though they are not on them. He thought it is necessary with the larger issues to appoint committee chairs.

President Buettner asked if anyone was against going to a committee of the whole structure. After hearing no objections, the decision was made to move forward. The discussion and appointment of committee chairs will be done at the upcoming retreat.

5. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 a.m.

Kari J. Van Diest
Deputy Clerk of the Common Council