

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE
Approved Minutes of the Special Board of Trustees Meeting
January 21, 2011

Clerk Lilley called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Brendel called the roll:

Present: Terry Lilley, Clerk
Forrest Jay Brendel, Treasurer
Carol Burkard, Trustee
Mike Powell, Trustee
Todd Birkle, Trustee
Gregory Baroni, Trustee

Also Present: Amy Bertin, Recording Secretary

It was MOVED by Treasurer Brendel, SUPPORTED by Trustee Baroni to appoint Clerk Lilley as Chairman for tonight's White Lake Township Special Board Meeting. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (6 yes votes).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Trustee Burkard spoke on the importance of a vote. In a recent genealogy search done on her family, she found out that her relative, Henry Selden, was asked by Abraham Lincoln to be his vice president. He said he wouldn't be able to do it because he was the trial lawyer for Susan B. Anthony. He gave up the right and the possibility of being the vice president because he felt for women to have the right to vote in 1872 was too important. Here I sit, his relative, years later with a historic vote for White Lake Township.

If this vote tonight is deadlocked, at least there is the ability for the write in vote. She has spoken with Mr. Pierson. He is a wonderful resident. His knowledge on the law is unbelievable. He would be a wonderful asset to the Board. She quoted from the cover letter of his resume which stated his support for Mr. Baroni to be appointed as township supervisor and his initial desire to be appointed as trustee. When she casts her vote tonight, it is going to be for who she feels her constituents want her to vote for.

Trustee Powell commented that there were three very good candidates interviewed. Each one of them stands on their own and each one could serve as township supervisor. He feels the Board shouldn't be rash in their decision but make a logical choice and he is prepared to do that.

Trustee Birkle thanked the citizens for being patient with the Board through the struggle of trying to nominate a supervisor. He appreciates the people who interviewed for the position,

as well as those who submitted resumes and the two board members. There are many quality candidates to choose from.

Trustee Baroni stated that during the appointment process he has had a couple meetings with Mr. Powell. It was agreed no matter who wins the appointment, they would work with that individual. Whatever happens today, he is willing to accept the outcome, move on and hold no grudges.

Clerk Lilley had some comments he prepared which he felt were important to share. He is not the ring leader of the Burkard/Baroni/Lilley group. He is a township clerk and he has one vote. He feels very strongly that he is committed to serving the residents of this community, supporting township staff and helping others in any way he can. He is blessed with an incredible staff who has spent hours on township budgets, improving citizen services and elections. He has spent his time during the work week or on days off to respond to both Mr. Powell and Mr. Baroni to discuss the vacancy for supervisor. He doesn't regret getting to know them better from personal face to face meetings. He has been both blunt and respectful of their personal views. He is not a backstabber. He tells it like it is. He is not a gifted public speaker but he has been open to suggestion, sincere and honest in his convictions. He has no business conflicts or private interests. He has no obligations, nor does he owe monies to anybody that he feels he has to bend over to show favoritism to vote on their approvals.

He has spent more time as an elected official, trustee, supervisor, clerk, worked as a township building official and 18 and a half years as a fire fighter, more than anyone on this Board. His experience and dedication to this community speaks for itself and others should take advantage to learn from both past experiences good and bad. He believes in a strong work ethic and follows the rules of engagement. Through collaborative efforts we were very fortunate to secure capacity in the White Lake/Commerce waste water treatment plant which guarantees that we have the growth that we experience today in the form of sewers.

He was pleased that Mr. Baroni addressed the issues that were really important to those both inside and outside the Township Hall. It is not surprising that others have not taken the opportunity to know Mr. Baroni, but how could you if the first meeting that you had with that gentleman was the meeting you said, I want to talk you out of being supervisor. It was helpful for me to know what both candidates stood for. Last night he was extremely impressed with Mr. Pierson's interview. He did take note both of Mr. Pierson's verbal statements and his written attached letter specifically telling this Board and those in the audience that even he would prefer that Greg Baroni be selected as township supervisor.

We have listened to the people of the township and the audience. This Board and this community would be best served by selecting Greg Baroni as township supervisor and William Pierson to fill the vacancy as township trustee. He would best serve the people with

experience, commitment, dedication and knowledge. This is a tough choice for me but I don't represent any vote on this Board other than mine. He is going to vote for the convictions he feels is right for the people of this community.

It was MOVED by Clerk Lilley, SUPPORTED by Trustee Burkard to appoint Greg Baroni as Township Supervisor. The MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote (Powell-no/Birkle-no/Baroni-yes/Burkard-yes/Lilley-yes/Brendel-no).

