

On Monday, January 3, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., the Dayton City Commission met in special session at the Dayton Metro Library-Main Library for the installation ceremonies for Mayor-elect Mims, Commissioner Fairchild and Commissioner-Elect Turner-Sloss. Mayor Whaley made welcoming remarks.

INVOCATION

Mayor Whaley called on Pastor Renard Allen, Pastor of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, to give the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Sarah Miller led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and Mayor Whaley, Commissioners Joseph, Mims, Shaw, and Fairchild were present. The Clerk of Commission, Ms. Regina D. Blackshear, and the City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, were also present.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

After roll call, Mayor Whaley asked the Clerk, “Ms. Blackshear, what is the nature and order of business for this meeting?”

Ms. Blackshear 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. Blackshear, do you have a copy of the Certificates of Election for the persons who will assume office today?”

Ms. Blackshear said, “Yes, Your Honor, I do. The Certificates from the Montgomery County Board of Elections affirm that Jeffery J. Mims, Jr. Darryl Fairchild and Shenise Turner-Sloss have been elected to the Office of the Mayor and Commissioner; for terms ending January 5, 2026.” 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. Blackshear, have been duly elected and do qualify for the offices indicated.”

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

MAYOR WHALEY

Mayor Whaley stated that she is excited for the installment of the next Commission. Mayor Whaley thanked Mayor-elect Mims for his leadership in his various leadership positions. She congratulated Commissioner-elect Shenise Turner-Sloss on being the seventh woman elected to the Dayton City Commission. She also congratulated and thanked Commissioner Darryl Fairchild for his service to Dayton. Mayor Whaley thanked Commissioners Joseph and Shaw for their teamwork and dedication to the City Commission.

Mayor Whaley said, “Ms. Blackshear, are we ready to proceed with the administering of the Oaths?”

Ms. Blackshear said, “Yes. The first Oath will be administered to Mayor-Elect Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr. I am advised that Mayor-Elect Mims wishes his Oath to be administered by his grandchildren, Dillon Mims, Justin, Mims, Chase Marrow and Andre Painter and accompanied by wife, Mrs. Toni Mims, daughter, La Dawn Mims and son, Cory Mims. Would Mayor-Elect Mims, Mrs. Toni Mims, Mr. Cory Mims, Ms. La Dawn Mims, Miss Chase Marrow, Mr. Dillon Mims, Mr. Justin Mims and Mr. Andre Painter, please approach the podium for the Oath of Office.” The Oath is given and they return to their seats.

Mayor Mims took over presiding the meeting and former Mayor Whaley exited the dais.

Ms. Blackshear said, “The second Oath will be administered to Darryl Fairchild. I am advised that Commissioner Fairchild wishes his Oath to be administered by Mary Sue Gmeiner and accompanied by Kimberly Armentrout, (Spouse), and Maya Fairchild (daughter). Would Commissioner Fairchild, Kimberly Armentrout and Maya Fairchild, please approach the podium for the Oath of Office.” The Oath is given and they return to their seats.

Ms. Blackshear said, “The third Oath will be administered to Shenise Turner-Sloss. I am advised that Commissioner-Elect Turner-Sloss wishes her Oath to be administered by Pastor Damon Lynch III, New Prospect Baptist Church, and accompanied by Husband, Mr. Chad Sloss , Children, Bryce, Tristan, and Zoe', Mother, Ms. Crystal Shannon, Father and Step mother Eric & Tamara Christian, (Daughter of former Commissioner Idotha "Boostie" Neal) Erica Neal and (Daughter of former Commissioner Dean Lovelace), Ms. Laeina Lovelace - Musa . Would Commissioner-Elect Sloss, Mr. Chad Sloss, Bryce, Tristan and Zoe, Eric and Tamara Christian, Erica Neal and Laeina Lovelace-Musa please approach the podium for the Oath of Office. “The Oath is given and they return to their seats.”

Ms. Blackshear said, “Mayor Mims, the Dayton City Commission is now officially installed. Congratulations to you Mayor Mims, Commissioner Fairchild, and Commissioner Turner-Sloss.

COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSION

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

Commissioner Shaw

Commissioner Shaw congratulated his new and current colleagues and stated that he looks forward to working as a team and the many upcoming opportunities.

