

**PORT CLINTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING**

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The special meeting of the Port Clinton City Council was held at the Port Clinton City Hall with DeAnna Kuzma, President of Council, presiding. The meeting opened at 5:30 pm.

The roll was called and the following council members were present: Gabe Below, Joel Freedman, Beth Gillman, Roseann Hickman, Brian Hild, Margaret Phillips and Lisa Sarty.

Mr. Below made a motion; seconded by Ms. Phillips to waive any and all irregularities in the calling and conduct of this meeting. With all in favor, the motion was carried

The chair noted that certification has been received regarding the compliance with the rules and notification of this meeting.

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Mrs. Kuzma stated the purpose of tonight's meeting is to take action on accepting the resignation of a public official, to discuss filling the vacancy created by the resignation and to take such other action as may properly come before council

Mr. Wilber stated the following:

On the afternoon of March 28, 2019, the President of Council and I received a letter of resignation from Mayor Wheeler. The President of Council and I separately spoke with Mayor Wheeler and he verbally confirmed to each of us that his resignation was effective immediately.

The President of Council and I determined a special meeting of council should be called to notify Council of the resignation and to request that council take action to accept the resignation. Mrs. Kuzma contacted each of you to schedule this meeting and public notice of the meeting was sent out at approximately 5:20pm yesterday afternoon.

A copy of the Mayor's resignation letter has been provided to each member of council present. It would be appropriate for council to make a motion to acknowledge receipt of the resignation and to accept the resignation.

Mr. Below moved to acknowledge receiving the resignation letter and to accept said resignation; seconded by Mrs. Sarty. Results of a voice roll call are as follows: Below, yes; Freedman, yes; Gillman, yes; Hickman, yes; Hild, yes; Phillips, yes and Sarty, yes. With all those in favor, council acknowledge the receipt of the resignation letter and acceptance the resignation.

Mr. Wilber stated:

Pursuant to RC 733.07 when a mayor is absent from the city, or is unable for any cause to perform the duties of the office, the President of Council shall be acting Mayor. That is the position we are operating on at this time.

Pursuant to RC 733.08 when the mayor of a city resigns, and the mayor was elected as an independent candidate, the vacancy created by the resignation is to be filled, until a successor is duly elected and qualified, by a vote of the Council designating an individual as the Mayor.

The person council approves to be the Mayor does not have to be a current city official. Council may ask for applications of individuals who are interested in serving as mayor for the remaining months of this year, schedule meetings where it interviews the individuals who are interested in filling the position, and then hold a meeting to vote on a person to fill the remaining term. A decision on the process and procedure for choosing a person to complete the term of Mayor Wheeler should be made promptly.

If members of have any questions concerning filling of the vacancy created by the Mayor's resignation please feel free to contact Mr. Wilber.

Mr. Below asked if this has ever happened before. Mr. Wilber stated that there have been other resignations before. Mr. Below asked if there have been others where council selects the person to fill the remaining term. Mr. Wilber stated that no, there has not. Mr. Below asked in that case what would be his recommendation for council to consider as a process and timing. Mr. Wilber stated that he thinks council should move forward very promptly. What your procedure is everyone can think about and schedule a meeting for early next week to go over that. Examples of things that have happened in other places are they asked interested individuals to submit resumes, council conducts interviews and then votes on the applicant. You could also look at the President of Council to see if she is interested and you could look at various members of council if they want to give up their seat. The procedure is up to council to make that decision.

Mr. Freedman asked if this is something that should be discussed in executive session or public. Mr. Wilber stated that the discussion in regards to the procedure is fine to have in a public session.

Mr. Below stated to ask council to consider scheduling the next meeting for Tuesday, April 2, to provide four days for any interested party to submit their resumes. In addition, the resumes be submitted to the president of council to be distributed to council for consideration for the vacancy. Resumes should be submitted by the end of business day on Monday, April 1. Ms. Phillips stated it would give interested parties enough time to submit their resumes via email. Mrs.

Hickman asked if the process would be published. Mr. Below stated that he believes that is happening right now but asked the safety service director to do a public posting like was done for the meeting this evening.

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With no further business to discuss Ms. Phillips made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Sarty. With all those in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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April Pipoly  
Clerk of Council

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De Anna Kuzma  
President of Council