

Village of Volente City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes
5:30 PM Wednesday, June 5, 2019
City Hall

Meeting Opening: 5:30 PM

Roll Call

Present – Wilder/Ryan/Nace/Metro

Absent– Springer /Connors

Acting City Secretary: Nanette Akinleye

City Attorney: Erin Selvera

Executive Session: 5:40 PM

Out Executive Session: 6:30 PM

III ACTIONS TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

III(C) Motion:Nace/Ryan-That the city council initiate a complaint with the district attorney office against Council Member Bill Connors for actions taken while in office

Roll Call Affirmative Votes – Wilder/Metro/Ryan/ Nace

Opposed – None

Motion carried unanimously

Motion:Nace/Ryan- That the city council initiate a complaint with the district attorney office against Mayor David Springer for actions while in office

Roll Call Affirmative Votes –Wilder/ Metro/Ryan/ Nace

Opposed – None

Motion passed unanimously

IV GENERAL BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

IV(A) Wilder/Reading of Resolution No.2019-R-03 to all present

Motion: Ryan/ Nace - To approve the Resolution in all of its entirety of the city council of the village of volente to requesting the resignation of Mayor David Springer

Roll Call Affirmative Votes –Wilder/ Metro/Ryan/ Nace

Opposed – None

Motion passed unanimously

Motion to Amend: Nace –(1)Refuses to acknowledge the village of volente ordinance regarding the Emergency Management Coordinator assignment & appointment of two alternates (2) Openly lobbied Village Prosecutor to drop litigation between the Village of Volente and Mattie Adams

Motion Accepted:Ryan/Nace – (1)To amend resolution No.2019-R-03 adding the Emergency Management Coordinator for the village he refused to assign alternates per village ordinance & refusing to acknowledge that ordinance (2) Mayor Springer openly lobbied the Village prosecutor Erin Higgenbothom

Roll Call Affirmative Votes –Wilder/ Metro/Ryan/ Nace

Opposed – None

Motion passed unanimous

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IV(B) Ryan reading Resolution No. 2019-R-04 to all present

Motion: Ryan/Nace-To approve a resolution in its entirety requesting the resignation of Councilmember Bill Connors of the Village of Volente's City Council.

Roll Call Affirmative Votes –Wilder/ Metro/Ryan/ Nace

Opposed – None

Motion passed unanimously

Motion to Amend: Metro/Ryan – Connor's neglected to complete the state mandated audit for fiscal 2016/2017 which prevented the Village from completing subsequent audits

Roll Call Affirmative Votes –Wilder/ Metro/Ryan/ Nace

Opposed – None

Motion passed unanimously

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Judy Gracie : Can you explain what actions the attorney could go through and the process of the district court , how long, how much and what you need

Erin Selvera: The complaint will be assigned to an investigator either district attorney or the Texas rangers depending on the allegations and evidence then whichever decides to take the case there is a bond requirement set by a judge set at a later date. These will be based on separate allegations. If the district attorney determines there is enough evidence to proceed. They will make a determination to sit down make an agreement, settlement or terms. The defendants have a right to trial

Judy Graci: This isn't with the village

Erin Selvera: This is not a municipal case

Steve Baker: The motion in lieu of council doing something on its own to vacate the seats LGC.22.041

Erin Selvera: Based on review of attendance they haven't met the threshold of 3 consecutive meetings

Steve Baker: Is this on the grounds of obstruction by missing 6 and regular scheduled meetings

Erin Selvera: Yes will be discussed under regular business items separate issues will be raised with the district attorney's office. Official misconduct all actions public and those that are attorney client privilege will be taken to the district attorney for their consideration

Steve Baker: A citizen has already submitted with the district attorney and they refused the consideration so why would council pursue this

Erin Selvera: There is additional information that will be provided that wasn't available at the time because of client privilege

David Gordon: What bothers me is Springers access to the law firm and running up extravagant legal fees trying to get a vote knowing that is not the way we have run this town for 15 years. Is there any way we can cut him off or council buffer? Shocking amount of money being spent and he's just burning it out the back door with lawyers instead of roads. Can we cut him off

Mayor Pro Tem Wilder: This is not a good time for the village but it has gotten to the point we have to act

Erin Selvera: If he would resign we don't have to go through this process it will be councils discretion.

Council has the authority to ask the district attorney no to pursue but depending on the allegations the district attorney has the final discretion

David Gordon: Why not have a deadline if they refuse to comply

Erin Selvera: They can choose to resign

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Mary Schere: Asks if private messages describing the intentions from the Mayor on nextdoor would this be something that could possibly be of interest to the DA

Kit Hopkins: From a financial stand point are the checks getting signed been resolved so the village is able to run

Mayor Pro Tem Wilder: Yes, we are now .We haven't been able to conduct meetings because lack of quorum

Debbie Gold: Any effects on building process

Councilmember Ryan: Not any more

Joyce Beck: Would 6/18/2019 the 3rd consecutive regular meeting that Springer would have missed

Councilmember Nace: Springer and Connors both confirmed for the 6/18/2019 meeting

Judy Graci: Not a transparent action, after Mattie Adams this should have been brought out to the public. You all have the right to do what your doing to do no transparency not even on nextdoor

Councilmember Nace: Nextdoor isn't a reliable source. Attorney/client privileged information can't be divulged

Steve Baker: Community supports council at 90 percent vote of a poll on next door

Ken Beck: He adds to what Steve Baker said and thanks council he is working on a petition in support of council action

Motion To Adjourn: Wilder/Ryan

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting Close: 9:10 PM