

**Village of Waterman  
Finance and Personnel Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Waterman Village Hall  
215 W. Adams St.  
Waterman, IL 60556  
Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6PM**

Meeting called to order by Trustee Radtke 6:10PM.

**Roll Call:** Trustee Radtke, Trustee Pearson, Trustee Feitlich arriving at 6:21PM.

**Guests:** Village Attorney Bill Porter, Village Attorney Heather Nevue, Village Clerk Abigail Pool, Village Trustee Arnie Johanningsmeier.

**Approval of previous meetings minutes:** Trustee Pearson made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April 27, 2021. Trustee Radtke second. Passed 2/0.

**New Business:**

Will make the recommendation to the village board to retain current counsel based on a number of ongoing issues. Board wants to see the continuity and follow through of the attorneys. Hiring a new attorney would require the board to spend time and dollars to caught up the new attorney. Trustee Radtke reported nine ongoing issues needing legal counsel.

Discussed creating a special committee to deal with the fire damage. Attorney Bill Porter provided a summary of the current facts in the matter of the fire at Lion's Park. Pete Robinson came to the board in August, 2020 and announced his retirement. The board gave him until March to begin the process of removing equipment. At which time, they issued a notice. The fire happened within days of the notice to remove the train and tracks from Lion's Park. There were subsequent reminders and notices about the clean-up. The village moved forward with hiring a contractor to do the clean-up of the park, including the fire damage, tracks, and trains. On Saturday, May 15, 2021 the excavators starting working on the clean-up when Pete Robinson interfered and made them stop. Trustee Radtke expressed continued concern for the health and safety of its community members. Trustee Radtke also expressed continued concern regarding the liability is causes to the village. It has been 44 days since fire. There is immediate need to get the fire damage cleaned up. Village Attorney Heather Nevue recommending special committee to communicate with the insurance and the excavation company. Trustee Feitlich asked for a motion to have special committee. Trustee Pearson made motion. Trustee Radtke second. Motion carried 3/0. Trustee Pearson made motion to include the following committee members: Trustees Johanningsmeier, Feitlich, Pearson, and Radtke. Trustee Radtke second. Motion carried 3/0.

Moved into executive session at 7:07PM. Left executive session at 7:38PM.

Recommendation from committee is to proceed with the contractor to clean up the fire damage. The committee sees too much risk to the village to allow someone uninsured and unlicensed to clean up the fire damage. The building remains unstable, may have faulty wiring, and accelerants. The committee recommends to allow Pete and Charleen Robinson can remove everything outside of the burned building by May 28, 2021 or the village will take further action. The committee also recommended Pete

and Charleen reach out to the excavating company to see if they can retrieve some of the materials in the burned building after it has been cleaned up.

**Public Comment:** Charleen Robinson questioned about how to pay for it. Trustee Radtke said she does not feel it is the tax payers' responsibility to pay for the clean-up. Attorney Bill Porter cited the lease agreement as stating the responsibility should fall on Pete and Charleen Robinson.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:48PM.



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Submitted by:

Dr. Sarah Radtke, Village Trustee