

On Monday, January 4, 2016, at 10:03 a.m., the Dayton City Commission met in special session in the Commission Chambers of City Hall for the installation ceremonies for Commissioner Joseph and Commissioner-Elect Shaw. Mayor Whaley made welcoming remarks.

INVOCATION

Mayor Whaley called on the Reverend Father Francis Tandoh, Pastor of St. Mary, St. Augustine, and St. Benedict the Moor Parishes, to give the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Whaley led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and Mayor Whaley, Commissioners Lovelace, Williams, Joseph and Mims were present. The Clerk of Commission, Ms. Rashella Lavender, and the Interim City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, were also present.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Mayor Whaley asked the Clerk of Commission, Ms. Lavender, what is the nature and order of business for this meeting.

Ms. Lavender said, "Your Honor, under Section 39 of the Charter of the City of Dayton, it is provided that a Special Meeting be held to review the results of a Regular Municipal Election and that the Commission shall meet, at which time the newly elected Commissioner shall assume the duties of the office." "Section 40 of the Charter further provides that the City Commission shall be judge of the election and qualification of its members."

Mayor Whaley asked Ms. Lavender if she has a copy of the Certificates of Election for the persons who will assume office today.

Ms. Lavender said, "Yes, Your Honor, I do. The Certificates from the Montgomery County Board of Elections affirm that Mathew Joseph and Christopher Shaw have been elected to the Office of Commissioner; for terms ending January 6, 2020." At this time, I will present the certificates for review.

Following review of the Certificates of Election by the members of the City Commission, the Mayor said, "The Commission is satisfied that the persons, as announced by Ms. Lavender, have been duly elected and do qualify for the offices indicated."

Ms. Lavender said, "Being that the Commission is satisfied with the presentation of the certificates, a record of the certificates will be submitted accordingly."

Mayor Whaley invited Commissioner Lovelace to have final remarks.

Commissioner Lovelace said there will be challenges but he believes this Commission is ready to meet those challenges.

Mayor Whaley thanked Commissioner Lovelace for his dedicated service to the citizens of Dayton, Ohio.

Mayor Whaley said, "Ms. Lavender, are we ready to proceed with the administering of the Oaths?"

Ms. Lavender said, "Yes. The first Oath will be administered to Commissioner Mathew Joseph. I am advised that Commissioner Joseph wishes his Oath to be administered by his brother, Mr. Russell Joseph, and accompanied by Mrs. Irena Joseph (wife), Mr. Niko Joseph (son), and Ms. Sara Joseph, (daughter)." The Oath was given and they returned to their seats.

Ms. Lavender said, "The second Oath will be administered to Commissioner-Elect Christopher L. Shaw. I am advised that Commissioner-Elect Shaw wishes his Oath to be administered by U.S. Congresswoman, of the Ohio 3rd District, The Honorable Joyce Beatty, and accompanied by Mrs. Debbie Shaw (wife) and Ms. Gabrielle Shaw (daughter)." The Oath was given and they returned to their seats.

Commissioner Lovelace exited the dias and Commissioner Shaw took his seat on the dias.

Ms. Lavender said, “Mayor Whaley, the Dayton City Commission is now officially installed. Congratulations to Commissioner Joseph and Commissioner Shaw.”

Mayor Whaley recognized the attending elected officials and dignitaries: U.S. Congresswoman Joyce Beatty, Former City Commissioner Chuck Curran, Montgomery County Commissioner Judy Dodge, Montgomery County Commissioner Dan Foley, Montgomery County Recorder Willis Blackshear, Clerk of Municipal Court Mark Owens, Montgomery County Clerk of Courts Greg Brush, Montgomery County Treasurer Carolyn Rice, Montgomery County Auditor Karl Keith, Montgomery County Engineer Paul Gruner, Former City Manager Tim Riordan and Dr. Robert Walker, Member of Dayton City School Board.

CONGRESSWOMAN JOYCE BEATTY

Mayor Whaley invited the Honorable Joyce Beatty, U.S Congresswomen, Ohio 3rd District, to the podium for remarks.

Congresswoman Beatty congratulated Commissioner Joseph and Commissioner Shaw. She said it was an honor to be home in Dayton, Ohio. She encouraged the Commissioners to stay true to their oath of office and community. She encouraged all citizens to help elected officials as well.

