

Special Session of Village Council

September 21, 2017

Call to Order

The Special Session of Council was called to order by Mayor Bryant at 7:00pm. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Kiley Dane – P

Rebecca Isaacs-Niemesh – P

Judy Neal – P

John Poe – P

Benjamin Steiner – P

William Thompson – P

Purpose

The Mayor stated the purpose for the meeting was to appoint a new Fiscal Officer.

Mayor Bryant advised he along with Councilman Thompson met with three candidates. Thompson stated Nichole Knell who held that position spent time with all three applicants and we have narrowed it down to two. The Mayor expressed Knell's comments regarding applicant Erica Wilmot and advised he would recommend Ms. Wilmot. Discussion followed. Thompson stated one candidate had numerous ventures ongoing and the other worked for the County Water Department.

Councilwoman Isaacs-Niemesh asked if any of the candidates had fiscal experience and requested information on the second applicant considered. Thompson stated her department is being contracted out at Warren County and her job has been eliminated. Councilwoman Neal asked about the third candidate. Councilman Poe asked why she was eliminated. Thompson advised Knell screened all three candidates first. Thompson stated the first applicant eliminated was definitely qualified; she was more expensive. Discussion followed.

Thompson stated if we took Ms. Wilmot, we would provide the additional training. He discussed UAN training. Thompson stated she is working on a degree, attending Sinclair. Discussion followed. Councilman Steiner asked if resumes were available on any of the candidates. Discussion followed. Poe also referenced prior Village employee trouble in the distant past. Councilwoman Dane expressed concern that no printed information was provided to Council regarding the applicants to arrive at a decision. Discussion ensued on salary requests versus the current Fiscal Officer's salary.

A resume for the second contender was provided and read by Isaacs-Niemesh providing her work experience, accounting skills and dates of employment. She highlighted the candidate graduated from Wilmington College with a Bachelor of Arts in Management and Business. She served as a previous Fiscal Coordinator for 3 years. Discussion followed. Dane asked the Mayor and Thompson why one candidate was better than the other. Thompson stated Ms. Wilmot was cheaper and resided in the Village. Discussion followed. Council agreed one of the candidates was working on a Doctorate and is overqualified for the position. It was determined that 2 of the three resided in the Village of Morrow and the other in Morrow, Ohio, a few blocks outside the Village. Discussion followed.

Isaacs-Niemesh asked the Mayor for additional comments. He stated he spoke with Knell originally and favored Ms. Wilmot initially, but understood Council's viewpoints. The Mayor stated he received favorable calls regarding Tina Powell. The Mayor stated Knell didn't discuss the other applicants with him. Thompson discussed Knell's comments. Isaacs-Niemesh asked what was in the best interest of the Village; she stated that is who we want to call. The Mayor commented. Discussion followed.

Thompson stated there is a motion on the table to confirm the appointment of Erica Wilmot as Fiscal Officer. The motion failed for lack of a second. Discussion followed.

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Council agreed the Village needed a good communicator. The Mayor stated I appoint Tina Powell for Fiscal Officer.

Motion by Poe to hire Tina Powell as Fiscal Officer at a salary of \$32,000 plus employee benefits; second by Steiner. All yea by roll call.

Adjournment

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

Nichole Knell, Fiscal Officer

York Bryant, Mayor