

**City of Niagara
City Council Re-Organizational Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Stern. Present: Mayor Stern, Alderman Lantagne, Moreau, Steeno and Kuchinski. Absent: Alderman Towns and Brown. Also present: Administrator Novak, Police Chief Lamoreaux and David Rock.

The first order of business was to elect a Council President. A motion was made by Alderman Steeno and seconded by Alderman Moreau to nominate Alderman Kuchinski as Council President. There being no other nominations, a motion was made by Alderman Steeno and seconded by Alderman Moreau to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Larry Kuchinski as Council President. Motion carried unanimously.

The next order of business was to elect an Alderman member of the Plan Commission. A motion was made by Alderman Steeno and seconded by Alderman Moreau to appoint Alderman Kuchinski as the Alderman member of the Plan Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

The next order of business was to address the Mayoral Committee Appointments for the 2008 – 2009 term. Mayor Stern indicated by letter that he desired to keep all committee appointments the same as the previous year. He did note that Alderman Kuchinski had been a citizen member of the Plan Commission, however his three-year term has expired, therefore there is a vacancy for a Citizen appointment to the Plan Commission.

During discussion, Alderman Steeno indicated that currently the committee assignments are not balanced. It is his belief that all Aldermen should serve equally on Committees. Currently, some aldermen have four and five Committee appointments and others have only one. Alderman Kuchinski indicated that he and Alderman Steeno are only on one standing committee each, while Alderman Brown and Alderman Towns have four and five committee appointments. It is his belief that the committee responsibility should be balanced for all Aldermen. During discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Lantagne to amend the committee appointments to provide that Alderman Steeno replace Alderman Towns on the Public Safety Committee. Mayor Stern indicated that he is amenable to this proposal. A motion was then made by Alderman Steeno and seconded by Alderman Kuchinski to reject the Mayoral appointments as presented. Motion failed 2 – 2 with Aldermen Steeno and Kuchinski voting aye and Aldermen Moreau and Lantagne voting no on the motion to deny. In light of this, Mayor Stern indicated that he would be willing to making an additional change. Mayor Stern suggested that Alderman Towns replace Alderman Brown on the Finance and Administration Committee. A motion was then made by Alderman Lantagne and seconded by Alderman Moreau to accept the Mayoral appointments as amended which provides that Alderman Towns will replace Alderman Brown on the Finance and Administration Committee and Alderman Steeno will replace Alderman Towns on the Public Safety Committee. This motion passed 3 – 2

with Mayor Stern breaking the tie vote in favor of the motion. That is, Alderman Steeno and Kuchinski voted to deny the acceptance and Alderman Moreau and Alderman Lantagne voted to approve the motion. Mayor Stern voted to approve the motion.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Kuchinski and seconded by Alderman Lantagne to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.