

APPROVED SPECIAL MEETING MINTUES

Special Meeting
February 13, 2024

VILLAGE OF LYONS
Lyons, Michigan 48851
989-855-2125
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The meeting was called to order by President Charles at 6:00pm
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Formation of the roll was taken, and a quorum was declared:

Roll Call:

Fred Charles P Kenton Eavey A (resigned) Joe Farrington P Erin Randall P Patty Priest P
Jennifer Spearling P Bernard Russell P

Staff Attending: NONE

Approval of Agenda: Trustee Farrington made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Trustee Spearling. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Trustee Spearling stated concerns with the office staffing. Trustee Spearling stated there is no plan moving forward after Wednesday when the current office staff is done due to resignations. Trustee Priest stated that she will be in the office answering phones and taking payments until the new office staff is hired. Discussion of the Council was had regarding Trustee Priest being bonded and insured. Trustee Priest stated that she is bonded and insured as of earlier the same day (February 13, 2024).

Trustee Farrington stated that he hopes this is a smooth transition regarding the process of hiring new employees.

Trustee Spearling stated that interviews were held Monday February 12, 2024 and a few more will be held Wednesday February 14, 2024. Trustee Priest stated that the people she reached out to regarding helping with training both declined.

Trustee Farrington expressed concerns with Susan Craft being in the office and having access to official business. A discussion was had by the Council and Trustee Farrington made a motion to bar Susan Craft from acting in any capacity for the Village of Lyons. Trustee Russell seconded the motion. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Trustee Spearling stated that there seems to be a division amongst the village council and staff and it needs to be eliminated in order to move forward. Trustee Spearling stated that there are committees for a reason and one person from the committee cannot be making decisions without consulting the rest of the committee.

Trustee Spearling stated that 2/3 of the village DPW staff are also members of the Lyons Muir Fire Department and a policy needs to be put in place allowing those employees to respond to emergency calls during work hours. These employees are also providing a public service and benefit to our

communities. Trustee Russell commented that coverage in the area is limited during the day and they need to be able to respond. Trustee Priest questioned since the fire department was voluntary, could the employees decide not to respond. It was discussed that even though it is voluntary, as community members, they will most likely choose to respond. A motion was made by Trustee Spearling that if a village employee(s) are members of the local fire department, they may respond to emergency calls during working hours and be paid their regular wages during that emergency up to 4 hours. If the emergency call exceeds more than 4 hours, the employee has the option to use personal time, make up their time, or take no pay for those hours. Second was made by Trustee Farrington. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Adjournment: A motion was made by Trustee Russell, seconded by Trustee Farrington to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted by Erin Randall, Trustee