

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Linda Hall called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT: The Deputy Borough Clerk read the following statement:
Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and the Retrospect and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

PRAYER: Father Rene Canales of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish led the opening prayer.

OATHS OF OFFICE:

Oath of office to Councilman Stephen Gandy was administered by Commissioner Jonathan L. Young Sr.
Oath of office to Councilwoman Dawn Martin was Sean Spiller and Solicitor Stuart Platt.
Oath of office to Councilman-elect Bob Bove was administered by Senator Nilsa Cruz-Perez.

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR LINDA HALL – PRESENT
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
MICHAEL TOLOMEO, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
TINA LOMANNO, COUNCILWOMAN – PRESENT
STEPHEN GANDY, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
BOB BOVE, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
DAWN MARTIN, COUNCILWOMAN – PRESENT
RON MORELLO, POLICE CHIEF/OEM COORDINATOR – PRESENT
JOHN D. KEENAN, JR., BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – PRESENT
STEPHENIE CIANFRANI, DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK – PRESENT

SELECTION BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FROM THE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

Council President Councilman Gandy nominated Councilman Michael Tolomeo as President of Council, and was seconded by Councilman Gilligan. There were no other nominations.
Councilman Tolomeo was elected, all members present voting aye.

OATH OF OFFICE TO COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Oath of office to Council President Michael Tolomeo was administered by Commissioner Jonathan L. Young Sr.

APPOINTMENTS OF 2025 COUNCILMATIC COMMITTEES

FINANCE AND REVENUE

DIRECTOR Tina Lomanno
Assoc. Member Stephen Gandy
Assoc. Member Dawn Martin

EMERGENCY SERVICES

DIRECTOR Michael Tolomeo
Assoc. Member Stephen Gandy
Assoc. Member Patrick Gilligan

POLICE

DIRECTOR Pat Gilligan
Assoc. Member Bob Bove
Assoc. Member Dawn Martin

PUBLIC WORKS

DIRECTOR Stephen Gandy
Assoc. Member Michael Tolomeo
Assoc. Member Bob Bove

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PUBLIC EVENTS

DIRECTOR Dawn Martin
Assoc. Member Tina Lomanno
Assoc. Member Michael Tolomeo

ORDINANCE/PROPERTY

DIRECTOR Bob Bove
Assoc. Member Patrick Gilligan
Assoc. Member Tina Lomanno

Councilman Gilligan made a motion to approve the Councilmatic Committee appointments. Councilman Tolomeo seconded the Motion with all members voting aye by roll call vote.

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR WITH CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL:

Mayor Hall appointed the following Fire Line Officers for a one-year term:

- Chief of Department- Michael Lemmerman
- Deputy Chief- Robert Bove
- Captain- Brian Worthington Sr.
- Captain- Daniel Camburn
- Captain- Brian Martin
- Chief Engineer- Gary Riebel Sr.
- Engineer- Vincent Jess
- Safety Officer- Stephen Gagliardi
- Safety Officer- Michael Meyers
- Fire Police- Daniel Kuehnl

Councilman Tolomeo motioned to approve the appointments of the Fire Line Officers. Councilwoman Martin seconded the motion with all members voting aye by roll call vote.

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| Joint Land Use Board, Class III – Tina Lomanno | One Year Term |
| Board of Education Liaison – Dawn Martin | One Year Term |
| Park Commission Liaison – Patrick Gilligan | One Year Term |
| Police Matrons – Kristina Rauer, Patricia Riebel | One Year Term |

Councilman Tolomeo made a motion to approve the Mayoral Appointments to Boards and Committees. Councilman Bove seconded the motion with all members voting aye by roll call vote.

APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR WITH NO CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL REQUIRED

Deputy Borough Clerk Cianfrani read the following Mayoral appointments into the record:

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| Joint Land Use Board, Class II – Ron Morello | One Year Term |
| Joint Land Use Board, Class IV- Ken Walton | Two Year Term |
| Joint Land Use Board, Class IV – Paul McGovern | Four Year Term |
| Joint Land Use Board, Alternate – Michael Mancini | One Year Term |
| Board of Health – Josh Keenan | Three Year Term |
| Municipal Coordinator of Aging – Mary Ann D’Agostino | One Year Term |

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTIONS:

Deputy Borough Clerk Cianfrani reviewed the proposed resolutions in the consent agenda.

