

**BOROUGH OF PENNS GROVE  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
JANUARY 7, 2020  
MEETING MINUTES**

Mayor LaDaena D. Thomas, called the meeting to order after making the Open Public Meeting Statement Act, in the courtroom of the Borough Hall, 1 State Street, Penns Grove, New Jersey.

Mayor Thomas led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation by Clerk Williams.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**2020-1-1 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Penns Grove will go into closed session to discuss the following, in accordance with the aforesaid provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, after which it will reconvene in the public:

- I. Matters Relating to Employment Relationship: Discussion regarding the employment status of Sgt. Carmen Hernandez pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(8).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of the closed session will be made available to the public when the need for privacy no longer exists.

Motion to adopt by Oliver; second Mincey.

**NOMINATION of COUNCIL PRESIDENT:**

Motion to nominate Mincey by Oliver; second Bercute.

Motion to nominate Oliver by Pasquale; second Washington, Jr.

Oliver expressed support of Mincey becoming Council President.

Motion to appoint Mincey for Council President by Oliver; second Bercute. Roll call.

Bercute-yes; Mincey-yes, Oliver-yes, Pasquale-no, Scott-no, Washington, Jr.-no. Mayor Thomas breaks tie by voting yes.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:** Mayor Thomas assigned the following:

Building & Grounds – Councilman Pasquale, General Government – Councilman Washington, Jr., Housing/Zoning & Planning/Shade Tree – Councilwoman Scott, Public Works/Streets & Roads – Councilman Oliver, Public Safety – Councilwoman Mincey, Parks & Recreation/Board of Health – Councilman Bercute.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

- 2020-1-2 - Authorizing 2019 Temporary Budget
- 2020-1-3 - Designating Meeting Date and Time
- 2020-1-4 - Designating Newspaper of Record
- 2020-1-5 - Designating Depository
- 2020-1-6 - Establishing Petty Cash Fund
- 2020-1-7 - Authorizing Compensation of Delinquent Tax Payments
- 2020-1-8 - Cancellation of \$10.00 Tax Overpayments or Delinquent
- 2020-1-9 - Authorizing Signatures
- 2020-1-10 - Authorizing the Purchase of Police Vehicle
- 2020-1-11 - Appointment of Booking Clerk
- 2020-1-12 - A Resolution Authorizing A Separation Agreement And General Release

Motion to adopt Resolutions numbered 2020-1-2 through 2020-1-12 by Oliver.

Bercute expressed opposition to vote, stating he had just received the Resolutions.

Consensus to permit Bercute time to review.

Motion to adopt in bulk by Oliver, second Mincey. All in favor.

REMARKS: Mayor Thomas expressed appreciation to all, stating her intentions to work hard for everyone.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Motion to open meeting to the public by Washington, Jr., second Bercute.

Motion to close meeting to the public by Washington, Jr., second Oliver.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Washington, Jr., second Oliver. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon R. Williams, Municipal Clerk