

Minutes of Special Council

April 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Haver.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present.

Present were: Mayor, Larry Haver; Council members Bruce Hart, Ron Beverly, Ron Jones and Ed Foster; and Clerk/Treasurer, Diane Collins. Pocratsky & Haver were absent. Police Chief Szabo was present.

Council met to discuss whether or not to lay off police officers due to the income tax collections being down 11%. It was stated that a police grant is available for new hires, retaining officers that are scheduled to be laid off, or to recall officers laid off. If we intend to apply for a COPS Hiring Recovery Program grant we would have to show scheduled intentions to lay off.

The proposed grant would pay officers wages along with their benefits for three years. We then must employ those officers for 12 months after the 36 month period is over. It is not known how soon the grant funds would be awarded. When asked, Chief Szabo stated she would like to apply for the funds but does not want to lay off officers. Hart voiced concerns about the laid off officers finding jobs other places and us losing them totally. Beverly and Hart stated they were unaware of any talk about laying off officers until this meeting. Beverly stated it would make more sense to lay off other personnel rather than police officers. Mayor Haver stated he wants to schedule lay offs and apply for the grant funds.

Foster moved to lay off two officers as of July 1, 2009. Jones seconded. Hart & Beverly voted no. Jones & Foster voted yes. The vote remained a tie.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

MAYOR

CLERK

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Larry Haver

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Diane Collins