

TOWN OF LAKE HAMILTON MEETING MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014
5:30 pm

Call To Order/Invocation/Pledge/Roll Call –Chair Harris called the special meeting to order at 5:30 pm.. Members present: O'Neill, Roberson, Kehoe, Tomlinson, Chair Harris and Mayor Wagner. Clerk Irvine and Attorney Christman were present.

Special Meeting Business: Personnel Items

1. Staffing – Sanitation Truck Driver - Mayor Wagner reported that she is recommending the Council hire Mr. Eddie Thorton for the Sanitation Truck Driver position. She was asked if she had received other applications. Mayor replied that she did receive another one but felt he was not qualified. Roberson thought the Council requested to see all the applications. Harris agreed with her comment. Mayor Wagner thought it would be fruitless since the other applicant did not have a good driving record. Being pressed as to what the concern was the Mayor reported the other applicant had several DUIs in the past. Roberson responded that not to point any fingers but it is her understanding that one of our officers that has had several DUIs that still work for the Town of Lake Hamilton. She was asked who she was referring to but would not give a name. Mayor Wagner replied that she did not know who Roberson was speaking of. Roberson stated she got the it from the Sheriff's office. Chair Harris stated that that is not up for discussion and got the topic back on the hiring of an employee.

Mr. Eddie Thorton introduced himself to the Council. O'Neill asked him why he was looking for a new job. He replied that he wanted something closer to home. He stated he has never operated a claw truck but has worked with a boom truck. He is a jack of all trades.

Tomlinson asked him if he would be available 24/7. Mr. Thorton replied that is aware that is a requirement of the job.

Kehoe asked when he could start. The Mayor reported that Mr. Thorton wants to give a two week notice to his current employer and then take time to visit family before beginning work. He would report to work on December 29th. The Mayor will make sure trash is covered until then.

Tomlinson asked if he has backhoe experience. Mr. Thorton replied that he does but nothing current.

MOTION: Kehoe/O'Neill to hire Eddie Thorton for the Sanitation Truck Driver position for \$10.50 per hour.

Discussion: Bob Howland, is this a PT or FT. Kehoe replied it was budgeted for FT.

All voted in favor of the motion.

Public Works Supervisor –The mayor reported that she has received four applications for the position. One is from Maine.

MOTION: Kehoe moved to promote Mr. Lewellen.

Chair Harris asked him to wait on that motion as he would like to see the other applications. O'Neill agreed that he wants to review the other applications as well. Suggested scheduling a special meeting in January to review all the applications. The position should be an operator and director. Tomlinson asked when the job started requiring the supervisor having a water license. Irvine reported the Council approved new job descriptions in June which included that requirement. Chair Harris stated that Mr. Lewellen has not completed his probation yet.

MOTION: O'Neill/Roberson to set a special meeting for early January to interview Public Work Director's candidates. All voted in favor.

Florida Minimum Wage – Irvine reported that beginning January 1, 2015, the minimum wage increases to \$8.05 therefore; Brittney Sandovalsoto will receive a wage increase.

2. Hiring Policy – Irvine reported that she is working on the hiring policy with the input from the Council. However, she learned at some recent training that she attended that the town cannot require a pre-employment drug test of all employees. She deterred to town attorney for her opinion. Attorney Christman reported that she did research the new case and it ruled against a town for trying to conduct a pre-employment drug screen on a non "safety sensitive" position.

Adjourn: MOTION: Roberson/Tomlinson to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:



Sara K. Irvine, Town Clerk



Vice Chair Michael Kehoe