Commissioner Joseph

Commissioner Joseph congratulated his new and current colleagues and stated that he looks forward to working as a team and the many upcoming opportunities.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked her family, friends, mentors for their support. Commissioner Turner-Sloss invited community members to participate in Commission Meetings. She stated that she believes more women and women of color should be represented in local government. She said that she wants to address the root causes of poverty and wants to prioritize resident concerns and involve them in City processes. Commissioner Turner-Sloss said she wants more black and brown businesses to compete for City contracts. She stated that she's committed to having neighborhood townhalls and walking tours of Dayton's neighborhoods and wants to build relationships with other elected officials in our area.

Commissioner Fairchild

Commissioner Fairchild stated that one of his favorite parts of Dayton is the river and that the river is life-giving, creative, and an invitation. Commissioner Fairchild expressed gratitude for his family, friends, supporters, and City of Dayton staff. He thanked his fellow Commissioners and Mayor for the leadership and stated that the river has shaped our community and symbolizes division in our community. Commissioner Fairchild said that we have the opportunity to address issues around race in our community and looks forward to working to do so and that he was confident that we could build a safe, vital, and life-giving city.

Mayor Mims

“It is truly an honor and a privilege to stand before you today as the 57th Mayor of the City of Dayton. Before I say a few words, I do want to take a minute to recognize some important people that are here with us today.” He said that he was grateful for your love, support, and guidance along the way. He said as a poor kid growing up in this community, he could have never imagined that he would be in this position but for the values that his parents instilled in him many years ago always seem to prepare me for the next phase of life and stated that he was proud to say that he has passed those same values to his children and their children.

Mayor Mims said that his father was , 6’2, 225 lbs, with no fat, and gave him some real clear instructions. “Go to school, get involved in everything that you want to do, do your best, don’t be up there acting a fool and don’t bring me home no stupid grades!” Also, “treat others the way that you want to be treated and a little bit better!” He said that he gave simple, yet wise instruction. He stated that in retrospect, what he was telling me was, “ Go out into the world, do your best, treat people right and make a positive contribution to society!” He said that he wasn’t going to stand up here and tell you that he was “Mister Goodie Two Shoes”, because recess was his favorite subject and he occasionally carried that activity into the classroom. He said he never wanted to disappoint his father so he aimed to do his best in athletics, music, art and yes academics.

Mayor Mims said that after graduating from high school, he answered the call to serve our country, first in Texas and later in Vietnam as a member of the 604th Air Commando Squadron in 1967 and 1968. He said he returned home, worked as a janitor at McCall’s Printing Co. and as a punch press operator at the Frigidaire Division of General Motors before enrolling at The Central State University. He said his service continued as a teacher, coach and administrator with the Dayton Public Schools District where he retired 38 years later as the Director of Government and Community Relations. He stated he was proud to represent this community as the elected president of the Dayton Education Association, president of Dayton School Board, and as a member of the State Board of Education and for the last 8 years, a Dayton City Commissioner while he continues to mentor and advocate for our youth. He said he was proud to work with Senator Sherrod Brown to start the first My Brothers Keeper chapter launched in the state of Ohio under President Obama’s My Brother’s Keeper Initiative.

Mayor Mims said that through it all his goal has always been the same - to create the conditions for a high quality of life with the indicators for a Championship City! He said that clearly, the last eight years I’ve had the pleasure of being on a great team with Nan Whaley as Mayor. He thanked her for her leadership and said that there is no doubt that she has led our community through several storms, and with her leadership and vision we have addressed

