



Milton Township

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Unofficial Minutes for Milton Township Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting Milton Township Hall - 32097 Bertrand St., Niles, MI Tuesday October 13, 2016 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and the pledge was recited.

Board Members Present: Robert Benjamin, Clerk Steve Sante, Treasurer Susan Flowers, Trustee Eric Renken Trustee (Arrived 7:20pm) and, Kelly Sweeney

Others Present: Chris Braden, (Grounds Keeper) Cori Buchar, (Administrative Assistant) Eileen Glick, (Zoning Administrator) Catherine Kaufman (Township Attorney)

Benjamin began the meeting by discussing how the meeting would “work”. He went on to say that closed session is the right of anybody. Review Stewart, whom was absent for the meeting, waived her right to a closed session.

Chris Braden began by reading several E-mails from Cori Buchar and Susan Flowers that he felt were harassment. He also recounted many incidents that we felt were harassment. The incident that occurred on September 7, 2016 angered him. He was mowing the grass on that date and said Buchar and Glick came out and began laughing and pointing at the way he had trimmed the bushes.

Braden said that he felt harassed by these actions and the E-mails and wanted it to stop. He asked that harassment charges be placed in the files of these two employees.

Benjamin indicated to Braden that it is in the job description of the administrative assistant to report safety concerns to the grounds keeper and that these E-mails were not to harass him. Benjamin went on to say that better communication is needed between Braden and Buchar.

Eileen Glick then spoke. She indicated she would be offended if harassment charges were placed in her file. She reviewed several ways in which Braden is not performing his tasks adequately.

Cori Buchar then spoke. Buchar indicated that harassment charges against her are unfounded. She also reviewed several ways in which Braden’s work around the township hall is not adequate.

The following board member comments were made:

Sweeney indicated the bushes in front of the building are of a poor quality and indicated that Braden trimmed the bushes just as he had asked.

Flowers indicated that the bushes had not been cut since the building was built. She asked Cori and Eileen if they harassed Braden.

Employee Reviews:

The BOT then provided employee performance reviews for Buchar and Glick. Both were offered closed sessions and declined.

Glick

Benjamin was happy with how Glick dealt with the gravel pit issues. These issues have not been taken care of in at least ten years.

Sweeney indicated there were no problems with Glick as far as the PC was concerned.

Buchar

Flowers indicated that Buchar had done a good job trying to get issues with the floor resolved.

Sante indicated that she had been very helpful in getting election tasks completed.

Benjamin indicated that there are sometimes disconnects on attitude when requests for work are made.

Employee Duties & Hours:

Buchar prefers working forty hours and leaving early on Friday. Stewart can't work past 5pm due to certain constraints. Benjamin suggested going to an hourly rate for the administrative assistant position.

Closed Session:

Motion: Benjamin made a motion to go into closed session per MCL 15.268 sub-paragraph H to review a legal opinion

Second Sweeney

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y.

Motion Carried

The board returned into open session at 9:05pm.

Motion: Benjamin made a motion indicating it recognizes and appreciates Braden's concerns and after review the actions of Buchar and Glick do not raise up to harassment. There is a need for respectful communication moving forward.

Second: Sante

Roll Call: Flowers Y, Renken Y, Sante Y, Sweeney Y, Benjamin Y.

Motion Carried

Adjournment:

Motion: Sweeney made a motion to adjourn at 9:18 pm

Second: Renken

Discussion: None

Motion Carried Unanimously