

May 31, 2006

On the above date, a special meeting of the New Scandia Town Board was held at 4:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Dennis Seefeldt, Vice Chairman Michael Hinz, Michael Harnetty, Blair Joselyn and Nancy Madden. Town Attorney David Hebert was also present. Acting Clerk Brenda Eklund read the Notice of Hearing. Given notice to attend were Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle, members of the Park and Recreation Committee. The meeting was designated as a closed meeting. Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle had the option of opening the meeting to the public. Both Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle did request that the meeting be open.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and consider allegations pertaining to the actions of Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle as members of the Park and Recreation Committee. Supervisor Harnetty was contacted by several people in attendance at a May 1, 2006 Park and Recreation Committee meeting. It was stated that this meeting turned volatile and disruptive. On May 8, 2006, Supervisors Harnetty and Madden conducted separate interviews with seven people who were in attendance at the May 1<sup>st</sup> Park Committee meeting to investigate these allegations. The summary of these interviews were given by Harnetty and Madden. The opinions of those in attendance at the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting concluded that the committee meetings are not professionally run, there is underlying tension, a facilitator is needed and micromanaging is disrupting the work of the Activity Director. Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle were given the floor to respond. Jan Hogle stated that the entire May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was recorded and transcribed. All Board members did receive a copy of this transcript. Jan Hogle felt that the transcript did not contain these findings. Gary Hogle felt these proceedings were not necessary and that the committee meeting did not unfold as stated.

At 4:30 p.m. the open meeting proceeded as stated in the hearing notice to further discuss the charges and determine what actions the Board will undertake.

Supervisor Harnetty would like to see the conflictive environment of the committee resolved. He feels that members new to the group are left feeling uncomfortable and unable to go forward with the work of the Park Board. Supervisor Harnetty stated that Gary Hogle's and Jan Hogle's conflictive style does not serve the committee or the community well. Supervisor Joselyn stated that the Park Committee has a history of conflict. Supervisor Madden pointed out that in past years several committee members have left as a result of frustration. Chairman Seefeldt felt the Park Committee operates in a manner that is getting worse. The Board does not need nor want a non-functional committee. Supervisor Hinz asked about the number of years each have served. Gary Hogle has been a member for twelve years. Jan Hogle was appointed in 2004. Generally appointments are made for a length of five years.

Supervisor Joselyn stated that he would like to go forward with a warning to Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle in the form of a written reprimand and notice of what is expected. If any further problems arise, the Board may follow with appropriate action. The remaining Board members felt that Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle should be given the option to resign from the Park Committee. A response from Gary Hogle and Jan Hogle will be accepted at the June 6, 2006 Town Board meeting. If they choose not to resign, a dismissal from the Park Committee can be decided upon by the Board.

Nancy Madden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

  
Brenda Eklund  
New Scandia Township Deputy Clerk