

CITY OF HIRAM COUNCIL MEETING REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, January 2, 2024



Councilmembers in Attendance: Mayor Frank Moran, Councilmember Melissa R. Bayardelle, Councilmember Robert Tressel, Councilmember Tiffany Carroll, Councilmember Derrick Battle, Councilmember Doris Devey.

Staff in Attendance: Jody Palmer, J. Jayson Phillips, Melissa Chosewood, Leo Parker, Chief Michael Turner, Deputy Chief Joshua Lonergan, Sergeant Wyatt McCall, Corporal Nicolas Bartlett, Jackie Pryor, Kathie Stancil, Isabella Orr.

The Regular Session for January 2, 2024 was called to order by Mayor Frank Moran at 6:00pm in the Municipal Annex.

- Mayor recognized guests Post 3 Commissioner Virginia Galloway, Judge Dean Bucci and Sally Haymen.
- Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Pastor Derek Berry from Tabernacle Baptist Church.
- City Clerk administered oaths to Mayor Moran.
- Mayor Moran administered oaths to Councilmembers Tiffany Carroll and Robert Tressel.
- Chief Michael Turner announced the promotion of Wyatt McCall to Police Sergeant and Nicolas Bartlett to Police Corporal.

24-001: Councilmember Battle made a motion to approve the minutes from December 5, 2023 Regular Session, December 14, 2023 State of Paulding Address, and the December 21, 2023 Special Session. Councilmember Bayardelle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes	Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes	Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes	
Motion passes: 5-0	

24-002: Councilmember Battle made a motion to appoint Post 3 councilmember as Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Battle explained his belief that the position should rotate sequentially by post. Councilmember Bayardelle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – No	Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes	Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – No	
Motion passes: 3-2	

24-003: Councilmember Devey made a motion to appoint Chad Plumley as the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Hiram. Councilmember Battle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes	Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes	Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes	
Motion passes: 5-0	

24-004: Councilmember Bayardelle made a motion to appoint C. David Mecklin, Jr. and Tim McCreary as Standby Judges for the Hiram Municipal Court. Councilmember Battle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes	Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes	Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes	
Motion passes: 5-0	

24-005: Councilmember Bayardelle made a motion to appoint Victoria Aronow as the Prosecuting Attorney for the City of Hiram. Councilmember Devey seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes	Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes	Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes	
Motion passes: 5-0	

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24-006: Councilmember Battle made a motion to Linda Caldwell as the Indigent Defense Attorney for the City of Hiram. Councilmember Bayardelle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-007: Councilmember Devey made a motion to appoint J. Jayson Phillips as the City Attorney for the City of Hiram. Councilmember Battle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

- Mayor Moran administered oaths to Mayor Pro Tem, Municipal Court Judge, and the City Attorney.
- Mayor Moran announced that the oaths for the Prosecuting Attorney, Indigent Defense Attorney and standby judges would be administered at a later date.
- Discussed new Mayor Pro Tem to be able to sign all banking materials.

24-008: Councilmember Battle made a motion to authorize the new Mayor Pro Tem to sign banking materials. Councilmember Tressel seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

- Discussed Ga Fund 1 Resolution update.

24-009: Councilmember Carroll made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-01, authorizing the new Mayor Pro Tem to sign all paperwork for the Ga Fund One General Fund account. Councilmember Battle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-010: Councilmember Battle made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-02, authorizing the Mayor Pro Tem to sign all paperwork for the Ga Fund One Water Fund account. Councilmember Tressel seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-011: Councilmember Devey made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Metromont, LLC to purchase the property known as 150 Oak Street, in the amount of \$290,000.00, to be funded by American Recovery Plan Act Funds. Councilmember Battle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

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- No visitor business.
- Mayor Moran mentioned upcoming news and events:
 - January 15: City Hall closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
 - January 30: Work session at 6PM in Municipal Annex.
- Councilmember Carroll expressed appreciation to her supporters throughout her campaign.
- Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle mentioned the upcoming MLK JR. Day Charity Event at The Rosenwald on January 15th from 1PM-3PM.
- Councilmember Battle thanked staff for their hard work in putting together the New Year's Eve Event.
- Councilmember Devey expressed the same appreciation.
- Mayor Moran also thanked staff for the event and Dennis Law from The Philly Steak Spot.

24-012: Councilmember Battle made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session. Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes	Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes	Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes	
Motion passes: 5-0	

Melina Chosen
City Clerk
Approved: February 6, 2024

