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Upper Darby Township Council  
Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:30pm

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**Re-Organization Meeting Minutes  
Upper Darby Township Council  
Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:30pm  
Upper Darby Township Municipal Building  
100 Garrett Road, Upper Darby, PA 19082**

\*\*\*The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on [youtube.com/upperdarby.org](https://youtube.com/upperdarby.org)\*\*\*

**This is a Re-Organization meeting of Upper Darby Township Council for Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. local time in the Township Meeting Room #202 at the Upper Darby Township Municipal Building, 100 Garrett Road, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania**

**Call to colors – Upper Darby Marine Corps League Color Guard  
Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America  
Moment of silence  
Retire the colors**

**Call of the Meeting**

Upper Darby Township Council announces there will be a Re-Organization Meeting on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. local time in the Township Meeting Room #202 at the Upper Darby Township Municipal Building, 100 Garrett Road, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania

**Invocation**

Pastor Arthur Tung, Coordinator, Upper Darby-Drexel Hill Ministerium, Temporary Pastor Beverly Hills United Presbyterian & Pastor St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**Roll Call**

Hafiz Tunis Jr., Michelle Billups, Matt Silva, Danyelle Blackwell, Brian K. Burke, Sheikh Siddique, Lisa Faraglia, Laura A. Wentz

**Elected Officials**

Meaghan R. Wagner, Brian Andruszko, Andrew Hayman, Hafiz Tunis Jr., David Haman

**Present at the Meeting**

Barbarann Keffer, Mayor  
Vincent A. Rongione, CAO  
Alison Dobbins, Deputy CAO  
Chief Municipal Clerk, Alexis Cicchitti  
Sergeant of Arms, Officer Anthony Bateman  
Notary, Essentia Isles  
Pastor Arthur Tung  
Pastor Nathaniel Goodson

## **Distinguished Guests**

Honorable Carolyn H. Nichols, Judge of Pennsylvania Superior Court  
Honorable Kevin F. Kelly, President Judge, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas  
Honorable G. Michael Green, Judge, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas  
Honorable Christopher R. Mattox, Judge, Delaware County Magisterial District Court  
Honorable Tinu Moss, Judge, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas  
Former 1st District Councilman Donald P. Bonnett  
Former 3rd District Councilman Thomas P. Wagner  
Former 5th District Councilman Robert S. Gwin Jr.

## **Upper Darby Marine Corps League Color Guard #884**

James Cooke  
John Morris  
Chuck Krautheim  
William Todd II  
Mike Schwindt  
Thomas Weaver

## **Rules for Meeting Decorum**

**“Upper Darby Township Council and Residents will maintain professional respect for each other. Council encourages free speech, however, civility is required which would prohibit threats, profanity, scandalous, impertinent and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting”**

## **Election of temporary Secretary & President**

**Per the Home Rule Charter, the temporary Secretary is listed as the Chief Municipal Clerk**

### **Motion to nominate Alexis Cicchitti for Temporary Secretary**

Moved: Matt Silva  
Second: Michelle Billups

There were no other nominations.

### **Motion to close nominations:**

Moved: Hafiz Tunis Jr.  
Second: Brian Burke

Ms. Cicchitti accepted the nomination. A Roll Call vote was taken. All in favor. Alexis Cicchitti is Temporary Secretary.

## **Nominations for Temporary President**

Danyelle Blackwell made a Motion to nominate Hafiz Tunis Jr. for Temporary President.  
Michelle Billups seconded the Motion.

Matt Silva made a Motion to nominate Danyelle Blackwell for Temporary President.

Brian Burke seconded the Motion.

There were no other nominations.

**Motion to close Nominations**

Moved: Brian K. Burke

Second: Lisa Faraglia

Moved and seconded. All in favor. Motion to close nominations approved.

Hafiz Tunis Jr. respectfully declined the nomination.

Danyelle Blackwell accepted the nomination.

A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Danyelle Blackwell is Temporary President.

Laura Wentz thanked everyone for allowing her to be Council President for the last two years.

**Home Rule Charter: Reading & Explanation Solicitor Courtney Richardson, Esq.**

**Administration of Oath of Office:**

**Council at Large:** Laura A. Wentz, Oath administered by the Honorable Carolyn H. Nichols, Judge of Pennsylvania Superior Court

**Council at Large:** Matt Silva, Oath administered by the Honorable Carolyn H. Nichols, Judge of Pennsylvania Superior Court

**1st District Council:** Meaghan R. Wagner, Oath administered by the Honorable Kevin F. Kelly, President Judge, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas

**3rd District Council:** Brian Andruszko, Oath administered by the Honorable G. Michael Green, Judge, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas

**5<sup>th</sup> District Council:** Andrew Hayman, Oath administered by the Honorable Christopher R. Mattox, Esquire, Judge, Delaware County Magisterial District Court

**7th District Council:** Hafiz Tunis Jr., Oath administered by the Honorable Tinu Moss, Judge, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas

**Treasurer:** David Haman, Oath administered by the Honorable Carolyn H. Nichols, Judge, Pennsylvania Superior Court

**Election of Council Officers**

**President of Council**

Laura Wentz nominated Brian K. Burke for President of Council

Matt Silva seconded the nomination.

