



Village of Sand Lake

2 E. Maple St., PO Box 139

Sand Lake, MI 49343

(616) 636-8854

www.villageofsandlake.org

January 27, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Special Meeting Minutes

Agenda- Virtual Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID: 662 019 5932

Zoom Code: 044356

Call to Order

President Nile Hayden called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Roll Call

Nile Hayden

Kim McNees

Mollie Doerr

Stacy Rudicil

Rachel Gokey

Kevin Wright

Marcia Helton

Agenda Additions

No Additions

New Business

1. Discussion and Possible action regarding employment of Village Clerk/Treasurer .

President Hayden read statement- I have lost confidence and trust in her ability to work with the council and staff.

No Discussion

Motion by: Nile Hayden to terminate Rachel Gokey as Village Clerk/Treasurer

Seconded by: Kevin Wright

Roll Call

Doerr-Yes McNees-Yes Rudicil-Yes Wright-Yes Helton-Yes Hayden-Yes Gokey-No Motion Carried.

Comment by Rachel Gokey to dispute claims and request hearing. She states she is legally intitled to. President Hayden asked when and what time? Rachel said could be decided at later date.

Helton asked where she seen that at and Gokey replied we can ask Village Attorney. Wright asked what she was disputing? How being an 'at will ' employee. Gokey replied the Untruth claims (lost faith in me) an legally can dispute. Gokey will not do further discussion we can contact the Village Attorney.

Motion by: President Hayden to have Marcia Helton finish taking meeting minutes

Seconded by: Rudicil

Wright-Yes Doerr-Yes McNees-Yes Helton-Yes Rudicil-Yes Hayden-Yes Gokey-No Motion Carried

2. Discussion and possible action regarding retention of Interim Village Treasurer and terms of same

To reach out and post

Motion by: Wright

Seconded by: Doerr

McNees-Yes Wright-Yes Doerr-Yes Rudicil-Yes Helton-Yes Hayden-Yes Gokey-No Motion Carried

3. Discussion and Possible action regarding retention of Interim Village Clerk and terms of same

To reach out and post

Motion by: Helton

Seconded by: Wright

McNees-Yes Wright-Yes Doerr-Yes Rudicil-Yes Helton-Yes Hayden-Yes Gokey-No Motion Carried

4. Discussion and Possible action regarding posting and process to appoint Village Treasurer and Clerk

Helton asked where would we advertise it in? President Hayden replied- Cedar Springs Post and Advance. Wright asked about MML.

Motion by: Wright

Seconded by: Rudicil

McNees-Yes Wright-Yes Doerr-Yes Rudicil-Yes Helton-Yes Hayden-Yes Gokey-No Motion Carried

Public Comment Time

Wright stated that everyone is muted, so need to raise your icon hand and then he will unmute you.

Opened:

*Chad Armstrong, wanted to make more clear reason for firing Rachel. He didn't agree with what the council was doing and more reason for it. That she is a good worker and council is making a huge mistake. Wanted to know if someone was coming in to do payroll. President Hayden said there will be a person coming in to do payroll.

*Mirta Sterns, said she seconded Chad on why not more reasons and was disappointed with what was happening with Rachel. Hoping council is doing best for Village.

*Chris Stieg, Agreeing with Chad and Mirta on reason. Not a reason to fire. That you ran on unity and transparency. Doesn't see it a forced action and not seeing transparency and disappointed with action.

*Glenn baker, ran on unity and transparency and came into meeting with agenda being preplanned. Stating that Marty Helton sent him email that this was going to happen. Council is doing what is for our own best interest and we owe taxpayers an apology.

*Janice Boyd, Why have we lost confidence with Rachel?

*Tracy Quinlan, Asking Rachel this question but telling her she doesn't need to answer-Did you get a letter with a 30 day(straighten up) notice that you need to work with Village better. Saying we spent a lot of money with attorney on contracts. We want to wipe out everything last council did. Agrees with Chad, and the others on disappointment and making serious mis-stake.

Connallee Kleck, Interactions with Rachel have always been pleasant and done job well. Need more consideration in this and not just taking someone's job. Work with person more with conflict resolutions and not just fire.

Jerry Dines, was DPW Supervisor of Village for over 10 years and wanted to give input of what happened with previous council(all employees working well together). When Tracy came on as President she took Brenda (treasurer over 20 yrs.) and myself in office as she sat on desk, telling us she was new sheriff in town and if we don't like it theirs the door as she pointed to door.

Samantha, asking if contracts were legal? Mollie replied we were unable to speak on those for legal reasons. She understood. Asking if keeping clerk/treasurer together?

Bruce Avery, Appreciate what we are doing and likes the fact of not having clerk/treasurer together because you do not have checks and balances. No comment on Rachel, because he understands the council cannot.

Closed Public Comment at 7:35

Trustee Comments

Wright said he was on facebook and got heated up. He wants to apologize, but wanted people to know he spoke the truth and does check into items. Saying we are not hiding anything, but do have all the information. That we want what is best for the Village.

Doerr, understand public is confused and they want answers. We as council are trying not to be combative, but professional.

No more trustee Comments

Michelle from Bloom & Sluggett, was on and said we can deputize a Treasurer for them to sign checks. We can approve this in this meeting because the meeting has not been adjourned,

Motion by Wright to have Marcia Helton(Village Trustee) temporary sign all checks for Village of Sand Lake until new treasurer is appointed(hired).

Seconded by: Rudicil

Roll Call

Hayden-Yes McNees-Yes Doerr-Yes Wright-Yes Rudicil-Yes Gokey-Yes Helton-Abstained

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm.

Motion by: Gokey

Seconded by: Rudicil

McNees-Yes Doerr-Yes Wright-Yes Rudicil-Yes Gokey-Yes Hayden-Yes Helton-Yes

Submitted By:

Marcia Helton

Village Trustee