Mayor Whaley thanked Congresswoman for her remarks and leadership.

COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSION

Mayor Whaley called upon members of the City Commission to make their comments.

Commissioner Joseph

“Good morning! Thank you for coming today. We’re honored that you’ve taken the time to be here today. After all the hard times we’ve been through and are just coming out of, I’m really happy to be part of the team moving the recovery forward, and building a new and better Dayton! I want to take a minute to look back at these last four years, talk about what I see happening in the next four years, and end with some thank-yous.”

A Look Back

“First, I have to thank my excellent Commission team, The Mayor and Commissioners here; it is a real privilege and honor to serve on the Commission with these folks. I’ve been around politics a little bit. I was a staffer before I was elected and I’ve seen a lot. To be privileged and able to serve with people like this who are very skilled at what they do, who care about the City they love, it is a real honor. So, I want to thank you for all of your efforts. It’s been a pleasure working with you all, and Commissioner, I’m looking forward to working with you too.

We have continued recovery from manufacturing disinvestment, recession, and now the state taking resources away. We are doing just fine in spite of all the challenges. We have citizens who are hardheaded and motivated, committed to making their neighborhoods better, and following up with action in cooperation with the city and others.

We have excellent partner institutions like UD, WSU, Sinclair, the hospitals, Care Source, the Coalition, the Partnership and many others who are building a framework for growth for the whole region.

We have many new businesses and new jobs coming to the city. In addition, new and growing partnerships with the Air Force Base, and with other leaders in technology, a resurgence in manufacturing, police doing more with less, and still able to help the City increase our outreach to our citizens. We have more vital outreach work that is being done by excellent, effective city organizations like the Human Relations Council, the Mediation Center and Welcome Dayton, one of my favorites.

We have recovering neighborhoods, with fewer vacant and dilapidated houses, though there is still a lot to knock down.

We have worked to make the city a good employer, to be a good example of treating our people right.

We have contributed to the ongoing urgent conversation about education.

People are talking both about the existing difficulties and about the spark of new hope that the Mayor and her team have brought over the last year to kids all over the city.

We have a steadily increasing population, the first sustained increase since the 60s!

There is still a lot of work to do, but I am more optimistic now than I ever have been that we are well on the way to building a new, re-imagined and better Dayton, using the best parts of our history, and bringing in new energy and new solutions where needed.”

The Next Four Years

“So, over the next four years we will build on what we have done as a team. I predict a steady improvement in the number and quality of jobs available to our residents, a continuing increase in new small businesses, an improvement in the customer service we provide to our residents, and a continuing of the explosion of new housing options in the city.

To address the concerns I heard on the campaign trail this year, we will continue to find funding for demolition. We will push as hard as we can to support our entrepreneurs and businesses to promote hiring of our citizens.

We will continue to find ways to support our schools in providing our kids a solid education. And I will work with my colleagues to continue and increase the existing and inclusive dialog between our citizens, government, and each other, both as a means to address and resolve serious and potentially divisive concerns, but also as an effective way to build a welcoming, optimistic, growing and successful city for us and our kids.”

Thank you

“Thanks to my Campaign Manager Sam Braun, Area Campaign Coordinator Russ Joseph, Mayor and Commission Colleagues and congratulations to my running mate Chris Shaw.

To Commissioner Lovelace, who I have had the absolute pleasure of sitting next to for 12 years and learning from; as I told him just a moment before he sat down, Commissioner Lovelace did things the right way. He attacked problems the right way and he fought a good fight. Commissioner, it has been a real pleasure to serve with you. To former City Manager Tim Riordan, who was essential in the Herculean, but successful, effort we undertook to reinvent the city under the crushing pressure of the Great Recession.

Our County Chairman Mark Owens and other elected officials.

Thank you to Sr. Maria Stacy, both for offering the prayer today, and for her dedication and hard work with and on behalf of some of our residents who need it the most.

To my campaign team and supporters, including many good folks like Ms. Pat Rickman, Marlon Shackelford, Tommy Owens, and others, thank you for the countless hours of help and support and good advice.