some of our City's most challenging issues. He said that together, we reduced opioid related deaths and united against a hate rally in our City's core, survived tornadoes that ripped through neighborhoods and surrounding communities - and a painful and senseless mass shooting in the Oregon district, as well as the unthinkable global pandemic of COVID-19. He said that time and time again, our resilience and strength as a community has been tested and time and time again, Dayton has come out stronger and we are not stronger only because we have endured crises, we are stronger because out of each crisis, our community has made the effort to intentionally and proactively invest in our City. He stated that together, we passed Issue 9, the first tax increase in 34 years! It generated millions to allow us to mow vacant lots, resurface roads, make improvements in our parks and increase the quality of life in our neighborhoods. He also said that additionally, the passage of Issue 9 made high-quality preschool available for every 4 year old in our City and now we've extended it to our 3 year old as well and the data shows that this program is making a significant impact in increasing the kindergarten readiness of our children. He said as a longtime educator, he knows that this investment will benefit families and the Dayton economy for decades to come. He said that not only did we choose to invest in our neighborhoods and children, but also our downtown, which continues to garner millions of dollars in brand new investment – breathing new life into Dayton's core. He said that the strength of our downtown is critical not only to the City of Dayton but to our entire region - a fact that was noted by state and federal leaders in one of his recent visits to our nation's capital. Mayor Mims said that despite the progress made in these areas, the national protests sparked by the tragic murder of George Floyd, highlighted the need to better invest in our community's relationship with the police.

He said that although challenging, we did not shy away from this work. He said together, more than a hundred diverse members of this community, across five working groups, many of you who are here today, convened over a 10-month period, to examine the City's Police policies and to review national best practices.

He stated the working groups made 142 recommendations aimed at making our community safer and more just and that the City is actively in the process of turning these recommendations into programs and policies that create trust between our police and our citizens. He said the foundation that has been laid thus far has been a direct result of bold leadership and teamwork.

Mayor Mims said that he has a long history of dedicated and consistent team-oriented leadership, and today he affirms his commitment to not just be a part of a great team but to lead a great team. He said that because what we can do together far exceeds what we can do alone.

He said that along with his colleagues on the commission, we understand that our duty is to serve you, to fight for you and to advocate for you above all else. He said that together, we will work on your behalf to build a stronger, safer, thriving, and more just Dayton for all.

Mayor Mims said as this new year gets underway, we have some great challenges to face, both new and old. He explained our City income tax, which serves as our primary source of income, faces an unprecedented threat as local employees begin working from home and people who once worked downtown, but lived in suburban communities paid taxes to the City of Dayton.

He stated that now, as these jobs shift to remote work, they will begin to pay taxes to the cities where they live. Over the next several years, studies indicate that Dayton could lose up to \$20

million per year, which amounts to over 15% of our tax base. He explained that this comes at a time when we are just turning the corner on addressing the impacts of legacy issues that have caused decades of disinvestment in our City: lost manufacturing jobs, unconstitutional underfunding of public schools, population loss, and yes, redlining. He said that both sets of challenges reemphasize the need to make Dayton a place with high quality of life opportunities for all of our residents.

Mayor Mims said we need to make Dayton a place that people who are new to the region choose to make their home; and a place where our young people who go off to college choose to return. He believes that we can do that by showing that we are a community that prioritizes our most precious natural resource: our children. He said that communities that bet on their kids inspire others to do the same and we've seen that here in Dayton for sure. He said that as our community has made the decision to invest in high-quality preschool, new investment has followed.

Mayor Mims said that we have started this work in a serious way, but we know there is more to be done. The last several years have challenged children and parents in ways we could not have imagined. He stated that kids need help dealing with the educational, social, and mental health aspects of the pandemic and as we emerge from COVID into a different world than the one before, we need to give our young learners the resources to help them navigate through the maze of life. He said as Mayor, this will be a key focus of mine, propelling our community to help our children live up to their full potential, in a post-pandemic world.

He said he will work in partnership with our schools, community leaders, business and legislative stakeholders to create a diverse set of educational opportunities for our youth that were experienced by him and his children and the that he looks forward to working with Dayton School Board President, Will Smith, and his entire team in this endeavor. He said that we have big challenges ahead and he was confident that we are moving in the right direction. We will not stop now. He stated that just as we have overcome the challenges of the past, together we will continue to build on our successes for the future.

In closing, Mayor Mims said the he understands that he does not take this honor lightly for he is standing on the citizens shoulders who have prepared me to become the 57th Mayor of the City of Dayton.

Mayor Mims said, "Ms. Blackshear is there any further order of business to come before this body?"

Ms. Blackshear responded that there was none.

Mayor Mims thanked those in attendance and called on Kimberly Armentrout, for the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m

Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.
Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Commission