

Village of Wapella  
Executive Session  
June 25, 2013  
Village Hall  
6:23 pm

Present were Trustees Vernon Meadows, Brad Karr, Rusty Karr, Logan Redman, Shay Burke and Suzanna Holland. Also present were President Rich Karr, Clerk Elizabeth Weikle, and Attorney Heather Kimmons.

President Karr said the only thing for litigation is our insurance provided said that we would not be covered. It was not part of the policy.

The Clerk said that she had one thing litigation related. Prior to the new Board taking office, we had an employee who quit and then filed for unemployment. He was denied his claim and he appealed it. The hearing was delayed until yesterday. Then contacted me to inform me that he had withdrawn his appeal. We should get a letter within the week.

President Karr said that despite what Jane says she is not being removed because of the lawsuit. When we took the paperwork to Feller and Kuester, they looked at it and within five minutes said that she is not following the government approved accounting practices. It has to do with all of the funds being split up. They told us that the funds can't be separate unless they are separated by statute. The example they gave was the levying of the Motor Fuel Tax. He said it is a common mistake small villages make. He deals with it all the time. Regardless of what Jane says she doesn't want to work with the Board. I can't say that it is anything but a line that she didn't know about the litigation until we found out about it. The litigation isn't the problem, she is not going to work with Shay. She is not going to deal with Shay being her superior. She has been given directions by the Board before, she is not going to follow them. Her term is up. She says that my agenda is wrong. But I can appoint a treasurer before firing her, because her term is up. She was appointed for a year. It is over a year. She can remain in the position until either someone else is appointed or she is reappointed. And that is where we are at.

Rusty Karr asked as a treasurer she should know all that stuff?

President Karr said Jane is not trained. Jane has not been to school, no fault of Jane's own. But when Floyd and Associates says that there is a problem with the way your funds are, then you should find out. The new treasurer that I am going to bring before you tonight is a smart girl. She is going to finish her degree in business accounting in May. She is not my friend or Shay's friend. She is somebody in town who would fit the bill of what we need. She is educated and bright. Vernon, I am sure knows her from bartending at the Circle.

Vernon Meadows said that is all I know.

President Karr said that is almost what we need. She is not on anybodies side.

Brad Karr said I can't say I know her, but I am a little concerned with her relationship with former Trustee Williams. Is she going to work for us or will there be stuff coming up?

President Karr said I don't know that she has a close relationship with her, besides being her bartender.

Logan Redman said that something he was thinking of was, I know you guys are going to do what you what, but the end of the fiscal year is the end of this month. I would rather Jane just finish the end of that, then if you were to bring Lauren in and have her finish to avoid chaos. That is my concern.

President Karr said he agreed.

Logan Redman said also another thing. I think we should hold back until the end of the fiscal year and take applications. You have her, she is obviously interested. Maybe put an ad out so we can take in other applicants. Then we could have comparisons. Then that person could start fresh with a new year and keep books their way.

President Karr said the new auditor was going to come in and we would close out our old books and start fresh with a system recommended by the auditor.

The Board members then discussed general accounting practices in relationship to the treasurer position.

The Board then began discussing education in regards to the new candidate for treasurer and Jane experience.

The tape stopped when President Karr went to get Lauren for her interview. The Clerk restarted the tape a second later.

President Karr asked Lauren if she had a relationship with Sharon.

Lauren King said she sees her at the Circle where she bartends. She said had lived in Wapella for a year in a half.

The Board asked Lauren a few questions about her experiences with accounting and her education.

After her interview, Lauren left and the Board resumed discussion.

Vernon Meadows asked if it could be done on a trial basis.

President Karr said that if I appoint her, I could remove her.

Vernon Meadows said I don't think that would come about.

Logan Redman wanted to do it the way he suggested with the applications.

President Karr said he didn't think they could get someone else.

The Clerk said she knew someone that might be interested.

Logan Redman said he had nothing against Lauren but he thought we should interview other people.

Rusty Karr asked if there was a timeline?

The Clerk said that the fiscal year ends in June but is wrapped up in July.

President Karr said what Nicky is saying is that it would be better if she wrapped up her work.

The Board discussed whether to put it off until the end of the fiscal year and whether or not to take more applications. Several Board members thought that a new treasurer should start at the beginning of the new fiscal year. The Board decided to take applications. President Karr said they would post at various places in town. They agreed to have a meeting in 5 to 10 days. President Karr said he would not start the removal process until next week. The Board went back into open session.