

Borough Council Vacancy – Ward 4

Under the terms of the Borough Charter, Council has thirty (30) days after the date of a vacancy to appoint a successor to the position. For this thirty-day period, it is Council's sole prerogative to appointment a qualified person to the position. A "qualified person" is defined in the Charter as:

1. registered voters of the Borough; and
2. shall have been residents continuously in their ward for at least one (1) year preceding their appointment; and
3. must remain continuous residents of their wards during their terms of office.

All three standards must be met to be, and to remain, qualified.

Should Council be unable to elect a person to fill the vacancy, the Mayor may vote on an appointment. Council has fifteen (15) additional days to deliberate and act on an appointment, with the Mayor involved (should she choose to).

Should Council, after forty-five (45) days, still not be in a position to fill the vacancy, the Court of Common Pleas, upon petition of any Member of Council or any five (5) registered voters of the Borough, shall make the interim appointment to fill the vacancy.

As the resignation of Mr. Norley will occur less than ninety (90) days in advance of the next scheduled primary, general, or municipal election, Council will appoint a qualified elector serve the until the first Monday in January 2018. The individual appointed by Council to fill the vacancy will serve in that position, as long as they remain qualified, until an elected successor takes office as a result of the November 2017 municipal election.

Following Council's action to fill the vacancy, there will be, under the terms of the Charter, an election to fill Mr. Norley's unexpired term for the Ward 4 seat. The Ward 4 Council seat will be on the November 2017 general/municipal election ballot for the privilege of serving the remainder (January 2020) of Mr. Norley's term. The person elected to represent Ward 4 because of the November 2017 municipal election vote will take office at the first regularly scheduled meeting of Council in January 2018. This person will be eligible, under the charter, to serve two full Council terms.