

VILLAGE OF HEBRON  
MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Special Meeting Minutes of the  
VILLAGE OF HEBRON BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Monday, November 13, 2024

Village President Robert Shelton called the meeting of the Village Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Trustees Present:** Roll call: Shepherd, Correll, Milarski, Stevens, Mindham and Mogan answered aye to roll call.

**Also Present:** Clerk Johnson, Attorney Walters and 17 Visitors were in attendance.

**Public Comments:**

*Steve Morris*, stated that a lot of the community has lost trust in many of the Trustees, stated the President appointed a known felon to the Board of Trustees, Trustees with Criminal arrest records, a Trustee dating a pedophile, and believes that there is a lot of issues with the Trustees judgements. Stating that when it comes to appointing a new Police Chief and having the Board of Trustees with a lot of baggage the community has a lot of questions, a lot of doubts, and no faith in the ability of the Trustees to follow through with what the community wants. He stated the community believes that Sergeant Biancalana should be appointed as interim Chief until the next administration is in place to carry forth.

*Pat Peterson*, asked the Board members a few questions in regards to the hiring of the New Police Chief. First question, who was on the selection committee to interview for this Police Chief position, 2.) Were the current employees of the Police Department notified and allowed to apply for this position, 3.) Was there a standard list of questions based on the formal job description asked and answered by every applicant, 4.) Was there a comprehensive screening or assessment of each applicant following the interview. She stated she is asking on behalf of the Village of Hebron Residents that the Board please be very sure this is the decision the Board wants to make because the Village Safety is a huge concern for the Village residents.

*Linda Olesen*, wants to know why an emergency meeting was called to bring in a new Police Chief as we have been without one for months now. Why when the Trustees were called in to vote with President Shelton on voting Juanita Gumble out, why was there was no plan then in place for a new chief? She stated that now the President is in a big hurry to get the Police Chief position filled, why? She stated President Shelton is not concerned about spending money as these extra meetings are expensive for Hebron residents. President Shelton spent money on extra police protection for himself after Juanita was terminated. Linda asked if Peter Goldman was researched or had a background check on him? She stated she doesn't feel Peter Goldman was thoroughly checked out or this meeting wouldn't be taking place. She also doesn't believe that President Shelton does background checks on anyone, as he has appointed many with criminal backgrounds. She believes Peter Goldman is being pushed through as he is a friend of Trustee Mogan, just because they are friends does not mean he is qualified for the job. She states that Trustee Mogan and Peter Goldman work together at the Courthouse in court security. She also stated that Trustee Mogan and President Shelton are friends, and they often work together on issues without the rest of the Board. She stated that Peter Goldman is not currently a Police Officer, he works court security, and he has never been a full-time officer. Peter Goldman was a Part time Police Chief in Oakwood Hills and terminated from that position, after termination he tried to sue Oakwood Hills for wrongful termination. He took this suit all the way to Federal Court where it was decided his rights were not violated. Peter Goldman has not worked as a full-time officer since his termination.

*Cindy Erckfritz*, had no comments.

