

On Monday, January 2, 2018, at 10:02 a.m., the Dayton City Commission met in special session at the Dayton Convention Center located at 22 E. Fifth Street, for the installation ceremonies for Mayor Nan Whaley, Commissioners Joey D. Williams and Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr. Mayor Whaley made welcoming remarks.

INVOCATION

The Mayor Whaley called on the Reverend Gerald A. Cooper, Pastor of Wayman A.M.E. Church, 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 Williams, Joseph, Mims and Shaw were present. The Clerk of Commission, Ms. Rashella Lavender, and the City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, were also present.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

After roll call, Mayor Whaley asked the Clerk, “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 said, “Ms. Lavender, do you have 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 Nan Whaley, Joey D. Williams and Jeffery J. Mims, Jr. have been elected to the Office of the Mayor and Commissioner; for terms ending January 3, 2022.” 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 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 Mayor Nan Whaley. I am advised that Mayor Whaley wishes her Oath to be administered by her Mother, Mrs. Ann Whaley, and accompanied by her Spouse, Mr. Sam Braun, Father, Mr. Joe Whaley, Brother, Mr. David Whaley and Nephew, Mr. Teddy Whaley. The Oath was given and they returned to their seats.

Ms. Lavender said, “The second Oath will be administered to Commissioner Joey D. Williams. I am advised that Commissioner Williams wishes his Oath to be administered by his Pastor, Reverend Gerald A. Cooper, Wayman A.M.E Church, and accompanied by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Jo Helen Williams, Son, Mr. Max Williams, Sister and Brother-in-Law, Mr. and Mrs. Renaldo O’Neal, and Uncle and Aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer and Priscilla Johnson. The Oath was given and they returned to their seats.

Ms. Lavender said, “The third Oath will be administered to Commissioner Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr. I am advised that Commissioner Mims wishes his Oath to be administered by his Pastor, the Reverend Renard D. Allen, Jr., St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church and accompanied by his Spouse, Mrs. Toni Mims, Daughter, Ms. LaDawn Mims, Daughter-in-Law, Ms. Tierra Painter, Granddaughter, Ms. Chase Morrow, Grandson, Mr. Andre Painter, Granddaughter, Ms. Kalynn Stovall, and Friends, Mr. Richard Clay Dixon, and Ms. Sharon Hunter. The Oath was given and they returned to their seats.

Ms. Lavender said, “Mayor Whaley, the Dayton City Commission is now officially installed. Congratulations to you Mayor Whaley, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Mims.

COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSION

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

Commissioner Williams

Commissioner Williams thanked God for blessing him. He thanked his family, volunteers, fraternity, and the employees of the City of Dayton. He thanked his challengers which he said keeps them on the right track. Commissioner Williams said he is proud of this commission and the many accomplishments they have had.

Commissioner Mims

Commissioner Mims thanked his team, family, voters, opposition, employees and staff.

Commissioner Mims said he is proud of the success of this commission over the past four years. He said they were able to pass a tax increase which hadn’t been done in 34 years. He said the increase will help increase fire and police protection. It will help demolish blight in our community, and help our preschoolers succeed.

Commissioner Mims said our region in number one if job growth and is the 2017 *All American City*. He said his number one achievement has been the Men of Color Initiative. Which is responsible for making sure every citizen benefits and receive the attention and support they need.

Mayor Whaley

“Good morning.

Members of the Dayton City Commission, City Manager Dickstein, distinguished guests, family and friends: A new granite monument was unveiled in downtown Dayton last November. It stands in Cooper Park next to the beautiful new downtown branch of the Dayton Metro Library. Former Dayton city manager Tim Riordan spearheaded the effort to design, finance and complete this sculpture, known as “The Common Good.” The monument is a tribute to the spirit of men and women who have dedicated their lives to public service.

There are a number of quotes that are carved into the granite of this new monument, and my favorite is from former President Lyndon Johnson.

“When the burdens of the presidency seem unusually heavy,” President Johnson said, “I always remind myself it could be worse. I could be a mayor.”

Serving as Mayor can be tremendously challenging. It is difficult, time-consuming and stressful. After four years in this position, I know it comes with great demands and great responsibilities, and I know my colleagues and I are expected to deliver results everyday on so many fronts.

Yet, this morning as I begin my second term as Mayor of this great city, I remain both honored and humbled. What an incredible privilege it is to serve the people of Dayton, and I am so grateful to have this opportunity.

I, also, am grateful to be sworn in by my mother. It makes this morning’s ceremony especially meaningful for me and my family.

