

CALL TO ORDER

President Bartels calls to order the Village of East Dundee Special Board Meeting at 7:15 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Trustees Ruffulo, Gorman, Lynam, Cichowski, Miller and President Bartels. Trustee VanOstenbridge was present via conference phone.

Motion vote to authorize Trustee VanOstenbridge's attendance via conference phone by Miller/Gorman.

Roll: Ayes – 6 – Trustees Ruffulo, Gorman, Lynam, Miller, Cichowski and President Bartels.

Also in attendance Village Attorney Pat O'Connor and Village Clerk Jennifer Rehberg.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

CONSENT AGENDA-CONSIDERATION OF AN "OMNIBUS VOTE": None

Illinois Municipalities may adopt by a single roll call vote of the Village Board and Village President a group of assorted ordinances, resolution, motions and orders by an "Omnibus Vote". The "Omnibus Vote" shall be taken following the unanimous consent by the President and Board as to the items to be included. Any Trustee or the President may request that any item not be included in that vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mary White – 314 E. 1st Street, ED

Mrs. White has been a citizen in East Dundee her whole life. She was shocked to read in the paper that Chief Mee was let go by the Village President and he sent e-mails to the Trustees after the fact. She feels Chief Mee has always been very professional.

James Carlini – 445 Greenwood, ED

Mr. Carlini discussed what was done when he was on the Board and that he tried to cut the budget at that time.

REPORTS: VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Village Administrator – None

Village Attorney – None

Village President – None

Director of Public Works – N/A

Chief of Police – None

Village Engineer – None

Village Trustees:

Trustee Ruffulo – Ruffulo thanked those involved with the annexation project.

Trustee Cichowski – Cichowski mentioned Movie In The Park at Lions Park tonight. There was Music in The Depot last night, sponsored by Bandito Barney's. Last Thursday was Music in The Depot sponsored by Diamond Jim's. Lunch in the Park is Wednesday. Movie in the Park is next Friday, sponsored by The Anvil Club. On September 19th there will be a car show on River Street.

Trustee Gorman – None

Trustee Lynam – Trustee Lynam stated the minutes from the Finance Committee will be going out this weekend and thanked those involved with the annexation project.

Trustee Miller – Miller thanked Village Administrator Koehler, Bob Skurla and Rep. Farnham and Senator Noland for their help with the annexation project.

Trustee VanOstenbridge – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS-

A. Board Action Regarding Action of Mayor. Regarding: Dismissal of Police Chief Terry Mee

President Bartels stated this meeting is in regards to a decision he made last Friday to release Chief Mee of his duties. He wanted to make the meeting an Open Session. Bartels explained his reasons. He expressed his feelings in both open and Executive Sessions for months. He fears if Walmart or any other car dealers are to leave the Village, the Village will be in extreme trouble. Bartels read the letter Koehler sent to Walmart, requesting they stay in the Village. In many ways, the Village has not prepared for Walmart leaving. He also mentioned the new water treatment facility and the cost proposed is over \$1,000,000. The original cost was proposed to be \$20 per month per residence. He also brought up the VanBuren utilities project which would cost an additional several hundred thousand dollars. He mentioned the sewer lines along Rt. 25 and the problems that have incurred and the cost of replacing the sewer line which will be \$175,000. These have not been budgeted for. With the annexation, there will need to be sewer improvements to tie onto the system which will cost a few hundred thousand dollars. The Village has a TIF increment which is coming in much lower than previously anticipated. This will affect the ability to develop on the property. Thornton's income estimates are coming in much lower than anticipated. We also have some money in a BDD fund to help spur development, around \$280,000. Santa's Village is looking to improve their property, which would drain the BDD funds. The 5-year capital plan for the past 3 years has the garbage costs being passed onto the residents. It has been in the budget and is never implemented. Garbage would be another \$20 per month per family. By 2016, 100% of property taxes received by the Village will go into the Police Pension Fund. The Village has lost many businesses within the past year. East Dundee has the highest utility rates in the area. The Village's rates are by usage, not a flat fee. In addition, there is always discussion regarding home rule sales tax. It isn't supposed to go to operations, but it always does (sewer, water, etc.). The Village's TIF fund increments are to spur development, not salaries for employees to supplement salaries. We pay too much now in fees. In February at an Executive Session, discussion was salaries. This is why he made the decision to release Chief of his duties. Mee's salary with benefits is close to \$130,000. If we released other employees, he would have to release many others on the bottom levels. It was the Attorney's opinion that he had the power to release the Chief. On Friday, he had a meeting with Chief Mee, the lieutenant and the Village Administrator. He addressed the entire Board via e-mail that the change had been made and that everyone had the opportunity to call him personally. Bartels also expressed his disappointment that a legal opinion from our attorney was given to Chief Mee's attorney. One letter was dated May 13th, which was distributed to the Board. The other was dated May 20th and was only given to Trustee Gorman. Bartels stated the Village Administrator received the letter from Trustee Gorman and was told to give the document to Chief Mee's attorney.

Motion to retain Chief Mee by Gorman/Lynam.

Gorman asked if Mee was dismissed under the appointment ordinance that was given by the Village Attorney. Bartels stated Mee was not appointed by this administration and his contract expired in April of 2009. Gorman stated the request he made to the attorney was whether there needed to be two-third's approval or if the Board votes to terminate. Bartels stated he had the ability to release the Chief because he is the Executive Officer of the Village of East Dundee. Village Attorney explained the different statutes. If the Village President wants to remove someone, he has to have a written charge. The charge

is not defined in this statute. Trustee Miller asked if we are following the state statute or law and if there reason for dismissal. O'Connor stated he did not prepare a charge.

Withdrawal motion by Gorman/Lynam.

Motion to approve the removal of Chief Mee in accordance with 10-2.1-4 by Gorman. No second.

O'Connor stated Chief Mee has not been removed in accordance to the statute. The removal did not comply with state statute. Bartels states if he needs to do so, he will prepare a written charge.

Trustee Lynam stated he thinks that Bartels has been disingenuous since he was voted in. Ruffulo stated he has always felt the Village was top-heavy in administration. He stated for a town with 3,000 residents, we are very heavy in administration. He explained his feeling over the years and how the Chief was hired. Next year's budget will show an increase in garbage rates, which was promised to the residents, would not happen. He supported a change to where Trustees can not receive pay. He explained his disappointment in personal attacks. He explained his disappointment in Gorman requesting an opinion from our Village Attorney. He felt this was a financial decision to remove the Chief. Bartels stated Chief Mee is still employed until charges can be written.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

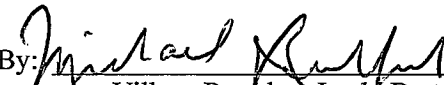
EXECUTIVE SESSION: None


Motion to recess to Executive Session: Executive Session, closed to the public and media under the provision of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5ILCS, 120/2, (2) (21), Discussion of Minutes, (C) (6), Pending Litigation, 2 (C)(1), Personnel and 2 (C)(5) Acquisition of Property and will be returning to Village Business.

Motion to adjourn the Special Village Board Meeting by Lynam/Miller at 8:15 pm.

Roll: Ayes - 7 - Trustees Ruffulo, Gorman, Lynam, Miller, Cichowski, VanOstenbridge and President Bartels. Nays - 0. Absent - 0. Motion carries and meeting adjourns.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 
~~Village President Jerald Bartels~~
President Pro Tem, Michael Ruffulo

Attest: 
Village Clerk, Jennifer R. Rehberg