



**Village Board Special Meeting
October 20, 2023 Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

President McKaig noted all members of the Village Board were present with the exception of excused absences from Trustees Ircink and Stokebrand.

3. Statement of Public Notice

Clerk Harrell stated the meeting was posted and noted according to law.

4. Closed session - Discussion and possible motion to convene into closed session per Wis. Stat. § 19.85 (1)(c), considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation of data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(f), considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. Specifically, discussion of personnel matters involving a Village Library employee and Village Library Board members.

It was so moved by Trustee Couto and seconded by Trustee Moore Baldauff. The meeting went into closed session at 3:10pm.

The Village Board reconvened into open session at 4:07 pm.

5. Consider removal of a Library Board member or members by the Village Board pursuant to Chapter 17 of the Wisconsin Statutes and consider approval and filing of order regarding same.

(4:08 pm) Trustee Arndorfer moved to removed Alexandra Dimitroff from her position as an appointed officer of the Village of Shorewood Library Board, effective immediately

and to approve and file the order before the Village Board in support of the same and it was seconded by Trustee Lynn.

President McKaig requested discussion by each Village Board member as to their position on this motion.

Trustee Moore Baldauff expressed support for removal due to significant turmoil and multiple complaints under her tenure. New leadership was needed to study the library's environment.

Trustee Lynn expressed support for removal due to the concerns of problems concerning the library board with the overall library work environment under the president's leadership.

Trustee Couto expressed support for removal due to lack of confidence with the current library board president's ability to effectively steer the direction of the library board.

Trustee Arndorfer expressed support for removal in order to establish a clear path forward and new leadership was needed to properly retain a library director under current administration.

President McKaig expressed support for removal as presented agreeing with the reasons the members of the Village Board gave, in addition to the numerous complaints that have been submitted and the ongoing concerns from the past several months.

The motion was carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

(4:13 pm) Trustee Lynn moved to remove Donna Whittle from her position as an appointed officer of the Village of Shorewood Library Board, effective immediately and to approve and file the order before the Village Board in support of the same and it was seconded by Trustee Couto.

President McKaig requested discussion by each Village Board member as to their position on this motion.

Trustee Couto expressed support for removal as being under Ms. Whittle's tenure as library board president and as chair of the library personnel committee, agendas and minutes have been drafted inconsistent with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Trustee Arndorfer expressed support for removal due to turmoil beginning under Ms. Whittle's tenure as library board president and continued subsequent to her role.

Trustee Lynn expressed support for removal due to instances regarding the Open Meeting Law showed certain agendas citing a closed session without supporting statutory provisions or explanations regarding the issue that was addressed in the closed session.

Trustee Moore Baldauff expressed support for removal due to unresolved issues and complaints, and the violations of Open Meeting Law.

President McKaig expressed support for removal due to reaching out to both parties to offer support and engage positive steps to improve the conditions of the library and was disheartened that they were not received nor implemented, also noting replacement is needed to rebuild the library board as well as the library as a workplace.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

6. Consider appointment of replacement Board member(s) to the Library Board to fill any vacancy or vacancies created by Village Board removal.

(4:18 pm) President McKaig moved to appoint Trustee Couto and Wesley Warren to the library board to fill the vacancies and it was seconded by Trustee Lynn.

President McKaig requested discussion by each Village Board member as to their position on this motion.

Trustee Arndorfer expressed support stating both individuals were highly qualified to take on the role, additionally, Mr. Warren, a previous Trustee member, expressed interest to serve on the library board and showed a great ability to take on difficult topics.

Trustee Lynn expressed support due to possessing a high standard model of citizen lead government for the Village of Shorewood and said standard has not been met under the previous library board leadership. Both Trustee Couto and Wesley Warren will help bring the standard to where it needs to be.

Trustee Moore Baldauff expressed support stating that two very capable individuals volunteered for this service.

Trustee Couto expressed thanks and supported Mr. Warren's interest in serving.

President McKaig expressed support stating the library board and library staff will need to undergo a great deal of healing and both individuals will contribute to its healing.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-0.

7. Adjournment

Trustee Lynn moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Trustee Couto.

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 pm.