

CAMPBELLSPORT VILLAGE BOARD

Special Meeting
August 19, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Village President Pat Twohig at 6:02 P.M. Board Members present were Joanne Del Ponte, Janet Hafemann, Steve Schickert, Dave Schellhaass, Dave Krebs, and Bob Guenther. Also present were Village Clerk/Treasurer Diane Lemke and Village Legal Council Tony Renning.

A motion was made by Dave Krebs to go into Closed Session pursuant to State Statute 19.85 (1) (b) to consider dismissal, demotion, licensing, or discipline of any public employee or person licensed by a board or commission or the investigation of charges against any person. Joanne Del Ponte seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

The meeting was called to allow the Clerk/Treasurer to respond to allegations that she used village funds for personal cell phones without reimbursing the village. She got her cell phone through a program that gave her a more favorable rate and she paid the village for this service until 2011. She also arranged for an additional cell phone for a family member and this was also paid for by the village without reimbursement. She also used a village credit card to purchase items to be used at a clerk's convention. During her explanation of these events she had multiple reasons for this happening and her stories didn't always check out.

The amount of money involved in these two items was not as big an issue as the way she tried to explain her actions. The board felt that they could no longer have any confidence in her being able to tell the truth. The consensus of the board was that we needed to make a personal change in the Clerk/Treasurer. Rather than take legal action against Diane Lemke, the Village Board felt we should give her the option of resigning or retiring. We would pay her the accumulated benefits for her position if she would give us a signed statement of retirement or resignation with a promise no further legal action against the Village.

Diane Lemke was asked to return to the meeting. When she arrived, Dave Schellhaass made motion to return to open session at 7:50 P.M. and Janet Hafemann seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Our Legal Counsel Tony Renning explained the Village Board position to Diane Lemke and offered her the option of retirement or resignation over Board action to remove her from her position. She agreed to exercise the resignation option. Dave Krebs made a motion to accept her resignation and the motion was seconded by Joanne Del Ponte. The motion specified that Diane Lemke would resign as of August 19, 2013, she would be paid for unused 2013 vacation days, earned 2014 vacation days, prorated compensation time and earned sick leave days. Travel expenses for a Clerk's convention to be held later in the week would also be paid for Diane Lemke. The motion passed 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Janet Hafemann made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 P.M., Joanne Del Ponte seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote.

Submitted by Pat Twohig