

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Thursday, April 22, 2021

(Note: This meeting was conducted via Zoom due to the current Covid-19 outbreak.)

PRESIDENT NENADOVICH: Ladies and gentlemen. It is now 6:30 p.m. on 4/22/2021 and I would like to call to order the Special Council Meeting April 22, 2021 to order. Barb Molin, would you take a roll call please?

Members Present: Jason X. Blake, Council Ward 5
Charles Donahue, Council Ward 2
Michael Dudley, Sr., Council Ward 1
Michael T. Nenadovich, Council Ward 3
Frank Tagliarini, Council Ward 6
Thomas Vaughn, Council Ward 7

Member Absent: Shayla L. Davis, Council Ward 4

PRESIDENT NENADOVICH: Let the record show that six Council Members are present. I will open this meeting with the statement that the discussion on violations of 9 and 11 of the City Charter by Clwn Shayla Davis are no longer a point of order. As of this morning, Clwn Shayla Davis turned in a letter of resignation and therefore, there is a vacancy in Ward 4 Council. Council Clerk Barb Molin, would you read the letter of resignation by former Clwn Shayla Davis?

CLERK: This letter is dated April 22, 2021.

"In anticipation of the scheduled Special Council Meeting for April 22, I write to let you know that I have reviewed the charter provisions at issue in light of my current employment with the City of Cleveland. I had been under the understanding that my employment with Cleveland, which poses no conflict whatsoever with my duties to the citizens I represent on Garfield Heights City Council, is not included within our charter's use of the term "public employment." My research now reflects that courts around the state have upheld similar charter provisions, even if they are somewhat ambiguous and even in situations in which outside public employment does not conflict with an elected official's service to a community.

Therefore, I am deeply saddened to resign my position on Garfield Heights City Council, effective immediately, which will permit you to cancel your hearing.

My most important hope is that fellow citizens see the value in clarifying our charter so that our city can begin to attract the best and brightest candidates to our elected part-time positions -- especially, as in my case, when their outside employment poses no danger of any conflicts of interest. Meanwhile, I hope the citizens I've been privileged to

serve know that I've focused my energy not on fighting to hold onto my council seat in the face of this outmoded charter provision, but instead on my dedication to our city, that I truly love -- a dedication that will continue to reveal itself in my campaign for mayor. I have always served and serve is what I will continue doing.

In any event, we deserve viable representation that is committed to serving in the best interest of this community and not to further their own personal self-interest. As citizens we should never assume that appearances are always true, and we should educate ourselves on the motives that drive our officials to make the decisions they make. No matter the motives behind City Council's calling for the city council special meeting in this matter, I accept how our charter is likely to be interpreted legally, and I look forward to my campaign for a brighter future for our city. I have always served and serve is what I will continue doing on the campaign trial for Mayor of Garfield Heights.

Yours in Service,
Shayla L. Davis"

PRESIDENT NENADOVICH: Thank you, Barbara. In light of the circumstances which transpired as of this morning, there is no further need for this Council Meeting to discuss what does not exist anymore. So therefore, I would entertain a motion to adjourn this Special Council Meeting.

CLMN VAUGHN: Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT NENADOVICH: Yes, Mr. Vaughn.

CLMN VAUGHN: I make a motion that we adjourn tonight's Special Council Meeting.

PRESIDENT NENADOVICH: Second?

CLMN DUDLEY: I second.

PRESIDENT NENADOVICH: Dudley seconds it. Barb, on the motion by Clmn Tom Vaughn, would you take a roll call?

AYES: Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini

On the motion by Clmn Tom Vaughn and seconded by Clmn Mike Dudley, to adjourn the April 22nd Special Council Meeting in 2021, is now adjourned. Thank you all and you have a great evening.

Approved,

Respectfully submitted,

Michael T. Nenadovich
President of Council

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council