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No one from Council removed or added to the consent agenda. Resolutions 25:01 through 25:22 were approved as a consent agenda by motion of Councilman Gandy, seconded by Councilman Gilligan, with all Council members voting aye by roll call vote.

- RES. 25:01 Appointment of Solicitor – *Stuart Platt- The Platt Law Group, P.C*
- RES. 25:02 Appointment of Engineer – *Steven M. Bach- Bach Associates*
- RES. 25:03 Appointment of Auditor – *Bowman & Company LLP*
- RES. 25:04 Appointment of Court Personnel
- RES. 25:05 Appointment of Police Chaplain – *Fr. Rene Canales*
- RES. 25:06 Appointment of Public Agency Compliance Officer – *Stephenie Cianfrani*
- RES. 25:07 Appointment of Town Historian – *Carole Dadino*
- RES. 25:08 Appointment of Redevelopment Planners – *Steven M. Bach- Bach Associates*
- RES. 25:09 Award of Contract for Affordable Housing Planner Consultant Services – *Leah Furey Bruder - LFB Land Planning*
- RES. 25:10 Appointment of Risk Management Consultant- *Christopher Powell- Hardenbergh Insurance Group*
- RES. 25:11 Appointment of Statewide Fund Commissioner – *John Keenan Jr.*
- RES. 25:12 Appointment of Special Law Enforcement Officers
- RES. 25:13 Depositories for Borough Funds and Cash Management Plan
- RES. 25:14 Time and Place for Meetings
- RES. 25:15 Publication of Legal Notices
- RES. 25:16 Parliamentary Procedures
- RES. 25:17 Temporary Budget for 2025
- RES. 25:18 Custodian for Borough Facilities
- RES. 25:19 Authorize Tax Assessor Settle Certain Appeals
- RES. 25:20 School Crossing Guards
- RES. 25:21 2025 Annual Holidays
- RES. 25:22 Approve Bank Signatories

ORDINANCES:

First Reading/ Introduction:

ORDINANCE 25:01 Exceed Budget Appropriations and Establish CAP Bank

Councilwoman Lomanno motioned to introduce Ordinance 25:01. Councilman Bove seconded the motion, with all Council voting aye by roll call vote.

Public hearing is set for February 13, 2025, at 6:30 pm.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Tolomeo – Councilman Tolomeo sent Congratulations to all those sworn in tonight. Councilman Tolomeo stated he hoped everyone has a good year and Happy New Year.

Councilman Gilligan – Councilman Gilligan sent Congratulations to all those sworn in tonight! Councilman Gilligan reminded us to support local businesses in the upcoming year.

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Councilman Gandy – Councilman Gandy thanked everyone for the Congratulations and support. He thanked his wife, children, Commissioner Young, Senator Cruz-Perez and Mr. Stiller for being here with us tonight!

Councilwoman Martin – “Thank you again for this incredible opportunity to serve our community. I’m truly honored and grateful to our residents for electing me as a council member for the next three years. This year, I’m looking forward to working closely with council and Mayor Hall to find solutions to the feedback Mr. Gandy and I received from residents while we were campaigning. Together council will continue to address the challenges our town faces, build on our successes and create opportunities that benefit all residents.”

Councilwoman Lomanno – Councilwoman Lomanno thanked everyone for coming and sent Congratulations to all those who were sworn in tonight. Happy New Year!

Councilman Bove – Councilman Bove thanked everyone for their support, especially to his wife, children and grandchildren. Also a special Thank you to Senator Cruz-Perez for coming to swear him in tonight.

Mayor Hall – Mayor Hall thanked and congratulated everyone again. Mayor Hall is looking forward to a successful and fun year ahead.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Councilman Bove motioned to open the meeting to the public. Councilman Gilligan seconded the motion with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

John Gentless, 110 Union Avenue – Mr. Gentless asked if we would still be having Zoom meetings each month. Per Resolution 25:15, meetings will now be once a month and in-person only. Mr. Gentless also confirmed that the Borough was still scheduled to go to court this week.

Camden County Commissioner Jonathan Young – Commissioner Young Congratulated all of those sworn in tonight and Thanked us for inviting him.

Councilwoman Lomanno motioned to close this portion of the meeting. Councilman Gandy seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote

ADJOURN:

Councilman Bove motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM. Councilwoman Martin seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Stephenie Cianfrani
Deputy Borough Clerk