TOWN OF WILTON SELECT BOARD NON-PUBLIC MEETING TOWN HALL COURTROOM

DATE:

Monday, November 19, 2018

PRESENT:

Chairwoman Kellie-Sue Boissonnault, Selectman Kermit R. Williams, Selectman

Matthew S. Fish, Town Administrator Paul C. Branscombe, Finance Officer Deb

Harling, Administrative Assistant Janice Pack

At 7:53 PM Chairwoman Boissonnault called for a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) and Selectman Fish seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.

Mr. Branscombe gave Deb's NH Criminal Records background check to the Board. It ascertained that she has no criminal record. He said he had called Primex to see if they needed a financial background check; Carol said all that was needed were references, which the Town has already received.

Mr. Branscombe said that the Treasurer said he thinks Linda Jennings would be a better hire. Chairwoman Boissonnault said that the Town's employees do not need to be approved by the Treasurer. She doesn't know why Mr. Chalmers feels that he can challenge Ms. Harling. She asked if Selectman Williams was feeding this; he said that he doesn't see the value of antagonizing him. Selectman Fish said up until this week he had been very supportive of Mr. Chalmers but after what he's hearing, he's frustrated. Chairwoman Boissonnault said that by pacifying him, Selectman Williams is giving Mr. Chalmers the fuel to say "Ah Ha! I've got someone on my side". Selectman Williams said that Mr. Chalmers has a lawyer already and he's just trying to work with the Treasurer and provide him with things that aren't a big deal, like the form he suggested tonight.

Mr. Branscombe said that Bill told him that the same things are happening as happened 3 years ago. He accused Mr. Branscombe of not inviting him to a meeting. Selectman Fish asked why Selectman Williams won't recognize the fact that Mr. Chalmers enjoys this drama.

Deb said that she didn't come in here with any preconceived notion of any of the elected officials. She said that she and Janice are not allowed to contact Mr. Chalmers; all contact has to go through Mr. Branscombe. It does not appear that anything she does is going to be correct. The request for the transfer for the warrant article is another case. Up until today, that transfer still has not been done. She has just received the journal entries and will start making the adjusting journal entries. She has said all along that the beginning balances are no good. She has given Mr. Chalmers what he asks for, but it just doesn't seem to be good enough.

Selectman Fish said that he has given Bill plenty of rope to walk around and enjoy himself and be part of the team. He wonders why Selectman Williams is blinded by him. Selectman Williams said that he is just trying to work with Bill as elected officials are not people who can be fired. He feels

that he is the only one who is willing to do that. Selectman Fish said up until last week, Bill had his support; Selectman Williams said that Bill didn't see it that way. Selectman Williams said he is only trying to be a peacemaker. Chairwoman Boissonnault just wants Bill to be held responsible for doing his duty. Selectman Williams agreed that Mr. Chalmers should've made the transfer on Tuesday, and all he wants to do is make sure that it doesn't happen again. If we have a document that Mr. Chalmers accepts, then we don't have a problem. Deb said if what Mr. Chalmers wants gets instituted, what happens the next time he refuses to make a transfer? She has a very big issue that he was given the paperwork the same way he has been given the paperwork all along, but this time he said that he wasn't making the transfer and he was leaving town the next day. She said she cannot give him an exact amount until she hits the submit button and the payroll is processed. Selectman Williams said he has convinced Bill that he should keep an amount equal to 2 months payroll in the account so there is a buffer. Chairwoman Boissonnault doesn't want Deb to feel like every day might be the day that the Treasurer lashes out at her, and it's déjà vu all over again. Selectman Williams said that Caitlin was way behind in her work, and that's why she left. Chairwoman Boissonnault said that Deb has done more for the Town in the short time she's been here – we should not be allowing some elected official to undermine that. She does not want Deb's reputation challenged again. Mr. Branscombe said he had contacted Town Counsel and Eric Mayer had told him to deliver the letter to the Select Board on Monday night and have them study it.

Chairwoman Boissonnault motioned to exit non-public at 8:21 PM; Selectman Williams seconded. All were in favor; motion passed. Chairwoman Boissonnault asked if the minutes should be sealed. It was decided that the minutes did not need to be sealed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janice/Pack, Administrative Assistant

Kellie-Sue Boissonnault, Chair

Kermit R. Williams

Matthew S. Fish