position so that terminated him. He stated they were not allowed to terminate someone's position if they are out on a work-related injury. Once he was no longer employed, they stopped paying his medical bills and he had to pay the bills. With that being said, to get into a work comp hearing was years down the road. Unfortunately, to get this to happen quickly you must sue the Village for wrongful termination. What the chief did for termination was a policy violation because he did not return to work. He states it was terrible because he did not want to sue the Village he wanted to go back to work, he did not care if he was a Sergeant. He made his way up the ranks and loved his position; he was there for 16 years and wanted to continue. He understands it looks bad but all he wanted to do was be made whole. After that he went to work for the McHenry County Sheriff's Department in the Court Security Division. He has been there for 5 plus years. While working there the Village of Union asked him to come work for them as a Patrolman, he has worked for them for over 3 years and is currently still employed by McHenry County Sheriff's office and the Village of Union. He has been in the law division for a long time. He knows Trustee Mogan from meeting him at the McHenry County Courthouse Security Division, he states Trustee Mogan and himself are not friends, they do not hang out together, they only see each other in passing. He stated he is assigned a floor and Trustee Mogan is assigned a Courtroom. They do see each other in the hallway, and they are friendly but not friends, they don't communicate, etc. But states yes, they are friends. While working for both those agencies the Village of Holiday Hills asked him to come work for them as they terminated their Chief. He was asked to come work for them in an interim position to evaluate the Police Department and try to get things back on track. It was offered to him to stay as their Police Chief and he turned it down as it did not feel like a good fit and felt the department was not going in a good direction for the community. They just seemed to be concerned with their pockets, and he did not want to be any part of that. He gave them his advice, input, thanked them and moved on. With the position of Chief of Police in the Village of Hebron, he understands the animosity and he hopes that the animosity with what may have happened in the past does not skew peoples perspective of him, he is just the guy who is trying to fill a position that he has experience in and it is all been in small Policing. The population of Oakwood Hills is approximately 2400, the population of Union is about 700 during the nights, the business population runs it up to about 7000. He likes small town policing and states that he is pretty good at it. He did have the opportunity while working with Oakwood Hills to work with the Illinois State Police, in which every year he would donate time and work with their troubled teen youth camp annually. He likes to participate in the Northern Illinois Police week where they go into the malls and meet people to try to break down the bridge of good guy bad guy. He was also selected Nationally by the Steve Harvey Show earlier in 2016 to be a representative for Law Enforcement in their Police and Community relations, they call it their Town Hall episode. It can be found on google. His father was also in law enforcement for over forty years. President Shelton asked if the Board had any questions. Trustee Milarski thanked Peter Goldman for stepping up and applying for this job, she asked him how he found out about this position. Peter Goldman stated that it was 2 ways, one working in this County for so long and being a Chief a couple times he knows a lot of people in the area and of command level. Discussion of Chiefs coming and going are hot topics, that is what other Chiefs talk about. He heard something was happening and from there he asked Trustee Mogan. He told Trustee Mogan that he heard through the grapevine that something may be happening with the Villages current Chief. Trustee Milarski stated that typically when positions are available, they are posted publicly and none of which the Village did. She went on to state that the Village did not post this position publicly. She asked Peter Goldman if he met with anyone else on the Board or talked to them on the phone. He stated No, not individually. He stated that he met with President Shelton and Sergeant Biancalana. Trustee Stevens asked again if Peter has met with anyone on the board, he stated he met with President Shelton and Sergeant Biancalana and had conversation with Trustee Mogan. Trustee Milarski asked who interviewed him and he stated President Shelton, Sergeant Biancalana but that was more technically than anything else, and discussion and

that was brought to him on Tuesday, why was this not brought to the Board months ago. President Shelton stated that there is no reason to bring something forward unless it is going to be workable and set up and proper. In that respect there were things that needed to be done and taken care of to have Peter brought before the Board. Trustee Mogan stated that he was not selected months ago. Trustee Mogan stated that he was selected as a candidate months ago and the Board has had 8 days to call him or email him and they failed to do so, just so they could sit here tonight and bitch about not having access to him. Trustee Stevens said No he is bitching about the fact that they are a Board and up until recently they were a Board that worked together, until Robert Shelton decided to blackball several members of this Board because they voted against him when he decided to get rid of Juanita and throw her out on the street. He states that is why he is upset. Trustee Stevens stated if Trustee Mogan wants to say that he is Bitching he is right, because Trustee Mogan and President Shelton had Peter come in the side door so they could play whatever the hell games they are playing in the back. Trustee Stevens stated that the last President of the Village did the same thing, and Robert Shelton said he would not do that and now he is doing the same exact thing. Trustee Mogan stated that it is just more mis information. Trustee Stevens asked Trustee Mogan what mis information, Trustee Mogan stated he did not sneak anyone in any side doors. Trustee Stevens stated he is not up there to bitch, he is up there to get questions answered. Trustee Mogan asked why Trustee Stevens did not call him a week ago, yesterday, or at all, or send an email. Trustee Stevens asked why this information was not out months ago when he was being considered as a candidate. Trustee Mogan stated the waiver was not approved from the State training Board. Trustee Milarski stated that everyone had a right to know he was being looked at as a candidate. Trustee Stevens stated he has been on the radar as a candidate and not until last week was he notified and told that this gentleman was brought in here and advised Trustee Mogan to not accuse him of bitching or make him sound like his concerns are petty because the candidate was brought in under the cloak & dagger the same way the last President did things. Trustee Stevens asked Trustee Mogan to fill him in as he is the smartest man in the room. Trustee Stevens went on to say it wasn't mis information it is NO information is what he was provided. Trustee Mogan stated that when the candidate was decided on, the information was shared with everybody to have the opportunity to call him and have a conversation with him. Trustee Stevens stated that a couple Trustees have known about this candidate for months and have been sitting on it. Trustee Mogan stated they have not been sitting on it for months, they did not know he was going to be the guy months ago. Trustee Stevens stated to Trustee Mogan that they knew he was going to be a possible candidate months ago. He also stated that the Board is not a united front, they are the United States of Robert Shelton. Trustee Mogan stated that Juanita quit and there is an email stating it. Trustee Milarski stated that Trustee Mogan should recuse himself because he is friends with Peter Goldman. Trustee Mogan asked why and stated so what if he knew him. Trustee Milarski stated that his involvement in the hiring process with Peter Goldman is too much and he should recuse himself. Trustee Mogan stated he has been in law enforcement for the County for 30 years and there is a good chance he would know anyone that applies. He stated he knew of Juanita. He stated that Peter Goldman is qualified. Trustee Mogan stated that he received an email from someone who is extremely misinformed stating that Peter is not qualified because he hasn't attended the academy, and he is not full-time. He is full-time and has been with the state board since October 16, 2024, when the waiver was submitted. He states he is certified as active full-time. Trustee Stevens asked if he had been full time for a month. Trustee Mogan stated that it is correct, and he did not find out until a week ago. As soon as President Shelton got word, he sent out the packet and scheduled the meeting. Trustee Milarski asked Peter Goldman if he is currently still employed and if he has put in his resignation yet with the Sheriff's Department. Peter Goldman answered yes, he is still employed and no he hasn't put in his resignation because he was not officially hired yet. Trustee Mindham stated he is new here and he is here because when the previous Chief resigned and the Trustee that had his position had to resign, it was a snowball effect. Trustee Mindham stated there are

