



Village of Caseyville

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Caseyville, Illinois 62232

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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 13, 2014

Call to Order:

The Special Board Meeting of the Village of Caseyville was called to order at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Leonard Black. The meeting was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2014 in the Council Chambers at 909 South Main, Caseyville, IL 62232.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and silent prayer.

Roll Call:

Trustees present: Kerry Davis, Wally Abernathy; Brenda Williams, G.W. Scott, Rick Casey, Jr. and Ron Tamburello.

Absent: Clerk Rob Watt

Others Present: Mayor Leonard Black, Superintendent of Public Works, Brian Rader, Interim Chief Scott Miller, Village Attorney Mike Gras.

Old Business

None

Citizen's Input

None

New Business:

- Mayor Black opened the floor to the Board to see if they had any comments concerning Ordinance #1410. Rick Casey, Jr., asked his first question of if anyone had contacted the County Clerk to see if an increase is caused to the taxpayer to see if they want to do it, would we have to cover the costs or if there was an additional cost. His second question was how many municipalities run every two years. His third question was which election. Mayor Black states that he cannot answer those questions and would have to consult with someone. Rick Casey, Jr., states that he can answer all three questions. He had the following answers:

LEN BLACK
Mayor

ROB WATT
Village Clerk

WALTER ABERNATHY
Trustee

RICK CASEY, JR.
Trustee

KERRY DAVIS
Trustee

G.W. SCOTT, SR.
Trustee

RON TAMBURELLO
Trustee

BRENDA WILLIAMS
Trustee

BRIAN RADER
Supt. of Public Works

- He talked to the County Clerk and said that there could be an increase to taxpayers because it would be additional funding because there may have to be a primary run-off. He explained what the primary run-off would be to the Board. He said that if we do have to have the primary it would definitely be an additional cost to the taxpayers. He said this cover the first and second questions.
- For the answer for question three, he lets the Board that there are only three municipalities in the State of Illinois that have two year terms. He stated that those three are trying to go to four year terms. He states that is why there are only three municipalities that are like that.

Rick Casey, Jr., states that he doesn't know the reasoning behind it; he doesn't care but that this does not solve anything for the Village of Caseyville. He states that is his two cents and that everyone is going to vote how they want to vote but there is a reason why only three municipalities to do it in the entire state. He also states there is a reason why they are currently in progress of doing away with it. He said that came from the Board of State Elections and that he talked to them personally.

Mayor Black comments that he has been in office for a year, doesn't know enough in a year's time and it take a year, nothing illegal, and that he has is just learning each department, the different bank accounts. He states that he has a long way to go and doesn't think he could get it all in two years. He states that he believes in term limitations. He said that he would be more comfortable, is someone wants to put it on the ballot, term limitations.

Kerry Davis states that since he is the one that brought it up that he will explain, to everyone present, why. He states that term limits was brought up in the last election which was almost 16 months ago. He states that he doesn't know if it was political rhetoric or if it was something everyone wants to change. He states that it was brought up and nothing was said about it. He states that he began researching it and said he couldn't find anything limiting the years an elected official could serve. Rick Casey, Jr., states that is correct. Kerry Davis states that he did find the section that allows the Village corporate authorities, by ordinance and put to referendum, to allow Village resident's to vote and decide if elected officials would serve two-year terms instead of four. He states that as

an elected official that has to run, knowing how much it costs and how much work goes into an election, he has mixed feelings about it. He states as a taxpayer and a citizen of Caseyville, he can certainly see where people would want the procedure in place that if they had elected officials who weren't doing a job that they were elected to do, the voter's would have an option to remove that person in two years instead of waiting for four years. He states that all we are doing here is putting a question on the ballot and letting the people who put us up here decide if they want us here for two years or four years. He states that he has mixed feelings about it but depending on how people vote is what we have to live with. He states that he thinks they should have the opportunity, and if it was an election issue and term limits were discussed, that this was there opportunity. He states that because if they want to limit our terms to two years if we don't do the job that they want us to do for them.

Wally Abernathy states that a lot of resident are unhappy with all of us and that they have complaints about every one of us. He states that this gives them the opportunity to if they want us for two years which is fine with him

Kerry Davis states that there is a provision in the Statute that if after a while if this doesn't work out, the voters can come back and do the same thing. He states that way, the Board of Caseyville can do to power us which all we have to do is circulate a petition. He states that it doesn't really have to be done this way but he feels this is the way, that we as elected officials should proceed and give our residents their choice. He states that if it doesn't work out and we want to change it again in a couple of years and do the same thing that we are doing now and change it to four years. He states that all he is saying is give the people who put us here the opportunity to remove us from here, in two years, if that is what they want.

Mayor Black comments that most of them knowing the state representative, you just never get done campaigning. He states that you just get elected and it costs you a lot of money to run. He states that in two years, even a bad Board Member, can't hardly figure out what's going on in a meeting or two a month until he is in there for four years or so. He reiterates that he is for term limitations, but he wished Kerry Davis would have come up with a 3-year term or something like that. Mayor Black states that would be his choice. He stated that he campaigned on term limitations not two-year term limitations.

