

April 5, 2021

A special meeting of the Village Board held on the above date was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 1 West Main Street, Clifton Springs, NY 14432.

Presiding: Deputy Mayor Jeff Linsner then newly appointed Mayor James Keyes

Board Members Present: Jeff Linsner, Jim Keyes, Bryan Gray

Board Members Absent: Earl Lincoln

Also Attending: Nathan Thomas

This meeting was properly advertised in THE DAILY MESSENGER on March 27, 2021 and posted on the on the front door of Village Hall – due to covid and on the sign board in Village Hall.

The first item on the agenda was the written resignation of Mayor William “Bill” Hunter, effective March 31, 2021.

Mayor Hunter’s letter dated March 17, 2021 read: “With some degree of trepidation I submit my resignation as Mayor of the Village of Clifton Springs effective March 31, 2021. After 26 years as Mayor, I am simply tired and feel the right time is now. I have truly enjoyed my 26 years and hope I have left Clifton Springs just a little better as a result of my efforts. Sincerely, William A. Hunter”.

The Board respects and accepts the decision of Mayor Hunter and sincerely thanks him for his 26 years of dedicated public service to the Village of Clifton Springs. Mayor Hunter is the longest serving Mayor in the history of the Village.

Motion was made by Trustee Gray 2nd by Trustee Linsner to appoint Trustee James Keyes to the office of Mayor, effective immediately. All members present voting AYE.

Clerk Reals swore Mayor James Keyes in as to the office of Mayor. This appointment will be for approximately one year.

Mayor Keyes intends to appoint a person to the office of Trustee, possibly at the April 12, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held on the vacant office of Village Justice. In March 2021, no person was on the ballot for Justice. Justin Lincoln was written in and has in writing declined the office. The Board has reached out to approximately eight residents of the Village, who have declined the office.

Nathan Thomas appeared before the Board. Mr. Thomas resides within Ontario County and is an Attorney for Ontario County. Mr. Thomas read in the paper the situation with the Justice office in the Village. Mr. Thomas has investigated this and believes that given the circumstances of the Justice vacancy, that a person outside the Village, but within the County, could be appointed to the office.

Attorney Jeff Graff has also investigated this and agrees this can be done by resolution or local law.

Mr. Thomas informed the Board that he is familiar with court in Clifton Springs, having been a for Assistant District Attorney and with his court room experience, that he would be honored to serve. Mr. Thomas would like this experience and would like the Village Board to consider him. Mr. Thomas indicated that because he is employed by Ontario County that he would not be able to hear cases that come from the Ontario County Sheriff’s department.

The Board agreed to investigate this further and hopes to appoint a person to the office of Justice at the April 12, 2021 meeting.
Meeting of April 5, 2021 continued:

The Board agreed to have Attorney Graff proceed with a local law for the Board to have this option to appoint a person who resides outside the Village to the office of Justice. The Board hopes to have this law for review at the April 12, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held on the need to hire a court clerk. Motion was made by Trustee Linsner 2nd by Trustee Gray to hire R. Hanna as court clerk, starting at \$15.00 per hour and beginning the week of April 12, 2021, or once allowed to begin by the Office of Court Administration. All members present voting AYE. Carried.

Discussion was held on hiring a person to help train R. Hanna. Motion was made by Trustee Gray 2nd by Trustee Linsner to hire P. Sharrett, court clerk from the Town of Phelps, to help train for \$18.00 per hour. All members present voting AYE. Carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion made by Trustee Linsner 2nd by Trustee Gray to adjourn. All members present voting AYE. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Reals
Clerk/Treasurer