

**REORGANIZATION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**January 2, 2021
DELRAN, NJ**

The meeting was called to order with a salute to the Flag by Councilman Catrambone.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT: Be advised the Township Council has given notice in accordance with the sunshine law in the following manner. Notice published in the Burlington County Times and Camden Courier Post on December 29, 2020 and posted on the bulletin board on the same date.

ADMINISTERING THE OATH OF OFFICE

At this time, the Oath of Office was administered to Lynn Jeney, Councilman At-Large by Senator Troy Singleton.

The Oath of Office was administered to Tyler Burrell, Councilman At-Large by Senator Cory Booker

The Oath of Office was administered to Gary Catrambone, Mayor by Assemblyman Herb Conaway.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Burrell were present.

ALSO, PRESENT: Mr. Catrambone, Mayor, Mr. Hatcher, Administrator and Ms. Eggers were present.

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Lyon nominated **Tyler Burrell** as **President of Council** for a term to expire **December 31, 2021**. The nomination was seconded by Ms. Parejo.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Ms. Parejo nominated **Thomas Lyon** as **Vice President of Council** for a term to expire **December 31, 2021**. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Jeney.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE & CONSENT OF COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 2021-01 Appointment of **Siciliano & Associates** as the **Township Solicitor**.

RESOLUTION 2021-02 Appointment of **CME Associates** as the **Township Engineer**

RESOLUTION 2021-03 Appointment of **Parker McCay, P.A.** as the **Township Bond Attorney**

RESOLUTION 2021-04 Appointment of **Marmero Law, LLC** as the **Township Labor Attorney**

RESOLUTION 2021-05 Appointment of **Kathleen McGill Gaskill, Esq.** as the **Township Tax Attorney**

RESOLUTION 2021-06 Appointment **Malamut & Associates, LLC** as the **Township COAH Attorney**

RESOLUTION 2021-07 Appointment of **Jeffrey Hatcher** as **Business Administrator** for a term to expire **December 31, 2024**

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to adopt the above resolutions.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION 2021-08 Appointing **Bowman & Company, LLP** as **Township Auditor**

RESOLUTION 2021-09 Appointing **Daniel Rosenberg & Associates, LLC** as **Township Public Defender**

RESOLUTION 2021-10 Appointing Greg Perr as Township Prosecutor

Ms. Parejo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyon to adopt the above resolutions.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

RESOLUTION 2021-11 Cash Management Plan – Depositories and Investments

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to approve Resolution 2021-09.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

RESOLUTION 2021-12 Approving 2021 Annual Meeting Notice

Ms. Parejo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyon to approve Resolution 2021-12.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

RESOLUTION 2021-13 Adopting 2021 Temporary Budget

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to approve Resolution 2021-09.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

RESOLUTION 2021-14 Authorizing Signatures for Escrow Account held at WSFS Bank

Ms. Parejo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyon to approve Resolution 2021-14.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

RESOLUTION 2021-15 Authorizing Signatures for Escrow Account held at TD Bank

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to approve Resolution 2021-15.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Gary Catrambone to the **Planning Board** as a **Class 1 member** for a term to expire **December 31, 2024**

Lynn Jeney to the **Planning Board** as the **Mayor's Designee** for a term to expire **December 31, 2024**

Kimberly Bogie to the **Planning Board** as a **Class 2 member** for a term to expire **December 31, 2021**

Candy Cure the **Planning Board** as a **Class 4 member** for a term to expire **December 31, 2023**

Randy Khinkis to the Planning Board as a Class 4 member for a term to expire December 31, 2023

Christopher Giles to the Planning Board as Alternate No. 1 for a term to expire December 31, 2021

Caner “Johnny” Ozdemir to the Planning Board as Alternate No. 2 for a term to expire December 31, 2022

Jamey Eggers, Tyler Burrell and Jason Harris to the Multi Dwelling Emergency Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2024

MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS WITH ADVICE AND CONSENT OF COUNCIL

Eva Jackson-Conner to the Recreation Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023