Chief training. Sergeant Biancalana stated that he needs to go to Swick training for 2 weeks and then an online training for a week, not sure of the cost. Trustee Mogan stated that President Shelton has been informed that the new Police Chief will need to go to a training that is only offered quarterly so they will allow him to take that next time it is offered, he was not sure of the cost. Trustee Stevens asked Attorney Michael Walters about the Police Department Policy Manual, he stated that the appointment of the Village Police Chief is at the prerogative of the Village President with the advice and consent of the Village Board. Trustee Milarski stated she is aware of that however, the Police Department Policy Manual was not followed, it was not put in public notices, no Board member had the opportunity to interview Mr. Goldman, there was no search committee, questions asked to Mr. Goldman were asked differently to other applicants, nothing was done according to the Police Department Policy manual. Treasurer assistant Charis stated that in the Police Department Policy Manual it does state that along with Village Ordinances, this Policy manual goes along with it and strictly states that the examination of an applicant shall be open, competitive, public and open to all citizens of the United States with specified limitations as to residency, age, habits and oral character. Trustee Milarski stated that this Police Department Policy manual was signed by President Shelton, yet he did not follow his own policy. She states that if you are going to follow protocol then you need to follow protocol completely and that was not done. She stated President Shelton did what he wanted to do like he always does, he only gives the information he wants the Board to hear, and it is not the first time. She states that they are not equipped to make an accurate vote on the new Police Chief tonight. She stated to President Shelton that he read the Police Department Policy manual and signed it and now he is violating it, by doing what he wants, not what is in the Police Department Policy Manual he signed. President Shelton stated to Attorney Walters that from the Village of Hebron this is a completely legitimate and if the Board is not going to get anywhere on this discussion, he is going to call it, finish it and he will put this to a vote. Trustee Shepherd stated that of all the Presidents he has served on this board with they have always had a committee that has interview the officers, he referred to Former Trustee Lange and stated that he believed he did that with the previous administration as well. Former President Beatty had his neighbor who was a retired detective help do the interviews. He states that they then bring it to the board, and they vote up or down. He feels President Shelton did the same thing. He stated that he is sorry that Trustee Milarski found a few loopholes tonight. Trustee Milarski said she did not find loopholes, this Police Department Policy manual was put into effect in 2023, where President Shelton signed it, therefore it takes precedence over the way it was done previously. President Shelton stated that Sergeant Biancalana was part of the interview, as was Trustee Mogan. Trustee Mogan is the Police liaison the people that are familiar with the circumstances, nothing has been done out of the ordinary. Trustee Stevens stated that his concern is that the Village has gotten rid of a Police Chief that was well loved in the community, and he stated that Trustee Mogan stated that Juanita resigned, but his point is that there was a meeting to discuss whether Juanita should be removed from office or not, not a resignation letter. However, when that happened, he did not agree with the way the vote went, but the vote went that way. What bothers him is that the Board has a gentleman in their mist and when push comes to shove, and he was asked to take on additional roles, step up to the plate and take care of the community with a skeleton crew of himself and a CSO at the time. He is a person who has shown up time and time again and has been here every single time there is a call or things hit the fan, and the board is passing him by all together. He believes that this is an absolutely disappointing slap in the face to the Police Department and Community Members. Again, he knows nothing about Peter Goldman because he was not allowed to know anything about him until Tuesday, but he knows Bruce Biancalana and he is a fine officer, and he would make a fine Chief. Trustee Mindham stated that he had no idea how the past was done but asked if a committee was done before. Trustee Milarski stated that the whole board was called for Juanita, and the President spoke to each one of them for an extended period of time. Trustee Mindham asked if before Juanita was hired was the same process done for them and