Village of Greenup, Illinois Minutes of Special Village Board Meeting

6-19-2025

A special Meeting of the Greenup Village Board was held on Wednesday, June 19, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Those in attendance were Mayor Thomas Bauguss, Trustees Alene Blade, Josh Kingery, Paul Marti, Mx McCollough and Tony Wright as well as Treasurer/Utility Coordinator Kay Hornbeck.

Those absent were Village Clerk Jill Kimble and Village Trustee Sherry Parker.

Also present were April Harris Wes Chambers and Billie Chambers.

Mayor Bauguss called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance after which Trustee Paul Marti conducted the roll call.

Under Public Comments Treasurer/Utility Coordinator Kay Hornbeck read a Letter of Resignation from Village Utility Employee Michael Ryder, effective on June 19, 2025.

Hornbeck returned the keys to Mayor Bauguss and the Mayor stated that he did not feel the board needed to move into Executive Session any longer.

Treasurer/Utility Coordinator Hornbeck then asked to say more and read her own Letter of Resignation effective July 2, 2025. She thanked the board for her time with the village.

Trustee Wright made the motion to accept the resignation of Michael Ryder and Trustee Marti seconded the motion. The motion passed with Trustees Kingery, Marti and Wright voting aye and Trustees Blade and McCollough voting nay.

Mayor Bauguss stated he did not think the board should take action on the resignation of Treasurer/Utility Coordinator Hornbeck since it was not on the agenda.

Trustee McCollough commented it was a sad day for the village when people get in trouble for doing their job

Mayor Bauguss then stated he was unaware of any employee getting in trouble for doing their job.

In Public Comments April Harris stated she believed the issue was the Mayor causing problems. She then stated that in a message to her Trustee Marti had stated he intended to change the structure of the utility department.

Trustee Blade then asked, 'So you had an agenda?"

Trustee Marti stated he did indeed say that, after being elected and learning the structure was not in line with the Personnel Handbook. He said we need to follow the rules as they are written, or change them before filling positions which do not exist.

April Harris then passed out a letter that listed her opinion that two long time employees were being targeted for dismissal. At that point the meeting became chaotic with accusations and sidebars then Harris accused the Mayor of throwing a Christmas Tree in the village dumpster and burning tires on village property.

Mayor Bauguss explained the Christmas Tree had been in the Fire and ambulance hall for years and the former Ambulance Coordinator asked that it be removed. Being in poor shape it was disposed of. He then asked what tires she was speaking of and said he had no idea. Harris did not respond with specifics or an approximate date or time of this event.

Harris then accused the Mayor of speaking about Executive Session items outside of the Executive Session. And then the Mayor stated Harris frequently missed board meetings and did not know what was going on.

The Mayor stated the Village Sewer Plant gate has been locked and no dumping or burning is allowed.

Trustee McCollough started to read from an Executive Session in open meeting but was stopped by Trustee Blade who reminded him that could not be done.

Trustee McCollough moved for an Executive Session and Trustee Blade seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

The board went into Executive session at 6:14 p.m. At 6:55 p.m. the board came out of executive session and roll call was taken.

The Mayor announced no action was taken in Executive Session.

Trustee McCollough moved and Trustee Blad seconded to adjourn with all voting aye.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.