Katherine Malgrieri to the Green Team for a term to expire December 31, 2023

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Parejo to approve the above appointments.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

COUNCIL’S APPOINTMENTS

Thomas Lyon to the Planning Board as a Class 3 member for a term to expire December 31, 2021

Thomas Morrow to the Zoning Board for a term to expire December 31, 2024

Jon Hewko to the Zoning Board for a term to expire December 31, 2024

Joseph Chascsa to the Zoning Board as Alternate No. 1 for a term to expire December 31, 2022

Marie Iezzi to the Zoning Board as Alternate No. 2 for a term to expire December 31, 2022

Colin Rafferty to the Recreation Advisory Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2023

Elvina Wilson to the **Recreation Advisory Committee** for a term to expire **December 31, 2023**

Susan Huesken to the **Green Team** for a term to **expire December 31, 2023**

Debra Hammond to the **Green Team** for a term to **expire December 31, 2023**

Ms. Parejo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyon to approve the above appointments.

There being no questions, the roll was called.

Mr. Lyon, Ms. Parejo, Mr. Jeney and Mr. Catrambone voted aye.

Ayes: 4

Nays: None

Motion Approved

COMMENTS AND REMARKS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Ms. Parejo – Ms. Parejo congratulated new Mayor Gary Catrambone. He will continue to work hard as Mayor for the residents.

Ms. Parejo congratulated Council President Tyler Burrell and stated that she looks forward to continuing to work with him.

Ms. Parejo congratulated Mr. Jeney and welcomed him to Council. She looks forward to serving with him.

Mr. Lyon – Mr. Lyon thanked everyone that attended the meeting today. Mr. Lyon thanked all the volunteer in town that have accepted positions on various boards.

Mr. Lyon congratulated Mayor Catrambone, Council President Burrell and Councilman Lynn Jeney.

Mr. Jeney – Mr. Jeney thanked Senator Troy Singleton for swearing him into office today. It was an honor that we were joined today by Senator Troy Singleton, Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Andy Kim and Assemblyman Herb Conaway.

Mr. Jeney thanked his wife Sue, daughter and son-in-law for their support during his campaign and always.

Mr. Jeney thanked that residents of Delran for their support.

Mr. Jeney stated that he is looking forward to working with Mayor Catrambone and Council to continue the impressive work already accomplished. I am eager to join yet humbled by this

dedicated group of individuals and will bring my own unique experience and prospective to Council. I am excited to be a participant in continuing to shape our community into a gem of Burlington County.

Mr. Jeney congratulated Mayor Catrambone to his election and Mr. Burrell on his re-election. We have a very impressive group of people and he is happy to be a part of this group.

Mr. Burrell – First, I want to thank Senator Cory Booker, for swearing me in, and to Congressman Andy Kim, Senator Troy Singleton and Assemblyman Herb Conaway for joining us today as well. It is a tremendous honor for me personally, and for Delran that you have all taken time out of your busy schedules to be a part of this day for our local government.

First, I have a few people to thank b/c this is a team effort.

I would like to thank my parents and family, Carolyn and Tim, for their continued support and encouragement. They are such as impacted by my service as anyone else, as they get stopped in Shoprite with questions and burdened when I leave family dinner early for a call. I would not be here today without their continued sacrifices they made for my brother and I.

Next, even though I cannot name everyone, I would like to thank those political friends and advisors who are behind the scenes who have been by my side since day one. I know I can always count on their unbiased opinion.

Next, I thank my running mates; Mayor Catrambone and Councilman Jeney. It was a pleasure to work on such a substantive issue based campaign with you both; and I am thrilled to begin my second term on Council with people who genuinely care as deeply for this town and its residents as I do.

Finally, and most importantly, I want to whole heartily thank the residents of Delran.

In no form of government other than local government do the people hold the most source of power and immediate, direct influence. And I don't take lightly that the residents have used their greatest power and voted in confidence for me to serve a second term. From growing up here in Delran to now having the blessing to give back to the community that built me is a true honor. I love Delran and this is the greater privilege.

