

The Inaugural Meeting of Danville City Council was held on the above date at 12 o'clock noon in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: L. G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., John B. Gilstrap, Alonzo L. Jones, T. David Luther, Gary P. Miller, Albert K. "Buddy" Rawley Jr. Sherman M. Saunders, Fred O. Shanks III, and Adam J. Tomer (9).

Staff members present were City Manager Joseph C. King, City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield, Jr., City Clerk Annette Y. Crane, and Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Barbara A. Dameron.

City Clerk Annette Crane called the Meeting to order. Ms. Crane extended a welcome to everyone in attendance.

#### **INVOCATION**

City of Danville Deputy Finance Director Michael L. Adkins, who offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

#### **PRESENTATION OF ELECTION CERTIFICATES**

Secretary of the Electoral Board Sylvesta L. Jennings presented Certificates of Election to Council Members John B. Gilstrap, Alonzo L. Jones, Gary P. Miller and Adam J. Tomer, certifying their election on May 4, 2010 to City Council for four-year terms commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2014.

#### **OATHS OF OFFICE**

Ms. Crane administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Gilstrap, Mr. Jones, Dr. Miller and Mr. Tomer. (Clerk's Note: The Oaths are attached to and are made a part of these Minutes).

#### **ELECTION OF MAYOR**

The next Order of Business was the election of Mayor for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2012.

Ms. Crane turned the floor over to City Attorney Clarke Whitfield to conduct the elections. Mr. Whitfield opened the floor for nominations for Mayor.

In his remarks, Mr. Shanks said it was an honor to nominate a gentleman who cares very deeply about the City of Danville, its citizens and its employees. Mr. Shanks noted Sherman Saunders' participation in numerous civic and professional organizations, saying he was a man devoted to this region and has faithfully led the City as Mayor since January 2008. As such, Mr. Shanks offered the name of Sherman M. Saunders as Mayor for the next two years.

There were no further nominations for Mayor and the nominations were closed.

Council Members voting for Mr. Saunders were Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley, Saunders, Shanks, and Tomer (9).

Sherman M. Saunders was elected to serve as Mayor for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2012.

#### **ELECTION OF VICE-MAYOR**

Mr. Whitfield opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Mayor for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2010.

Council Member Rawley nominated T. David Luther for Vice-Mayor. In his remarks, Mr. Rawley noted that Mr. Luther has served on City Council since 2000. Mr. Luther has been a successful businessman for the last 46 years. Mr. Rawley enumerated Mr. Luther's participation in many civic and professional organizations over the years. As such, Mr. Rawley nominated T. David Luther as Vice-Mayor for the next two years.

There were no further nominations for Vice-Mayor and the nominations were closed.

Council Members voting for Mr. Luther were Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley, Saunders, Shanks, and Tomer (9).

T. David Luther was elected Vice-Mayor for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2012.

#### **DRAWING FOR COUNCIL SEATING**

The last item of business conducted by Ms. Crane was the drawing for Council Seating. Following the drawing, Mayor Saunders, Vice-Mayor Luther and Members of Council assumed their respective seats.

Mayor Saunders expressed appreciation to Council Members for their votes allowing him to remain as Mayor. He said he did not take the vote lightly. It is an honor to serve with you and an honor to serve the City. The unanimous vote today for Mayor and Vice-Mayor speaks volumes about this Council and this City. We are united and we will stay that way. Mayor Saunders stated he was humbled by this honor and acknowledged the presence of his wife, Sandy. He thanked her for her support over the years.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Joe King congratulated Mayor Saunders and Vice-Mayor Luther along with the recently elected Council Members. Mr. King pledged that the City staff is part of the team and would continue to work in concert with the Council. He said the City has a tremendous team that would play its positions and play them well.

City Attorney Clarke Whitfield offered congratulations to Mayor Saunders, Vice-Mayor Luther, and newly elected Council Members. Mr. Whitfield offered his assistance in any way necessary.

Finance Director Barbara Dameron congratulated everyone and stated it will be a pleasure working with everyone.

Mayor Saunders called attention to a portrait of former Mayor and Council Member Ruby Archie that was placed next to the Mayor's desk. He asked that everyone continue to remember the Archie family during this difficult time. Mrs. Archie passed away on June 26.

### **ROLL CALL**

Each Council Member offered condolences to the family of former Mayor and Council Member Ruby Batts Archie. They commented on the funeral services at Loyal Baptist Church that was held on Wednesday, June 30 and thanked the family for sharing Mrs. Archie with us.

Each Council Member was given the opportunity to offer congratulations to Mayor Saunders, Vice-Mayor Luther and new members of the team, John Gilstrap and Alonzo Jones and Adam Tomer and Dr. Miller on their re-election to Council.

Rev. Campbell said the City had a team with the heart to move Danville forward.

Mr. Gilstrap acknowledged the presence of his wife, Janice, and stated his appreciation to her for supporting him in this effort. He said he was excited and ready to go to work. He thanked the citizens of Danville for the opportunity to serve them in a different capacity.

Mr. Jones recalled that he received a phone call from Mrs. Archie when he had decided to offer for City Council. Her advice was to work cohesively with the City leadership team just as he had while serving as a school board member. Mr. Jones said he planned to do just that and thanked the citizens for giving him the opportunity to serve them.

Vice-Mayor Luther said that although the Council Members disagreed at times, they managed to stick together as a team. Mr. Luther said his new seat must be the magic one since former Vice-Mayor Wayne Oakes had sat there during his tenure. He said there were challenging times ahead, but the City is headed in the right direction.

Dr. Miller acknowledged the presence of his wife Karen and offered congratulations to Mayor Saunders and Vice-Mayor Luther and newly elected Council Members. Dr. Miller said he felt inferior sitting in Ruby Archie's seat and that it should have been retired, but he would do the best he could.

Mr. Rawley stated he was glad Sherman Saunders would be serving another two years. He said the Mayor had really grown in his role as Mayor. He said Ruby Archie held high expectations for everyone and we are all better because of it. He thanked former Vice-Mayor Wayne Oakes for his years of service. Mr. Oakes and his wife Nancy were in attendance. Mr. Rawley noted the presence of his wife, Debbie.

Mr. Shanks said that as the City emerges from the recession, things looked exciting for the City of Danville. He said the City has a good leadership team and the Council would work hard to bring Danville out of the recession and transition.

Mr. Tomer thanked citizens for giving him the opportunity to serve again. He said he was confident the City's management team would make fantastic things happen and may God bless the citizens of Danville.

Mayor Saunders said Council believes that teamwork is the best approach for the City. He said the right people were in place to continue the City's progress. We have the opportunity to make things better. The Council does not focus on all its problems. The focus is on what could be done about them. The City is making progress. The past is remembered only to learn from it. Danville's citizens are our focus. They elected us to serve them. We are the City Manager's eyes and ears and he will carry out what we ask him to do. Crime reduction will continue to be a priority and the City will move forward. We care about the people who live here and we believe in good customer service. We know there are no hidden agendas. We all have ideas. Each person was elected for his individuality and that's a good thing. We may not always agree and in fact, I hope we do not. When two people see everything the same way, one of them is unnecessary because nothing new is learned. We will continue to strive to bring more jobs to the City. Mayor Saunders encouraged everyone 60 years old and younger to upgrade job skills. We have an opportunity to make things better and we are working to improve unemployment. We know with citizens' support, it can be done. We make the best decisions that we can in the best interest of our citizens.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:35 P.M.

APPROVED:

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CLERK