

Village of Elberta  
Special Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday May 5, 2014

A special meeting of the Elberta Village Council was called to order at 7:08 PM Monday May 5, 2014 at the Community Building, 401 First Street, Elberta, MI.

Present: Reggie Manville, Robin Rommell, Joyce Gatrell, Diane Jenks, Jen Wilkins, Ken Holmes, Linda Manville, Mary Kalbach (Clerk), Ken Bonney (Village Superintendent)

Absent: President and all trustees present

Guests: General attendance sheets attached

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Gatrell, second by Holmes. Yeas – 6, Nay -1 (Jenks) Motion passed.

Agenda Conflict: No conflict reported

Brief Public Comment: Comments were heard from Sue Oseland, Jen Whiting and Eric VanDussen.

Agenda:

1. Theft of Village Property – Council members had received written communication via email from the Benzie County Prosecutor, Sarah Swanson. Communication included a letter stating lack of “intent” for her office to prosecute. Copy of report filed with Benzie County Sheriff’s Department detailing alleged theft by Ken Bonney of village property was included in email. Copies of both communications are attached. Letter was read to public. Discussion was suspended due to statement from prosecutor regarding denial of prosecution. No motion was made, no vote was taken.
2. DPW Superintendent - President referred to his “leave of absence” and subsequent need for President Pro-Tem, Robin Rommell to assume his duties. Manville then turned over agenda item #2 to Rommell for discussion. Rommell expressed reservations about Mr. Bonney’s continued position as DPW Superintendent. Council discussed role of Employee Relations Committee and questioned whether work performance conferences with Mr. Bonney had taken place. Motion by Rommell to refer the matter of the DPW Superintendent, Mr. Bonney’s future employment with the village to the Employee Relations Committee for a decision and put it on the agenda for May, second by Holmes. Roll call vote: Gatrell – Yes, Holmes – Yes, Jenks – No, L. Manville – No, R. Manville - No, Rommell – Yes, Wilkins – No. Vote Yeas – 3, Nays -4, Motion failed.  
Motion to dismiss Mr. Bonney from his employment by Rommell, second by R. Manville.  
Roll call vote: Gatrell – No, Holmes – No, Jenks – No, L. Manville – No, R. Manville – Yes, Rommell – Yes, Wilkins – No. Vote Yeas – 2, Nays – 5. Motion failed. Jenks asked President and President Pro-Tem about plans to cover water service and replacement of Mr. Bonney if termination took place.
3. Parks & Recreation Commission – Item was not discussed. Early adjournment by President Manville was called citing conduct of the attending public.

Motion to adjourn by R. Manville, second by Holmes. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Submitted by,  
Mary Kalbach, Clerk

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