In the musical Hamilton, Washington makes the statement: “*Winning is easy, governing is harder.*” Well I’m not sure I agree that winning is easy, but governing is for sure challenging work.

Government is challenging because we wade in a sea of unknown. The unknown issues our Township will face, the unknown obstacles standing in the way of resolving our issues, and the unknown impact our decisions today will have on the community for decades to come.

But in the sea of ever-shifting unknown, there are a few things I know for certain:

- I know I can rely on this body of elected officials because we share the same level of dedication and passion for Delran, while each bringing their own perspective to the table.
- I know - we ourselves may not be the smartest people in the room, but we surround ourselves with the best staff and experts to make the most informed decisions
- And finally, I know - we will work tirelessly for the people of Delran.

As a graduate of Delran schools, I learned that America’s government is built on the principle of a *more* perfect union. It is not a “*perfect union*”, but rather “*a more perfect union*” because we understand that perfection is fundamentally impossible. This isn’t a flaw of our government, but an intentional design. This notion means we are to keep working and striving for better = always improving. It is this endless pursuit of perfection, constantly reaching for something unattainable, that is the engine of great debate, great innovation, and great government. And this pursuit for perfection - for a better government - starts locally . . . right here in Delran.

This pursuit starts with a strong legislative agenda, with the support of our new leadership and Mayor at the helm. There is no question Delran’s services have become the gold standard in the Rivertowns area, but that doesn’t mean our job is done. It is time we leverage 21st century technology to modernize our government using technology as a tool, and not a barrier for better government. With a modern approach to governing;

- We can find new ways to share information, keep residents better informed and involved residents in issues that matter most
- We can find ways to diversify our tax base, attract new business, fill empty commercial properties; and

- We can find ways to make sure that my generation and generations to follow can afford to stay in Delran

Finally, it is time we prioritize making Delran a more cohesive community to improve the quality of life of *every resident*. We started this mission with the Winter Festival and Delran Night early into my first term. And as we look forward to the end of this pandemic, it's time we continue on this path. Whether it be a dog park, walking paths, or a community garden, we have options to demonstrate our pride in this community and make it a place where everyone thrives.

And to do this we need to rely on our community because local government is a community effort – it's not a one-way street. It's time we recognize and involve all of Delran; from the school children to seniors to the businesses that call Delran home. By working together, leveraging our resources and shared passion for Delran, we can improve the aesthetics, cohesiveness, and unite the community we call home. When we work together, the possibilities are truly endless.

By no means is our agenda or our future easy, but the challenge makes it all worth it. In the words of Thomas Paine, "The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

In conclusion, I want to stress that I am here to work *with* and *for* our residents. This is our community, our friends, our neighbors, who all want one thing: a prosperous Delran. And I promise to work endlessly to make you proud to have this team in office.

I leave my fellow Council members and our new Mayor with one final message. 1,461 days. That is how much time we have left until our term expires. We may have the ability to affect more positive change for our community here, than anyone else at this very moment.

- Lets use this time to focus on the issue and not get bogged down by the politics.
- Lets leave it all on the table.
- And lets never forget the opportunity we are blessed with and responsibility we for our residents.

Each and every day may we always strive to make Delran better tomorrow than it was yesterday. We start our pursuit for a more perfect Delran, today. Our community is relying on us.

Mr. Catrambone – First, I would like to thank Senator Cory Booker, Senator Troy Singleton and Assemblyman Dr. Herb Conaway for swearing-in Council and myself. I would note that both Senator Singleton and Assemblyman Conaway are both Delran Residents.

I would also like to thank Congressman Andy Kim for joining us today and congratulate him on his re-election. I think I speak for everyone here in wishing you success in your second term. We are honored and humbled to have you all here today, and grateful that you have been so generous with your time to be a part of this moment for our town.

This year was not at all what we were used to, so I need to take a moment to express my appreciation to some of the various groups within our community and to thank all the professionals that help us all to serve Delran. We are extremely fortunate to have so many smart, talented people working with us.