All the many volunteers who showed up in the cold in January to gather signatures, who spent evenings on the phone reminding people to vote, who joined me for church services across the city on Sunday mornings, and who walked with me through our neighborhoods talking to residents about the kind of city they want to live in- thank you for your time and dedication.

To the staff of the City Commission office, especially Kery Gray and my assistants Hilary Browning and Bryan Stewart, who did a great job in helping me get city business done, and done well during this whole busy year.

To Ms. Dickstein and the whole City staff, who have made my successes as a Commissioner possible with their hard work and dedication over the years.

To Chris Morrison, and to Greg Nance and all my colleagues at my job on base and at Serco, thank you for your help, and for making me a better leader.

To my friends in labor who strongly supported me this year and have done so throughout my political career.

Thank you to my Mom and Dad, who taught me leadership and responsibility and love and mercy by their example, and who are my biggest fans. I am what I am because of you. Whatever good I accomplish is just another line in the long list of accomplishments and good works you two have already produced, both yourselves and through Brad, Russ, and I.

To my brother Russ and sister-in-law Katie, my campaign treasurer, and my nephew Eli, who all worked very hard this year stuffing envelopes and doing all the many things that needed to get done to run a good campaign.

To my wife Irena and our kids Niko and Sara, who have enthusiastically supported me, offered good advice, kept me going, sacrificed and put up with inconvenience, in order for me to serve the people of Dayton, thank you. I am

lucky to have such an understanding family who make this kind of service possible for me. There's nothing as nice -and rejuvenating- as this pair of kids running to meet me at the door at the end of a long day! I love you guys.

And one final, important thank you; thank you to the citizens of Dayton who've given me another term in office. I'm humbled and honored that I received such overwhelming support. And I promise you that I will return your confidence with my best effort, my most creative ideas, my most effective oversight, my best good humor, and my most patient mercy in doing the work you've given me to do, to make Dayton an even better place to live and work, a hometown that we can be proud of."

Commissioner Shaw

"First of all I have to thank God for this blessing. Any situation can be a blessing or a curse—I look upward for assistance to ensure that I make this opportunity to serve a blessing for those who have given it to me.

I'd like to thank my wife Debbie, who encouraged me to run for City Commission. She is my number one supporter and head cheerleader. She serves as my Deputy campaign treasurer, and keeps the house and family on track. Thanks also to my daughter, Gabrielle. She is at a stage where a dad is almost automatically embarrassing. Now I will be embarrassing to her in a more public way. I'll apologize in advance; unlike Sasha and Malia, you don't get a new dog.

I appreciate my family and friends for their support of me in taking on this new endeavor. My brother Joey faithfully took me around to campaign events. My father, Joe Shaw, made it possible for me to do the work that I needed to do on the campaign trail, and still operate the business. Without them, none of this would have been possible.

My mom, Marcia, is not with us physically, but she is here in spirit and she is here through her best friend, the woman I call Aunt Joyce, and who we all call Congresswoman Joyce Beatty. I am so very grateful that you could be with us all for this special moment.

I have to thank the citizens of the city of Dayton for voting for me, and entrusting me with this very important responsibility as we move forward to make the lives of our fellow citizens better.

I would like to thank all of my supporters for helping me win the election, and I will continue to ask for your help and guidance as we move the city forward. This has been a very humbling experience for me.

There is not enough time to individually thank everyone who was a part of this success; however, I would like to thank my colleagues at the Greater Dayton Chamber of Commerce and others in the business community for their support, guidance and encouragement.

I would also like to recognize my friends in organized labor, for their contributions, support, and shoe leather – going out to knock on doors and make phone calls.

My service is grounded in a desire to make our neighborhoods vibrant, healthy, and safe. Neighborhood leaders like Pat Rickman and David Greer, and neighborhood organizations played a strong role in helping me to appreciate the needs of individual neighborhoods, and I am counting on them to continue to give me feedback and guidance on how to best serve our neighborhoods.

There have been civic and community organizations that helped me along the way, offering support and encouragement. All of my life, members of The Links, Inc. has been there for me, propping me up and pushing me forward. The Dayton Unit of the NAACP and the work that we have done together strengthened my understanding and appreciation for community service and how to help people. President Forward gave me the opportunity to serve as Economic Development Chair, which over the past 10 years has informed my decisions related to ensuring economic growth for all of the citizens within our community, especially those that have been marginalized and underrepresented.

