



City of Powell, Ohio
City Council

MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2018

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of Powell City Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Lorenz on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:29 p.m. City Council members present included Jon Bennehoof, Frank Bertone, Tom Counts, Brian Lorenz, Brendan Newcomb, Melissa Riggins and Daniel Swartwout. Also present were Steve Lutz, City Manager; Megan Canavan, Communications Director; Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk and interested parties.

OPEN SESSION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCIL OATHS OF OFFICE - Frank Bertone, Tom Counts, Brian Lorenz and Melissa Riggins were sworn into office by the Honorable David Gormley, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas.

RESOLUTION 2018-01: A RESOLUTION TO ELECT JON C. BENNEHOOF AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF POWELL FOR A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019.

MOTION: Councilman Bertone nominated Councilman Jon Bennehoof as Mayor for the City of Powell. Councilman Counts seconded the nomination.

Mayor Lorenz opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

MOTION: Mayor Lorenz amended Resolution 2018-01 to add the name of Jon C. Bennehoof to Resolution 2018-01 in the blank space. By unanimous consent of the remaining members of Council, Resolution 2018-01 was adopted as amended.

RESOLUTION 2018-02: A RESOLUTION TO ELECT TOM COUNTS AS VICE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF POWELL FOR A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019.

MOTION: Councilman Bertone nominated Councilman Tom Counts as Vice Mayor for the City of Powell. Councilman Swartwout seconded the nomination.

Mayor Lorenz opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

MOTION: Mayor Lorenz amended Resolution 2018-02 to add the name of Tom Counts to Resolution 2018-02 in the blank space. Councilman Counts abstained. By unanimous consent of the remaining members of Council, Resolution 2018-02 was adopted as amended.

OATHS OF OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR – Jon C. Bennehoof was sworn in as Mayor and Tom Counts as Vice Mayor by the Honorable David Gormley, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas.

Former Mayor Lorenz passed the gavel to newly-elected Mayor Bennehoof.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor Bennehoof opened the citizen participation session for items not included on the agenda. Hearing none, the Mayor closed the public comment session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – [December 19, 2017](#)

MOTION: Councilman Bertone moved to adopt the minutes of December 19, 2017. Councilman Swartwout seconded the motion. By unanimous consent of the remaining members of Council, the minutes were approved.

PRESENTATION: *Lunch with Veterans by Terri Glimcher, Enrichment Coordinator of Ganzhorn Suites.*

- Offers specialized memory care in Powell, Ohio for those with dementia.
- Many residents have served in the military.
- Started Lunch With A Soldier.
 - To help veterans complete their life story before their end of life.
 - To allow volunteers to spend an hour with these veterans over lunch to hear about the veterans' experiences. It means a lot to these veterans.
 - Please contact Terri or Anne if you are interested in participating in program.

Mayor Bennehoof: I appreciate you being here. As you are aware, I am working with Judge Marianne Hemmeter in heading up the Veterans' Court in Delaware County. Through that, we hope to have a couple of volunteers for you.

[RESOLUTION 2017-03](#): A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE POWELL CITIZEN FINANCIAL REVIEW TASK FORCE.

Steve Lutz, City Manager: This is a subject that the City's Finance Committee, and other committees, have talked about for the past several months. It is creating a citizen financial review task force to review operating expenditures, revenues and capital needs of the City. The purpose of the task force is many, but include undertaking a high level review of the City's cost reduction efforts to date and to compare our services to other jurisdictions; identify best practices; determine the long range financial impacts of revenue losses that the City of Powell and other municipalities have incurred over recent years; to assess the potential for strengthening the long-term revenue prospects through all approaches, not limited to adjusting user fees; cost recovery efforts; taxes; and also to review long-term and short-term capital needs of the City. This task force was created in an attempt to get diverse committee members from within the community with respect to things like gender, [representation from] different quadrants of the City, professional backgrounds, and experience. The charge is for them to complete their review by the end of June 2018.

Mayor Bennehoof: We are all familiar with this and have gone through it a number of times, but have we contacted all of the candidates to date?

Mr. Lutz: It's my understanding that, whether it be Staff or Council, they have reached out to these individuals and they have expressed the desire and willingness to serve on the task force.

Mayor Bennehoof opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to adopt Resolution 2018-03. Councilman Lorenz seconded the motion. By unanimous consent of the remaining members of Council, Resolution 2018-03 was adopted.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

Development Committee: Councilman Lorenz nominated Councilman Frank Bertone as Chair of the Development Committee. Councilman Counts seconded the nomination.

Operations Committee: Councilman Bertone nominated Councilman Brian Lorenz as Chair of the Operations Committee. Councilman Newcomb seconded the nomination.

Finance Committee: Councilman Bertone nominated Tom Counts as Chair of the Finance Committee. Councilman Lorenz seconded the nomination.