He says he doesn't see that they got him elected or didn't get him elected. He states the issue out there wasn't the two-year term limits but I was the length of time the previous Mayor was in. Kerry Davis states that there is not a provision that says in can be three years, or can serve 20 years or 15 years. He states that the only provision in the statute to limit terms is what we have before us. He states that's all there is to it and he reiterates that there is nothing there that states let's do it for 3, 5, or 10 years, that it's just not there.

Mayor Black states that even if there is a bad Board Member or a bad Mayor that we should give him a couple of years to try an iron things out without going to every two years. Kerry Davis states that it is not going to affect Mayor Black and that the only people it affects is himself, Rick Casey, Jr., and Ron Tamburello who are next. Kerry Davis states that he is willing to take a chance that he intends, at this time, to be on the ballot, that would he have to run again, than it would be yes.

Ron Tamburello states let's do what you have to do to work with this and to check more on this and what Rick Casey, Jr., mentioned on other Villages going to two year terms. Ron Tamburello says the other question that he had was with the question brought up about if it took a year to campaign to get wherever you are on the Board up here and you are off for one year and you're out campaigning again. He states he did not have an idea if this would be feasible. He said he would like to look into this a little further.

Kerry Davis states that as far as how other municipalities do it in the rest of the state that would depend on their Board. He states did they bring it up or present it to their voters. He states that all he is regardless of what other municipalities are doing, if the people of Caseyville prefer us to serve two-year terms rather than four-year terms than we should accommodate them and pass this ordinance and work through it. He states that they may not go along with it but it is not our choice. He states that it is our choice to approve the ordinance but it is their choice to go to the polls to vote whether or not they want us here for four years or two years.

Mayor Black states that the unfair part is if we make a bad decision, anyone them to include the Mayor, that maybe the trash thing could be a bad decision, but if we make a bad decision people can jump on us right away for one or two decisions. He states that all of us could be good Board

Members but we are going to be thrown out based on a bad decision or two that we made or voted on.

Attorney Mike Gras wanted to answer Ron Tamburello's question concerning the timing. He states that the ordinance would have to be passed by August 18, 2014 to get it into the County Clerk's office in time to be certified for the ballot. He states that would be before our next regular board meeting. Ron Tamburello states that if the Board wants to put it on the ballot than put it on the ballot and let the people make a decision on it

- Motion was made by Kerry Davis, seconded by Wally Abernathy to approve Ordinance #1410 - Ordinance Providing for the Submission to the Electors of the Village of Caseyville, the Question of Whether The Length of Terms of the Elective Officers of the Village Should be Reduced From Four Years to Two Years Pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/3.1-10-65.

No questions on the motion.

Voting on the motion: G.W. Scott - Nay, Rick Casey, Jr. - Nay, Wally Abernathy - Yea, Ron Tamburello – Yea, Brenda Williams – Nay, Kerry Davis – Yea, Mayor Black - Nay

4 Nays - 3 Yeas – Mayor Black Votes to break tie - Motion failed.

- Mr. Reg Arnum spoke to the Board and informed them that this is the same Ordinance that they tried to pass last December for the March 2014 Election. He states that it failed the last time and lets the Board know that it is the same language and same Ordinance that we used last time. He states that if we can again, under less trying circumstances would have the opportunity to vote on it. He states that his intention is to be here more often and they attempted to come to a couple of times but they just didn't get that done. He believes if we can get people to better understand how it works. He states that Caseyville is the only town among the 55 that he has had an election fail. He believes that it was his fault not to get down here to explain how it worked and that when voters go to the ballot that when they vote no that they fully understand that they have a good reason why they are voting that way. Rick Casey, Jr., asks if they can get a pamphlet that explains the program. He states that was the only complaint that he had that people are afraid of change anyways, so what happened was that they didn't want to make the change because they didn't understand what the change was. He states that if they can see the benefits and know that there billing structure does not change,

and then they would be more apt at going along with the program to get the cheaper rate. He states that they had to do this, do this and do this and people don't want to have to do that. Mr. Angrum states that he apologizes that he apologizes to each one of the Board Member's personally because that was his fault and that this time they will get that done. He states that he asked Leslie McReynolds if they could use the Village mailing list that they would pay for the postage to send out the letter to each resident. He states that they do have a sheet of frequently asked questions that Mayor Black asked about and so did Wally Abernathy. He assured the Board that they will do a better job this time of letting folks know.

- Motion was made by Wally Abernathy, seconded by G.W. Scott to approve Ordinance #1411 – Ordinance Providing for the Submission to the Electors of the Village of Caseyville, the Question whether the Village Board Should Have the Authority under 20 ILCS 3855/1-92 to Arrange for the Supply of Electricity for its Residential and Small Commercial Retail Customers Who Have Not Opted Out of Such Program.

No questions on the motion.

Voting on the motion: All yeas and no nays - Motion passed

Adjournment

There was no additional business to bring before the Board. A motion was made by Rick Casey, Jr., seconded by Ron Tamburello, to adjourn the meeting.

No questions on the motion.

Voting on the motion: All yeas and no nays - Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by



Rob Watt
Village Clerk