I would also like to thank the people here on the ground in Delran, the Police, Public Works, EMS, and Fire Departments for their level of responsiveness and commitment to public safety in this once in a generation pandemic.

To our friends in Organized labor that not only provide an incredible workforce for the Delran residents. But, also work with us as we navigate this unprecedented time.

This is the first meeting in 12 years that I am not a member of Town Council and it feels kind of ... weird. But, I feel great knowing that this incredible group of talented and caring people will lead the way to an even better Delran. I cannot wait to continue working with you all! You'll notice that one member of Council is not here today.

Councilman Mike Mormando moved to a different home in Delran that is a couple of hundred yards from the Ward 3 border. He moved to better accommodate the needs of his multi-generational household and we are going to genuinely miss his insight and caring about the residents of Delran. I know Mike will continue to be there for Delran. And, I believe we will see him serving Delran in some capacity again.

I would also like to acknowledge the Delran Township staff, especially Jeff Hatcher, our township administrator - whose level of expertise and body of knowledge is unprecedented. Jeff has saved the town and our residents more money than most of us realize; and Jamey Eggers, our Township Clerk, who works tirelessly every day to keep everything running smoothly and whose talent and intelligence goes unnoticed because she makes it look so easy. While ALL the staff here at the township are working hard for you, Jeff and Jamey have to do their jobs AND deal with those of us up here that constantly add to their list of to-do's and ...

Most importantly, I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my wife; Julie, my daughters; Germaine, Nina and Rose, my father-in-law, Fran Kaiser, who is now also a proud Delran resident//, and my grandchildren; Pdraig and Brighid for their support and encouragement, and for making me a better man - and by extension a better public servant.

We have a saying in our family- "We'll figure it out". But, it's more than a saying, it's really our family motto. This past year has brought challenges for everyone that no one could have

anticipated, and reminded us that life is rarely what we expect it to be. Whatever your goals, it may not happen the way you plan or expect, but if you keep working: you can make it happen.

So, to show my appreciation to the residents of Delran for electing me as your next Mayor, I would like to extend our family motto to our Delran community:

“We’ll figure it out”...and we’re going to do it together.

Due to the pandemic, during the campaign, we were unable to connect with residents, the normal way. So we sent out surveys and reached out in other ways through phone calls and social media. Through that process, we were able to hear from so many residents about what is most important to them and how we can best represent their interests.

I have always been committed to transparency in our local government. In fact, when I first started going to meetings in 1998, there was no township website, and you had to PAY to get the minutes for each meeting. I remember thinking then, ‘This isn’t right,’... so I started my own community website and posted meeting minutes online for free and available on your schedule, not ours.

Technology has changed since then. Now, we live-stream our meetings for those who can’t attend, we have social media accounts to promote important notices, and have already increased public outreach and engagement because of it.

As Mayor, I am committed to building on that transparency. Residents can look forward to Delran Township making public information even more accessible.

To begin with, we will be fully utilizing a Nixle-type alert system, along with social media, to provide a more proactive and functional method of communicating important and timely information; such as the leaf and branch pickup, road closures, and other public safety information.

We will also be fully updating our township website to make it even more user friendly, fully integrating our social media accounts and making sure that information is current. NO ONE should have to ask a question about when their trash will be picked up on five different Delran residents’ pages on Facebook because they can’t find the RIGHT answer on their own township website.

I am also committed to assisting our often-overlooked senior residents in making their lives easier. For residents who don’t wish to access information through the internet, we will be offering alternative methods of contact; through phone, text blasts and a new take on the newsletters we used to mail out.

Finally, in my commitment to demystify the process of government, residents can look forward to weekly podcasts from me, you can ask questions about how things work (such as how to obtain permits and engage with the building department or who to notify about a missed trash or recycling pickup) and ... explain how Council makes decisions about so many issues. These explanations will be available 24/7 and without the need or constraints of having to attend a public council meeting.