Those who know me well know that my mom is the most influential role model in my life. Mom was a local elected official herself. She was elected clerk-treasurer in Mooresville, Indiana in 1987, the first Democrat to get elected to office in that part of Indiana in ten years. And, four years later she was re-elected when she ran unopposed.

In 1990, mom ran for Indiana State Auditor. Imagine that; a “Whaley Woman” running for statewide office! I was 14 years old during my mom’s statewide campaign. And when mom lost that election, I pretty much decided that I didn’t want to have anything to do with politics. I mean, who wants to be involved with something that rejects your mother, your role model?

But, mom taught me the value and the importance of public service. She taught me that you can’t make a difference just standing on the sidelines.

So, when I came to Ohio to study at the University of Dayton, mom encouraged me to get involved with the local Democratic Party. She and my dad taught me that elections have consequences and if you want to affect those outcomes you have to be involved.

When President Obama was asked who had had the greatest influence on his life, he said his mother, describing her as the person who had given him “a sense of confidence and a sense that I could do anything.”

I would not be where I am today or have the opportunities that I have if my mom had not pushed me to believe in myself and what I could do, as a person, as a woman, and as a leader. By her example we all should be motivated to give back to our community and strive to make a difference any way we can. She teaches us if we work hard and work together and stay true to our values, anything is possible. Thank you, Mom.

The past four years seem to have gone by so quickly. And in that short period of time, we have witnessed some dramatic achievements.

Four years ago, Dayton was still in the shadows of the great recession. The loss of major employers, falling property values, declining resources and infrastructure in disrepair made for a pretty dismal picture.

The outlook for our city is much different now. Slowly and steadily, we have seen our city clawing its way back, and I couldn't be prouder of the way the people of Dayton and its leaders, both in the public and private sectors, have stepped up to face our challenges.

There were a number of highlights for me during my first term. The response to one of my first acts as mayor – the call for our city to become a “City of Learners” – has been incredible. That we are able to offer every family in our city who has a 4-year-old the opportunity to send their child to a quality, affordable preschool is an amazing leap forward.

The passage of Issue 9 by the voters of Dayton has placed our city on solid financial ground, providing resources to make our neighborhoods and streets safer and better maintained.

We have seen our unemployment rate cut in half and more than \$250 million invested in some major capital projects.

We were the first in the state to provide paid parental leave for our city workers, providing support to families and helping to keep women in the workforce.

Dayton has been designated an *All Star City* for our progressive nondiscrimination policies, and our Welcome Dayton program is a model for other cities that are working to build more diverse and inviting communities. And, I was so proud to officiate over the first same-sex marriage in Ohio, just one hour and seven minutes after the Supreme Court's landmark decision.

We have accomplished so much and we have come so far. But, many of the same challenges and some new challenges still plague our community.

We continue to face the need for more good-paying, career-building jobs; we continue to face the need for better schools to prepare our children for the jobs of the future; and, we face the need to fight the ongoing opioid crisis both in terms of treatment and prevention. We have so much more to do and a long way to go.

One thing has been made very clear to me as I have travelled around the state of Ohio this past year. The problems and challenges we face every day are not unique to the city of Dayton. Many of the same issues we face are being confronted every day in every city and town in Ohio.

This provides us with great opportunities to forge new partnerships and new alliances with our neighbors and those who share our common concerns all across this state. The answers and the solutions to some of the issues we face won't all be found within our city limits. In the days ahead, let us look for new ways we can work together with other communities to address the critical issues that face our city and our state.

Today, we celebrate. I congratulate my colleagues who were sworn in to their new terms this morning, Commissioner Joey Williams and Commissioner Jeff Mims. Together with Commissioner Matt Joseph and Commissioner Chris Shaw, City Manager Dickstein and the entire city staff, I look forward to working with you to continue our efforts to move Dayton forward.

There is a quote from former secretary of state Condoleezza Rice carved into that monument that sits in Cooper Park that reads: “There's no greater challenge and there is no greater honor than to be in public service.”

To the people of Dayton I once again say thank you for this great honor. I pledge to you my very best efforts to rise to this challenge, to answer this call, and to work tirelessly to build a city we can all be proud to call home.

Thank you.”

Commissioner Joseph

Commissioner Joseph congratulated the inductees. He said this commission has many challenges to work on but the best is yet to come.

Commissioner Shaw

Commissioner Shaw congratulated the inductees. He said the Commission has accomplished many things and thanked the citizens of Dayton for keeping this team together.

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 Reverend Renard D. Allen, Jr. Pastor of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, for the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.