By unanimous consent, the committee chairs were elected as nominated and seconded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Committee: *Next Meeting: February 6, 2018, 6:30 p.m.*

Finance Committee: *Next Meeting: January 9, 2018, 7:00 p.m. I believe this meeting may end up being the first meeting of the Citizen Task Force Committee. If it is not, we may still have a meeting, but I think it's going to be in lieu of Finance Committee.*

Operations Committee: *Next Meeting: January 16, 2018, 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing the community attitude survey amongst other business matters. .*

Planning & Zoning Commission: *Next Meeting: January 10, 2018, 7:00 p.m. (Clerk's note: This meeting was subsequently rescheduled to January 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.)*

Powell CIC: *Next Meeting: Next Meeting: TBD*

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was none. Mr. Lutz invited Mayor Bennehoof to speak briefly on his thoughts regarding a strategic session.

Mayor Bennehoof: In years past, we have had goal setting sessions. Steve and I discussed it and thought our goals would probably not change for 2018. While this is not baked in concrete, we felt it would be good to have strategy meeting. I will be on vacation toward the end of January, so I'm eyeing the first or second week in February to have this strategy session. Please let me know if there any conflicts with that time; otherwise, Steve and I will put our heads together and look for a day in the second week of February. Feel free to suggest any new goals we may want to assert. I'll ask Steve to send our last goal setting session minutes to everyone.

OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

Councilman Counts: I would like to thank Brian Lorenz for his term as mayor over the last two years. Each person who becomes Mayor brings their own gifts to that role and I think Brian did the same. Brian elicited conversation and comments from all sorts of people throughout the community and beyond the community and that is something that really didn't happen as much in the past. For that, I thank you for doing that. You have done a fantastic job.

Councilman Swartwout: I would also like to thank Brian for his two years as Mayor. When you became Mayor, the City was in somewhat of a tumultuous place. You did a tremendous job of leading the City through that tumult and here we are two years later with the City in as good a position as it's ever been. I think the City is as unified as it's ever been and I think a tremendous amount of that is due to your leadership as Mayor, your outreach to the community, and the way you handled yourself in the community as well as the meetings here. Thank you.

Councilman Newcomb: Great job Brian. Thank you.

Councilman Bertone: Great job Brian. As both Tom and Dan said, you have done a phenomenal job in trying to shepherd us through some difficult times over the last two years and we thank you for that. We look forward to having you back as a council member and selfishly using your talents for some of our committee efforts. Thank you for everything you have done.

Councilwoman Riggins: I sat through meetings. I have had many conversations with Brian. Obviously tonight is the first night I've actually gotten to sit on Council with him, but I have been so impressed with him – his honesty, his determination, his wanting to hear from people and actually listening to his constituents and taking action. So thank you Brian and thank you for the help you've given me. It is also very much appreciated.

Mayor Bennehoof: Brian, your mentorship has meant a lot to me. I think that you have set a high standard as the social media mayor. Social media is a double edge sword and you've handled it fairly well these past few years. It has carried through here in your management and decorum that you have been able to drive through some very tough meetings. I hope that I have the same amount of stamina and patience that you have displayed if we have tough meetings in the future. Thank you for your stewardship for the City.

Councilman Lorenz: Thank to everyone for the kind words. I appreciated the opportunity to serve as Mayor. It was a great opportunity for me to perform some outreach. I'd really like to thank all of you, Melissa, and Jim Hrivnak for partnering with me over the past two years to help drive the City through some really difficult times. It wasn't just me, it was all of us working through it together. We made the community better as a whole.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank Steve personally and the rest of Staff, especially Megan and Karen, for all the help in allowing me to run down and sign documents. Your leadership is appreciated. These guys do so much with so little to help us succeed. The workplace environment that Steve drives here is incredible and second to none. As Councilmembers and residents, we are really fortunate to have those folks working for us on a day-to-day basis.

And just because I won't be the Mayor, I'm not going away. I'll still be utilizing my platforms and being involved as I regularly am because I think it is important to outreach and build consensus outside of Council. Even though I have endeavors to make it to the statehouse, I remain committed to giving the City of Powell my fullest attention during my Council term.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: O.R.C. SECTION 121.22(G)(2) LAND ACQUISITION.

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved at 8:00 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session in

accordance with O.R.C. Section 121.22(G)(2) Land Acquisitions. Councilman Bertone seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

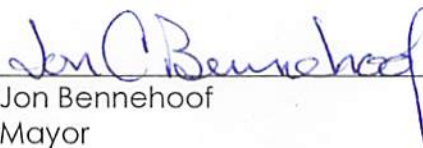
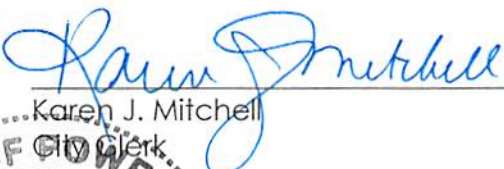
MOTION: Councilman Lorenz moved at 8:20 p.m. to adjourn from Executive Session into Open Session. Councilman Swartwout seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilman Bertone moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Councilman Counts seconded the motion. By unanimous consent of the remaining members, the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES APPROVED: January 16, 2018

	
Jon Bennehoof Mayor	Karen J. Mitchell City Clerk
<u>2/16/2018</u>	<u>2/7/2018</u>
Date	Date



City Council
Jon Bennehoof, Mayor

Frank Bertone	Tom Counts	Brian Lorenz	Brendan Newcomb	Melissa Riggins	Daniel Swartwout
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