It was MOVED by Treasurer Brendel, SUPPORTED by Trustee Powell to appoint William Pierson as Township Supervisor. The MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote (Powell-yes/Birkle-yes/Baroni-no/Burkard-no/Lilley-no/Brendel-yes.)

Trustee Birkle stated that from Trustee Burkard's comments tonight it appears she would have been supportive if Mr. Lilley were to reconsider the nomination for supervisor's position. He would ask that maybe he rethink his position to avoid an election. Clerk Lilley is up on the issues and has done the job before and he could step in and do the job again.

Clerk Lilley indicated his enthusiasm 10 or 15 years ago is a lot different than it is today. He feels strongly that it is a 24/7 job, it takes a full commitment. He is committed to his staff. He will respectfully decline.

Trustee Birkle also would like to applaud Trustee Powell in coming to a consensus in voting for another candidate in an attempt to avoid this gridlock and avoid a special election. He was hoping somebody else would follow suit so we could get this important issue taken care of and is somewhat disappointed.

Caryn Robinson. 4475 McKeachie. If you did a vote now, would you change your minds? Because we don't have leadership. Mr. Lilley, if it was an election and you were running for supervisor, you may very well have won. We need leadership. Would you change your vote if you did it again right now? Mr. Lilley, would you change your mind?

Trustee Birkle proposed that the Board might entertain the idea of restructuring how we operate for two years such as a supervisor that is more part-time with an appointed manager.

Lauren Lewsley. 9507 Steephollow Drive, White Lake. Forrest, you're our Treasurer. I have a lot of faith in you. You're a man of integrity. You're a businessman. I believe you are a man of your word. A week ago, you told my husband and Mike Long that before you would allow this township to go through the expense of a special election you would change your vote. She and the audience feels that the best two candidates are sitting on this Board now.

Bill Pierson. 2153 Ridge Road. He would like the people and the Board to know that he does not personally know Mr. Baroni, they have no relationship of any kind. As he said yesterday

and as he put in his letter, from reviewing Mr. Baroni's resume and in listening to his experience and other board members talk about him, that is where he learned his knowledge of what he could do for the township. He agreed to go forward with interviewing for the job if it would have broken the stale mate and better the township. If it would take withdrawal of his name for supervisor to do that, he would be willing to withdraw his name.

Mike Long. Regarding Mr. Powell's statement concerning Mr. Baroni just being on the Board for a couple of months, he was on the committee that felt Mr. Baroni was the most qualified candidate to be treasurer. The only thing that lacked was that Mr. Brendel was an elected official. Now, if he had those qualifications to get that far, I don't think the short amount of time he's been on this Board should have any bearing on the fact he wouldn't be able to run this township for 18 months.

Matt Sprader. He feels the bonus in having Greg is he is not experienced. The people are tired of a lock here. There has been meeting after meeting and not one thing has changed. He is a good man and it is what White Lake Township needs.

Marge Mosser. The best thing going for Greg is we have two years to see what he can do. We've seen what has been done here. We need fresh blood. We need different opinions. We don't need the same old, same old.

Mike Long. He respects Mr. Powell as a person and a businessman. The position of supervisor is a 24/7 job and he doesn't believe Mr. Powell can do that. He has contracts in his engineering firm that needs to be filled. A businessman doesn't let somebody else run his business. He saw Mr. Baroni at the Planning Commission meeting that was for the open public. He was hoping that somebody else would show up, too. It was very important to see those people out in that audience talk about what they want on that master plan.

Mr. Johnson. He's been a resident for 30 plus years. He's watched this township grow, he's watched and run elections. Many elections are won by name recognition. Many don't have the experience and knowledge for the job but get the position due to name recognition. He would prefer for the Board to make the nomination on someone who is qualified rather than the public who might vote for someone strictly on name recognition.

Resident. He is wondering who is going to give in, who is going to change their mind, change their vote. You know who you are that can make a difference of how the vote could go.

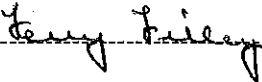
Clerk Lilley stated the Board will adjourn for tonight and meet again Monday night at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

**It was MOVED by Trustee Brendel, SUPPORTED by Trustee Burkard to adjourn the meeting.
The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote (6 yes votes).**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

I, Terry Lilley, the duly elected and qualified Clerk of the Charter Township of White Lake,
County of Oakland, State of Michigan, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the
January 21, 2011 special board meeting minutes.

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Terry Lilley, Clerk
White Lake Township
Oakland County, Michigan