Brian K. Burke accepted the nomination.

Michelle Billups nominated Hafiz Tunis Jr. for President of Council

Andrew Hayman seconded the nomination  
Hafiz Tunis Jr. accepted the nomination.

No other nominations for President of Council

**Motion to close nominations:**

Moved: Laura Wentz  
Second: Lisa Faraglia

Moved and seconded. The nominations were closed.

**A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Brian Burke for President of Council**

In favor: Silva, Burke, Faraglia, Wagner, Andruszko, Wentz  
Opposed: Tunis, Billups, Blackwell, Hayman, Siddique  
6 in favor, 5 opposed. Brian Burke is President of Council.

**Vice President of Council**

Hafiz Tunis Jr. nominated Danyelle Blackwell for Vice-President of Council  
Michelle Billups seconded the nomination  
Danyelle Blackwell accepted the nomination

Matt Silva nominated Laura Wentz for Vice-President of Council.  
Brian Burke seconded the nomination  
Laura Wentz accepted the nomination

No other nominations for Vice President of Council

**Motion to close nominations:**

Moved: Brian Burke  
Second: Lisa Faraglia  
Moved and seconded. The nominations were closed.

**A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Danyelle Blackwell for Vice-President of Council**

In favor: Tunis, Billups, Blackwell, Hayman, Siddique  
Opposed: Silva, Burke, Faraglia, Wagner, Andruszko, Wentz

5 in favor, 6 opposed

**A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Laura Wentz Vice-President of Council**

**In favor:** Silva, Burke, Faraglia, Wagner, Andruszko, Wentz  
**Opposed:** Tunis, Billups, Blackwell, Hayman, Siddique

6 in favor, 5 opposed. Laura Wentz is Vice-President of Council.

**Secretary of Council**

Hafiz Tunis Jr. nominated Michelle Billups Secretary of Council

Laura Wentz seconded  
Michelle Billups accepted the nomination  
No other nominations for Vice President of Council

**Motion to close nominations:**

Moved: Brian Burke  
Second: Matt Silva  
Moved and seconded. The nominations were closed.

**A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Michelle Billups for Secretary of Council**

**All in favor. Michelle Billups is Secretary of Council.**

**Administration of Oath of newly elected Council Officers by the Honorable Christopher R. Mattox,  
Esquire, Judge of Delaware County Magisterial District Court**

**Council President, Brian K. Burke**

Council President, Brian K. Burke thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated that the slogan "A World In One Place" is a catchy slogan but everyone here was elected by the residents and that everyone is here to work for the residents. He added "It's nice to be nice."

**Benediction**

Reverend Nathaniel Goodson, Pastor, Prayer Chapel Church of God in Christ

**Adjournment**

**Moved: Lisa Faraglia  
Second: Hafiz Tunis Jr.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Alexis Cicchitti*

Alexis Cicchitti

Chief Municipal Clerk

\*\*\*The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on [youtube.com/upperdarby.org](https://youtube.com/upperdarby.org)\*\*\*

## **Upper Darby Home Rule Charter**

The Upper Darby Home Rule Charter was Adopted in 1974 and Effective in 1976. Upper Darby is the 6<sup>th</sup> Largest Municipality in Pennsylvania. The Home Rule Charter established the governing of the Township with an Elected Mayor and Council of 11 Members, 7 District Council Members & 4 At Large Members.

Here is a brief overview of two relevant sections of the Upper Darby Township Home Rule Charter:

### **Section 310. Organization of Township Council**

The Township Council shall organize at 7:30 p.m. on the first (1st) Monday of January of each year following the municipal election by electing one of their number as President and one of their number as Vice President. If the first Monday is a legal holiday, the meeting shall be held on the first day following.

The Council may organize in any manner it deems useful to the exercise of its responsibilities and powers provided that such organization is not inconsistent with this Charter or law.

### **Section 304: Qualifications For Member of Council:**

Council members shall be citizens of the United States and qualified electors of their district, or of the Township if they are Council members-at-large. District Council members shall have been residents of their respective districts for at least one (1) year preceding the date on which they shall assume office and shall remain residents of their districts throughout their term of office. Council members-at-large shall have been residents of the Township for at least one (1) year preceding the date on which they shall assume office and shall remain residents of the Township throughout their term of office.