

Thursday, January 4, 2007.

Met at a quarter before eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

The Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., of Boston, having accepted the office of Chaplain, was present; and prayer was offered by him as follows:

Gracious God, in Whom we place our trust and hope our hearts, minds, wills and intellects are filled with joy, enthusiasm and goodwill with the beginning of a new year, a new General Court and a new Governor of the Commonwealth. In your goodness, help us, in the months ahead, to recognize and to respond to the variety of needs and concerns of the people in our communities in these uncertain and changing times. We pray for the courage, wisdom and openness to be guided in our decision-making process by right reason, traditional principles, compassion, integrity and our Constitution. Prayer.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Pledge of allegiance.

Resignation of Representative Leary of Worcester.

The following communication, received by the Clerk from the office of the Speaker, on Wednesday, January 3, 2007, was read for the information of the House; and placed on file, to wit:—

January 2, 2007.

The Honorable Salvatore F. DiMasi
Speaker Massachusetts House of Representatives
State House, Room 356
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Speaker DiMasi:

Please accept my resignation from service to the House of Representatives effective at the time Timothy P. Murray takes the oath of office for Lieutenant-Governor, on Thursday, January 4, 2007. I will leave the House to assume my duties as Chief of Staff and Counsel to the Lieutenant-Governor. Resignation of Representative James B. Leary of Worcester.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve the people of the Fourteenth Worcester District in this historic institution.

Sincerely,

JAMES B. LEARY,
State Representative,
Fourteenth Worcester District.

Minority Leaders.

Minority
Leader.

A communication from the Clerk of the Republican Party Caucus, Representative Rogeness of Longmeadow, stating that said caucus had elected Representative Bradley H. Jones, Jr., of North Reading, the Minority Leader for the 2007-2008 Legislative Session, was placed on file.

Subsequently, under the provisions of Rule 18, Mr. Jones announced that the Republican Party caucus had ratified the following appointments:

Assistant
Minority
Leaders.

Representative Rogeness of Longmeadow, Assistant Minority Floor Leader; Representative Peterson of Grafton, Second Assistant Minority Floor Leader; and Representative Lepper of Attleboro, Third Assistant Minority Floor Leader.

Papers from the Senate.

Communications

Returns of
votes for
state
officers.

From the Secretary of the Commonwealth transmitting the returns of votes for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Attorney General, Treasurer and Receiver-General, and Auditor of the Commonwealth, together with schedules showing the number of ballots which appear to have been cast for each person voted for; and

Returns of
votes for
Councillors.

From the Secretary of the Commonwealth transmitting the returns of votes for Councillors in the several districts, together with schedules showing the number of ballots which appear to have been cast for each person voted for.

Severally were read.

The following order then was adopted, in concurrence:

Returns of
votes for
state
officers.

Ordered, That a joint special committee to consist of members of the Senate and House of Representatives be appointed for the purpose of canvassing the votes for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Attorney General, Treasurer and Receiver-General, State Auditor of the Commonwealth, and Councillors in the several districts.

Senators Wilkerson, O'Leary, Walsh and Tisei having been appointed by the Senate, Representatives O'Flaherty of Chelsea, Petrolati of Ludlow and Peterson of Grafton were joined on the part of the House.

Subsequently the following report of the joint special committee on the returns of votes for state officers, accepted by the Senate, was read:

From the examination of the returns, it appears that votes were cast as follows:—

For Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

Healey and Hillman (Republican) had 784,342
 Patrick and Murray (Democrat) had 1,234,984
 Mihos and Sullivan (Independent) had 154,628
 Ross and Sullivan (Green-Rainbow) had 43,193
 All others 2,632
 Blanks 24,056
 Total votes cast 2,243,835
 And Deval Patrick and Timothy P. Murray are elected.

For Attorney General.

Martha Coakley of Medford (Democrat) had 1,546,582
 Larry Frisoli of Belmont (Republican) had 574,388
 All others 1,840
 Blanks 121,025
 Total votes cast 2,243,835
 And Martha Coakley is elected.

For Secretary of State.

William Francis Galvin of Boston (Democrat) had 1,638,594
 Jill E. Stein of Lexington (Green-Rainbow) had 353,551
 All others 5,715
 Blanks 245,975
 Total votes cast 2,243,835
 And William Francis Galvin is elected.

For Treasurer and Receiver-General.

Timothy P. Cahill of Quincy (Democrat) had 1,644,162
 James O'Keefe of Somerville (Green-Rainbow) had 323,765
 All Others 4,590
 Blanks 271,318
 Total votes cast 2,243,835
 And Timothy P. Cahill is elected.

For Auditor.

A. Joseph DeNucci of Newton (Democrat) had 1,560,782
 Rand Wilson of Somerville (Working Families) had 371,057
 All others 4,066
 Blanks 307,930
 Total votes cast 2,243,835
 And A. Joseph DeNucci is elected.

And also from the examination of the returns, it appears that the following named persons have been duly elected in their respective districts, to wit:

District No. 1. Carole A. Fiola of Fall River.
 District No. 2. Kelly A. Timilty of Boston.
 District No. 3. Marilyn M. Petitto-Devaney of Watertown.
 District No. 4. Christopher A. Iannella, Jr., of Boston.
 District No. 5. Mary-Ellen Manning of Salem.
 District No. 6. Michael J. Callahan of Medford.
 District No. 7. Thomas J. Foley of Worcester.
 District No. 8. Thomas M. Merrigan of Greenfield.

Under suspension of Rule 42, on motion of Mr. O'Flaherty of Chelsea, the report was considered forthwith; and it was accepted, in concurrence.

Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow being in the Chair,— the following order then was adopted, in concurrence:

Secretary
to notify
qualification of
Councillors.

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Commonwealth give notice to Carole A. Fiola, Kelly A. Timilty, Marilyn M. Petitto-Devaney, Christopher A. Iannella, Jr., Mary-Ellen Manning, Michael J. Callahan, Thomas J. Foley and Thomas M. Merrigan, that they have been duly elected Councillors to advise the Governor in the executive part of the government.

Orders.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

Chaplain's
prayers,—
printing.

Ordered, That the Clerk be directed to spread upon the records of the House the daily prayer offered by the duly appointed Chaplain.

On motion of Mr. Sánchez of Boston,—

Seargant-
at-Arms
notified of
election.

Ordered, That the Clerks of the two branches give notice to Kevin W. Fitzgerald of Boston that he has been elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the General Court.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

Next
sitting.

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next at the hour of eleven o'clock A.M.

At one minute after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Cabral of New Bedford (Mr. Perolati of Ludlow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.