

**HATFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2006
7:30 PM**

I. OATHS OF OFFICE FOR TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS

- A. Charles Sisian, 1711 Leon Drive – Ward 4
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/09

- B. John Thinnes, 2235 Hedgewood Road – Ward 2
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/09

The Honorable Judge Seamus McCaffery administered the oaths of office to Charles Sisian and John Thinnes as Hatfield Township Commissioners.

II. OATH OF OFFICE FOR TOWNSHIP TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER
The Honorable Judge Seamus McCaffery

- A. Christina Murphy, 2028 Lenhart Road
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/09

The Honorable Judge Seamus McCaffery administered the oath of office to Tina Murphy as Hatfield Township Tax Collector.

III. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioner Andris asked Ms. Shafkowitz to call the roll. Present at the meeting were Commissioner Gerald Andris, Commissioner Scott Brown, Commissioner Jim O’Byrne, Commissioner Charles Sisian and Commissioner John Thinnes. Also in attendance were Township Manager Stephanie Teoli Shafkowitz, Solicitor Joseph Kuhls, Township Planner Ken Amey, Engineer Joseph Nolan, Chief of Police Mark Toomey, and Assistant to the Manager Melissa Shafer.

IV. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT PROTEM

Commissioner O’Byrne moved to appoint Solicitor Joe Kuhls as the President Protem. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and carried on a 5-0 vote.

V. TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATION

- A. Election of President of the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Sisian moved to nominate Commissioner Scott Brown as the President of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thinnes. There being no further nominations,

Commissioner O'Byrne moved to close the nominations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thinnnes and the motion carried on a 5-0 vote.

The President Protem called for a vote on the motion of nomination of Commissioner Scott Brown as the President of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners. The motion carried on a 5-0 vote.

The President Protem returned the chair of the meeting to President Commissioner Scott Brown. Commissioner Brown stated that he was honored to be the president of the Board.

B. Election of Vice President of the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner O'Byrne moved to nominate Gerald Andris as the Vice-President of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thinnnes. Commissioner Sisian reported that he did not support the nomination. There being no further nominations, Commissioner O'Byrne moved to close the nominations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thinnnes and carried on a 4-1 vote.

The President of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners called for a vote on the nomination of Gerald Andris as the Vice-President of the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners. Commissioners Andris, Brown, O'Byrne and Thinnnes were in favor of the nomination. Commissioner Sisian was opposed to the nomination. The motion carried on a 4-1 vote.

C. Committee Appointments

Commissioner Brown presented the following Committee appointments:

Administration Committee – Scott Brown and Gerald Andris

Finance Committee – Gerald Andris and Jim O'Byrne

Planning & Zoning Committee – Scott Brown and John Thinnnes

Public Safety Committee – Charles Sisian and Jim O'Byrne

Public Works Committee – John Thinnnes and Charles Sisian

Recreation Committee – Jim O'Byrne and Charles Sisian

Police Pension Trustees – Scott Brown and Jim O'Byrne
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/07

VI. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

There were no citizen's comments at this time.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner O'Byrne moved to appoint the following as they appeared on the agenda.

Township Manager/Assistant Secretary – *Stephanie Teoli Shafkowitz*

Township Solicitor – *Joseph C. Kuhls, Esquire, Dischell, Bartle, Yanoff & Dooley*

Township Engineer – *Joseph Nolan, P.E., CKS Engineers*

Township Planner and Zoning Officer – *Ken Amey, AICP*

Township Landscape Architect – *Jim Faber, McCloskey & Faber*

Township Traffic Engineer – *Andy Heinrich, Heinrich & Klein Associates*

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sisian and carried on a 5-0 vote.

VIII. OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Thinnies moved to appoint the following as they appeared on the agenda:

Environmental Advisory Council

Adrian Reast, 2638 Jean Drive – Ward 4

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/08

Hatfield Township Municipal Authority

Donald Atkiss, 1675 Leon Drive – Ward 4

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/10

North Penn Health, Hospital & Education Authority

Jeffrey Fasick, 922 Alexander Drive – Ward 3

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/10

Park Commission

Robert S. Lanouette, 640 Brighton Drive – Ward 4

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/06

Parks and Recreation Board

Linda Arkens, 2690 Diamond Street – Ward 3

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/08

John Buckner, 1368 Independence Way – Ward 1

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/08
Planning Commission

Vincent Cirilli, 2727 Line Lexington Road – Ward 1
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/09

Shade Tree Commission

Charles Arkens, 2690 Diamond Street – Ward 3
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/10

Vacancy Board Chairman

Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/07

Zoning Hearing Board

Neil Brady, 1624 Harvest Moon Lane – Ward 2
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/08

James Bleakly, Jr., 1640 Leon Drive – Ward 4
Term: 01/01/06 – 12/31/06

The motion was seconded by Commissioner O’Byrne and carried on a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Brown said that he would like to table the Vacancy Board Chairman nomination.

Commissioner Thinnis made a motion to nominate Frances J. Lawton as the Vacancy Board Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O’Byrne.

Commissioner Sisian made a motion to table the Vacancy Board Chairman nomination. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Ms. Shafkowitz did a roll call vote for tabling the Vacancy Board Chairman nomination:

Thinnis – N
Sisian – Y
O’Byrne – N
Andris – N
Brown – Y

The motion failed on a 2-3 vote.

Commissioner Brown stated that he was opposed to appointing the Vacancy Board Chairman because the Commissioners have always had a chance to meet and interview the candidates, which he was not able to do in this case.

Commissioner President Brown called the motion and asked for a roll call vote. Ms. Shafkowitz did a roll call for a vote appointing Frances J. Lawton as the Vacancy Board Chair:

Thinnes – Y
Sisian – N
O’Byrne – Y
Andris – Y
Brown – N

The motion passed on a 3-2 vote.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Brown said that he was concerned with the lack of consensus on the Board. Commissioner Brown thanked all the volunteers on the Citizen Boards and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner O’Byrne made the motion to adjourn the January 3, 2006 Reorganization Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sisian and carried on a 5-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.