

APPROVED 10/18/2017
WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2017
12:30PM
WATERSMEET COMMUNITY CENTER
www.watersmeet.us

A special meeting of the Watersmeet Township Board of Trustees was called to order by supervisor Rogers at 12:33 pm.

Members present: Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield
Others present: Laura Kopsi, Dale Kemppainen, Dan Kline, Robert Murphy

Alan Piel moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second from Bill Neumann. Motion carried.

Special business to consider: Employee Disciplinary Hearing: A meeting was called to discuss Andy Hacker's driving for the township on a suspended license and his failure to report it to the board. Andy declined a closed hearing and said that he has nothing to hide. The board questioned why he didn't report it. He said he did not do it with any malicious intent and that he has been "pro" township all through his employment. He stated that he has been an advocate for training and equipment to avoid any liability to the township. He also stated that the ticket was given in response to an accident he had and the ticket was written for impaired vision due to a fogged windshield and that it was written better than 30 minutes after the accident. He also reported that to his knowledge he didn't receive any letter from the Secretary of State telling him his license was suspended. It was confirmed with the SOS by Supervisor Rogers that they had sent out a letter. He said it happened on his way to work and it was personal not work related and therefore put it out of his mind. Andy took the 5 day suspension handed down to him to take care of some personal items.

Laura Kopsi stated that she has worked with Andy for years and that he had lied to her in the past, but apologized for it and she will abide by what the board feels is for the good of the township as far as punishment is concerned.

A motion was offered by Bill Neumann with a second from Alan Piel to go into closed session to discuss Andy's employment with the town. Roll Call Vote...Ayes: Mike Rogers, Alan Piel, Paul Kemppainen, Bill Neumann, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried. Closed session entered at 12:52pm.

A motion to re-enter the special meeting was offered by Alan Piel with support from Paul Kemppainen. Roll Call Vote...Ayes: Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried. Special Meeting re-entered at 1:25pm.

A motion to reinstate Andy Hacker as of September 25, 2017 was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel. Roll Call Vote: Ayes...Mike Rogers, Bill Neumann, Paul Kemppainen, Alan Piel, Sandy Mansfield. Motion carried.

After weighing the items presented in closed session, the board feels that Andy has been an asset to the township in the past. The board has reinstated him with conditions. Andy accepted the conditions and thanked the board for his reinstatement.

It is the consensus of the board that the Fire Department should hold a special meeting to determine his standing in the department. The Fire Department is not part of the union and therefore it will not be dealt with as this meeting.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Bill Neumann with support from Alan Piel. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 1:36pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Mansfield, Clerk
Watersmeet Township