## WINDSOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECESSED MEETING -AUGUST 29, 2013 8:00 AM - MEETING ROOM AMENDED

Supervisor Butler called the recessed meeting from August 27 to order at 8:03 AM.

Present: Butler, Blair, Braman, Kandler, Keefe, Slucter

Absent: Myers (excused)

Also present: Attorney Bill Fahey and Attorney Chris Patterson

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jeff Landon, Attorney for Clerk Keefe, stated that Michigan law requires the clerk to have a bond but there are no laws about replenishing the bond or using it to remove an official from office. He stated that the bond is not a way to remove an official and this action is not supported by law. The resolution read not less than 15 days so she has more time.

Bill Fahey, Attorney for the Township, stated that she has shown the inability to do the job which has led to costs due to her failure to perform. Claims have been made against the bond and the company has paid them with more claims to come in excess of \$16000. Fahey stated he recommends to the board to replenish what they can. They gave Clerk Keefe the opportunity to renew or find a new bond, as she is required to have an acceptable bond which she has not been able to obtain. Therefore the law requires a bond and this has not been met. At this time Attorney Fahey read the Resolution Declaring the Windsor Charter Township Clerk's Office Vacant.

## Kandler offered and Slucter supported the Resolution to declare the Clerk's Office Vacant.

Discussion held on resolution:

Slucter asked if Fahey's recommendation was to pass it – he said yes it is

Attorney Landon once again stated that this was a short time due to the litigation going on and that Clerk Keefe tried to deposit a personal check to Supervisor yesterday.

Attorney Fahey stated that personal check of August 28, 2013 was not certified and part of the name had been crossed out and the address changed. The township cannot accept a check.

Trustee Slucter asked who the second party was on the check: US Specialty Insurance Co. Slucter stated we would need their approval for this check, if we could accept it.

Jackie Wood stated she supported the resolution as a group of citizens are working hard to remove Clerk Keefe and they are still in court and she is not doing the job. There are financial problems and audits are not done. Clerk Keefe is not doing good government as expected and it is time to get back on track and she urged the board to adopt the resolution.

Victor Lewis stated that he voted for Clerk Keefe with the faith that she could do the job and it saddens him at this point that the township is in this position. As a citizen he urges the board to vote for the resolution.

Attorney Landon stated that the check was not necessary and (board the did not preset and) there is no language in the law about refilling the bond.

Supervisor Butler stated that she is heartbroken that it has come to this. Butler stated she feels Clerk Keefe could have done the job but did not try and kept stating that she did not need help. Butler stated that we just received a fine from unemployment of \$850 and the phone bill has gone up \$9000 as (she) the clerk did not read and share a letter about the program ending.

Clerk Keefe asked her attorney if she should speak – He stated it was her decision. Keefe did not make any comments.

Ayes: Braman, Blair, Slucter, Kandler, Butler

Nays: Keefe Absent: Myers

Resolution adopted 5-1 (copy attached)

Attorney Fahey read the resolution appointing Linda Towsley as the new Clerk.

Slucter moved and Blair supported the Resolution appointing Linda Towsley as the new Clerk through November 2014.

Ayes: Slucter, Braman, Butler Kandler, Butler

**Nays: None** 

(Keefe not allowed to vote as no longer Clerk)

**Absent: Myers** 

Resolution adopted 5-0 (copy attached)

The Supervisor gave the oath to Clerk Towsley and Deputy Clerk Slee.

With no further business Blair moved and Slucter seconded to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:35 AM.

Linda Towsley, Clerk