There are a few individuals that require special mention. Commissioner Dean Lovelace, whose legacy of service has been such an inspiration to me, was gracious enough to endorse me for His seat. Mayor Whaley, and the current members of the City Commission who felt that I was the right person for the job, gave me the confidence to see this election through.

Willis Blackshear, Fred Strahorn, Clay Dixon, John R. Smith, Al Freeman and many others have my back, give me insight, and helped me work through the election process.

Michelle Roberts and Gen Murphy in particular deserve my heartfelt thanks, along with the rest of my campaign staff who were constantly helping me, pushing me, and giving me the encouragement and support that ultimately led to victory. For that I will be forever grateful.

Through my time growing up and living in Dayton, through my work with the business community and through the campaign, I saw and heard that economic development, workforce development, and wealth creation are critical issues for moving the residents of Dayton and the region forward.

From before the time of the Wright Brothers and Paul Laurence Dunbar and since, Dayton has had an important role in the national economy. We need to continue to have that influence and have the newest parts of the economy have a presence in this region. As well as that national role, we need a vibrant local economy that supports pop-ups and start-ups that can grow into larger businesses, neighborhood businesses that meet the needs of our residents, and local businesses that highlight the unique flavor of Dayton.

The skills the employees of these businesses need will evolve constantly. Just as the pace of change in technology is getting faster and faster, the pace of change in the workforce will get faster and faster. Students need to go to school ready to learn, graduates need to be ready to keep learning, and workers will need to refresh and expand their skills throughout their working careers. Employers will have to be ready to keep investing in the community so their current and future workforce has the new skills that are needed.

Good jobs that represent the variety of skills in the community, long term opportunities to have not just jobs but careers and vocations, and a partnership between employers and employees will create a community that has a future. We need everyone to be able to have homes, raise families, put down roots, and get involved in neighborhoods and in the diverse cultural life of the community. This is how we can develop the financial and social wealth that is the hallmark of a vibrant city.

Economic development, workforce development, wealth creation are three of the essential elements to move the people of Dayton and the entire region forward. They have been the foci that brought me to this point in time and they will be my foci as we all go forward together.

This is the beginning; there is a lot of work to do. I am so excited about getting to work on behalf of all of the residents of the City of Dayton.

Thank You All!!”

Commissioner Mims

Commissioner Mims congratulated his new and re-elected colleagues.

He congratulated Commissioner Lovelace on his leadership and said he was leaving large footprints to fill.

Commissioner Mims said Commissioner Lovelace is a true public servant.

Commissioner Mims highlighted the growth of the City of Dayton over the past two years. He said in that time Dayton has added 2000 citizens. He said the City of Dayton must be doing something right.

Commissioner Williams

Commissioner Williams congratulated Commissioner Joseph and highlighted his tremendous work in the City of Dayton. He said he is a strong advocate for the City of Dayton and the citizens of Dayton chose well.

Commissioner Williams said Commissioner Lovelace is a legendary Commissioner and Daytonian and that it was his pleasure to serve along with him these past years.

Commissioner Williams told Commissioner Shaw he is replacing a legendary Commissioner but he has no worries about his election. He encouraged Commissioner Shaw to pave his own way. He said he looks forward to working with him.

Mayor Whaley

Mayor Whaley said it was pleasure to hear all of the encouraging words today. She said she believes this will be one of the best elected bodies and teams in this region. Mayor Whaley said there is a lot of work to do and a lot ground to cover, in order for our community to grow and thrive.

Mayor Whaley thanked organized labor and the faith community for their attendance. She asked for everyone's help and prayers as they continue championing for the City of Dayton. She thanked everyone for helping them move forward.

Mayor Whaley said, “Ms. Lavender is there any further order of business to come before this body?”

Ms. Lavender responded that there was none.

Mayor Whaley thanked those in attendance and called on the Sister Maria Stacey, Director, Dayton Catholic Hispanic Ministry, for the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Mayor Nan Whaley

Attest: _____
Clerk of Commission