Once the pandemic is over, I also hope to be able to engage with residents in person, so that you feel that you KNOW me and your Council. // You know us as your representatives. // But, I want you to know us as your friends and neighbors.

In your survey answers earlier this year, nothing was clearer than you wanting us to keep taxes stable and protect our Open Space. I would like to take this opportunity to renew our commitment to both.

In our continued effort to revitalize Delran township, we will be looking at ways to redevelop existing vacant commercial properties and bring new business into town, which will help create more commercial tax revenue and continue to keep residential taxes stable.

Finally, this past year has shed a light on the concerns of black communities across the country. // Along with several council members, I was fortunate enough to participate in the Delran and Riverside's Black Lives Matter March in June. One misconception is that people think that you can't support both the police department and the black community at the same time.

Our Delran Police proved that theory wrong that day. They marched *with* us and *protected* all of us while they were marching. As mayor, I assure you that we will continue to support both the black community and Delran Police in their efforts toward diversity training and taking a more inclusionary approach to public safety in every way possible; through one positive contact at a time. I assure you, we will be even more inclusive.

Delran is an incredible place to live and I have been fortunate to call it home for...decades. Moving here in a blended family in junior high, being a member of the first graduating class of Delran High school, moving to a Delran apartment after college, and then buying my parent's home, raising our family here and, now, having my father in law, Julie's dad, live with us reminds me EVERY DAY of the privilege and an honor it will be to serve as your Mayor!

It's my hope that all Delran residents will feel more included in the process, as we work to move Delran forward to an even more thriving community for EVERYONE.

Whatever resident issues or needs develop -- together -- we, will figure it out. Thank you.

Congressman Andy Kim - Congressman Any Kim congratulated Mayor and Council on what they have accomplished. Now it is time to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

Just before he came here today he visited a vaccine distribution center. Watching our healthcare workers deliver the vaccine to our most vulnerable communities was such an extraordinary experience. The world that we are going to be immersing back into will be is to think about what we learned, what we experienced and find a better way to move forward. These challenges that we faced can not be solved by any single level of government and that is why he is here today. We are partners in this effort.

Congressman Kim congratulated the Mayor and Council and stated that he is looking forward to working with them.

Senator Troy Singleton – Senator Singleton stated that he is overwhelmed to be here today. There is something special about this group of elected officials in Delran. Senator Singleton stated that this Mayor and Council has no problem being held accountable because they are talented individuals who will serve us well. As we move forward, it is our obligation as citizens to make sure our representatives at every level of government are working on behalf of the residents. He knows that the elected officials in Delran will and he is thrilled and honored to call them his Council members, Mayor and also his friend. Thank you all.

Assemblyman Herb Conaway – Assemblyman Conaway stated that it is a pleasure and honor to attend the swearing in ceremony today. He has had opportunity to do several of these over the years but this one is special. He has known Mr. Catrambone for over twenty years and when he said he wanted to get involved they were there working together. He lives breathes and thinks about this town everyday as does this Council. As a resident of Delran, thank you to all for stepping up for the residents. Congratulations to all.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Jeney made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyon to open the meeting to the public for any questions. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Mayor Jaclyn Veasy, Evesham Township, congratulated Mayor Catrambone, Council President Burrell and all of Council. Mayor Veasy wished everyone a happy new year. As local leaders it can be very challenging but she looks forward to all the good things to come out of Delran and forward to working with them.

Mayor Steven Steglik, Mount Laurel, congratulated Mayor Catrambone, Council President Burrell and Councilman Jeney. If they need anything from Mt. Laurel, they have friends and allies.

Freeholder Balvir Singh congratulated Mayor Catrambone, Council President Burrell and Councilman Jeney and thanked them for their public service.

Pastor Paul Jackson congratulated Mayor and Council and stated it is a privilege to pastor a church in such a great town with great leaders. On behalf of Calvary Church, we appreciate Mayor and Council and will keep them in prayer this year.

Mr. Lyon made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Ms. Parejo. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Mr. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeney to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted,

Jamey Eggers

Municipal Clerk