



MINUTES

Special Village Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Cary Village Hall
655 Village Hall Drive
Cary, IL 60013

Mark Kownick, Mayor

I. Call to Order

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Kownick.

II. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Kownick and Trustees Covelli, Weinhammer, Betz, Kraus, McAlpine and Cosler
Absent: None

Others present included Village Administrator Rife, Police Chief Finlon, Village Attorney Uhler and members of the audience per the sign-in sheet.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kownick led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Open Forum

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Kownick closed Open Forum at 6:02 p.m.

V. Discussion and Adoption of Proposed Resolution Repudiating the Callaway Report and Condemning the Use of Taxpayer Funds for Politically Motivated Investigations

Motion: Trustee Covelli moved, seconded by Trustee Weinhammer to approve a resolution repudiating the Callaway report and condemning the use of taxpayer funds for politically motivated investigations.

Discussion

Mayor Kownick stated this special meeting was requested by Trustee Cosler. Mayor Kownick asked the Village Board to review the content of the resolution.

Trustee Covelli stated she felt the investigation and report were unauthorized because the Village Board did not approve a contract for these services. Trustee Covelli stated she believed the unauthorized release of the Callaway report was done for politically motivated purposes.

Trustee McAlpine stated she had no political motivation when she filed a written complaint regarding Trustee Cosler.

Attorney Uhler stated the Village Administrator has the authority to spend up to \$20,000 for services, including entering into contracts regarding Village business.

Trustee Covelli read Village Code Section 3.04.040 which states all contracts must be approved by the Mayor and Village Board. Trustees Cosler and Weinhammer agreed with Trustee Covelli.

Trustee Cosler stated he was denied due process by not being able to speak to the investigator. Mayor Kownick stated the investigator reached out to Trustee Cosler four (4) times to schedule a meeting. Trustee Cosler stated he replied to the investigator and requested information but was not provided the information.

Trustee Cosler asked what state statute he was accused of violating. Attorney Uhler stated the investigation was not conducted for potential violation of a state statute. Attorney Uhler stated when the complaint was received, the Village Attorney at the time, Ancel Glink, was consulted.

Mayor Kownick stated he had asked Trustee McAlpine if she preferred to switch seats after the December 19, 2017 meeting, which Trustee McAlpine declined. Trustee McAlpine stated she has no problem sitting wherever she is assigned. Mayor Kownick told Trustee Cosler he may sit wherever he likes.

Liz Knepper, 314 Crest, asked the Mayor if he reached out to the Northwest Herald to ask how it obtained a copy of the Callaway report. Mayor Kownick stated he did and was not given an answer.

Jeremiah Barrett, 557 Krenz, asked if everyone on the Village Board is given a copy of the Village harassment policy.

Kassy Pinter, 325 Bryan Drive, stated the basis of the harassment complaint has been lost in the discussions about procedure and attorney bills.

Nancy Kaveny, 940 Pearson Road, asked Trustee Cosler if he said the things described in the Callaway report. Trustee Cosler stated his account is different from Trustee McAlpine's and doesn't feel his behavior was harassing.

Martha Ritter, 239 School Street, stated many of those in attendance do not regularly attend Village Board meetings.

Al Ross, 461 White Oaks Drive, asked Trustee Covelli why she believes Trustee Kraus but does not believe Mayor Kownick. Trustee Covelli stated the attorney hired to conduct the investigation and write a formal report used her opinion as a means of concluding her findings. Trustee Covelli stated her opinion of who leaked the document to the Northwest Herald was her opinion but noted there is a difference between someone casting an opinion vs. someone hired to conduct a formal investigation and write a conclusion on his/her findings.

Robin Engels, 695 Knollwood Drive, apologized to Trustee Cosler for how he has been treated.

Linda Barrett, 500 New Haven Drive, stated she would like to see a resolution addressing a cooperative environment between Trustees and that they put these issues behind them.

Christopher McAlpine, 545 Red Cypress Drive, stated he feels the issue of the behavior by Trustee Cosler toward Trustee McAlpine has been lost in the discussion. Mr. McAlpine stated Trustee McAlpine simply wanted the harassment to stop. Mr. McAlpine stated the Trustees should put all of this behind them and move on to dealing with the issues facing the Village.

Dave Chapman, 859 Veridian Way, stated Trustees should not be subjected to negative behavior from other Trustees.

Motion: *Trustee Cosler moved, seconded by Trustee Covelli to call the question.*

Ayes: *Weinhammer, Cosler, Covelli, Kraus*

Nays: *McAlpine, Betz*

Abstain: *None*

Motion Carried

Motion: *Trustee Covelli moved, seconded by Trustee Weinhammer to approve a resolution repudiating the Callaway report and condemning the use of taxpayer funds for politically motivated investigations.*

Ayes: *Weinhammer, Cosler, Covelli, Kraus*

Nays: *McAlpine, Betz*

Abstain: *None*

Motion Carried

Trustee Betz asked the Board to put this issue behind them and move forward onto the business of getting important things done for the Village. The Village Board supported this.

VI. Adjourn

There being no further items to discuss, a MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

MOTION: Trustee Cosler

SECOND: Trustee McAlpine

The Voice Vote noted all ayes and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Greene, Deputy Village Clerk