

## Special Session of Village Council

February 18

14

### **Call to Order**

The Special Session of Council was called to order by Mayor Mike Erwin. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Roll Call**

Roll Call was completed by the Fiscal Officer. The following members were present.

Yorkie Bryant - A

Judy Neal - P

Terry Erwin - A

John Poe - P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh - P

William Thompson - P

### **Purpose**

The Mayor asked Vice Mayor Neal to give the purpose for the called meeting: 1) Personnel Issues.

Councilwoman Neal discussed an issue raised and advised the Village Administrator Rod Smith would take the Water Operating Test in May. Councilman Thompson stated he checked the EPA website and 520 hours working in the water system was required. He asked how many hours the Administrator had currently. The Mayor asked what action Council wished to take. Discussion followed.

Neal stated the appropriations budget was passed and asked if Council could now approve the pay raise for personnel. Councilman Poe stated it was quoted employees would get a raise and asked who was to receive the raise. Thompson stated the Clerk of Council was contractual and Smith recently received a raise; those were the issues. The Mayor stated a fifty cent per hour pay raise for each employee was included in the approved 2014 Appropriation Budget. The Fiscal Officer Koehler read the list of employees. Thompson stated the Finance Committee should meet. Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh stated Smith had already been given a raise. Neal stated the matter could be tabled until the Finance Committee met. The Mayor reiterated the appropriation budget had already been approved. Koehler stated the Cost-of-Living increase was already discussed. Discussion followed as to whether or not an increase should be retroactive.

Thompson inquired if the Fiscal Officer was salaried. He questioned the wording with regard to 50 cents per hour versus \$20 weekly. Poe stated appropriations were approved; he deferred to Solicitor Kaspar. Kaspar advised the money was appropriated; it is a matter of allocation. He stated he would need more information on other legislation proposed. Otherwise regarding raises being retroactive, it relates back to the original appropriation. He stated there should be a surplus in the budget. Discussion followed. Koehler stated it was in the budget. The Mayor asked what Council wished to do.

Motion by Neal to grant the raise of 50 cents an hour for the following employees, all hourly and two salaried, Koehler and Kilburn retroactive to January 1, 2014. Poe suggested it be rounded to \$20 per week. Thompson stated it was appropriate to break it down by hourly and salaried employees. Motion second by Poe. All yea. Motion carried.

Thompson wished to review the contract of the Clerk of Council; contractual employee would be addressed separately. Thompson reiterated 50 cent an hour for hourly employees and \$20 per week for salaried retroactive to January. Neal mentioned overtime pay. Koehler asked for clarification and referenced overtime for Landrum.

Motion by Thompson to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 7:15pm; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea. Motion by Neal to return to Regular Session; second by Poe. All yea.

Thompson referred to a Special Meeting in December and questioned the Mayor regarding *pending litigation*. The Mayor asked the Solicitor if he should respond. Kasper advised the Mayor not to speak to the issue. The Mayor responded to Thompson. Mayor Erwin stated he received calls threatening the Village Administrator and was also shown a book with his own children's license numbers written in it. He advised he was concerned about the Administrator's safety and that of his children. He stated he was going to the Prosecutor's Office. The Mayor advised a Council member wanted Smith fired because of a pending law suit. He stated no law suit had been filed; the Administrator contacted an attorney and spoke with him regarding confidential information being leaked. Isaacs-Niemesh stated this was the first she heard of it and asked who was responsible. The Mayor declined to state a name, but advised the party was present.

Isaacs-Niemesh asked the Administrator if he had litigation pending against the Village. He replied no. She inquired if he ever had litigation against the Village. He stated he spoke with an attorney. The Mayor stated a contract was placed on the internet that was not Administrator Smith's contract and advised nothing had come across his desk indicating a law suit was filed against the Village. Discussion followed.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Neal to adjourn; second by Isaacs-Niemesh. All yea.

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Kathie Koehler, Fiscal Officer

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Mike Erwin, Mayor