

TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

Present upon roll call: Commissioner Blackburn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner Krajewski, Vice Mayor Robinson, Mayor Henderson, Attorney Denhardt and Attorney Rubenstein.

Discussion/Action regarding the Conduct of a Commissioner at the January 19TH, 2021 Commission Meeting and an Opportunity for Response.

Vice Mayor Robinson stated, at the January 27th Special Meeting the Commission discussed several matters regarding Commissioner Neals comments at the January 19th meeting. Vice Mayor Robinson stated those comments were Commissioner Neals election related comments which violates the town code, comments regarding Mayor Henderson and personnel actions and comments regarding his ethics complaint, which was misleading and untrue. Commissioner Blackburn asked if it is the ethics complaint against him or Mayor Henderson. Vice Mayor Robinson at this time asked Commissioner Neal for any comment. Commissioner Neal read from a statement he believes his constitutional rights and those of District Two are being violated. He asked the Commission for 30-days I did nothing wrong and I sit here being treated as I did. Mayor Henderson stated she has declared a conflict of interest and has filed the paperwork with the town clerk. Commissioner Neal stated he is recusing himself and will file the form with the town clerk. Attorney Denhardt stated to Commission Neal that if he would like to rebut or add anything now is the time. Commissioner Neal stated he did not have ample time; he was only given three working days that is why he asked for an extension. Attorney Denhardt stated to the commission, that Commissioner Neal has requested a 30-day extension if the commission so desires. Commissioner Krajewski asked Attorney Denhardt to clarify is there a set time frame by state law that determines the amount of time. Denhardt stated this is the first he heard of the 5-days seem to be sufficient. Vice Mayor Robinson stated Commission Neal seemed to be prepared with his statement on January 19th and I would assumed if he had ample evidence that his statements were true, he could have had those this evening. Commissioner Blackburn moved to suspend Commissioner Neal for the duration of his term without pay. Attorney Denhardt suggested to state factual basis in the motion. Commissioner Blackburn motion to suspend Commissioner Neal for the duration of his term without pay for the premeditated electioneering and maleficence at the January 19th meeting, Vice Mayor Robinson seconded the motion for discussion. Vice Mayor Robinson asked if your motion is to suspend for duration w/out pay for the electioneering on the 19th, does that include the other items. Commissioner Blackburn for violation of town code Sec. 12-22, for comments regarding Mayor Henderson and personnel actions, for comment on Mayor Henderson's alleged ethics violation and comments regarding his own ethics violation. Commissioner Krajewski stated he did research on if we could suspend with pay or without pay and it must be without pay.

After much discussion regarding the motion Vice Mayor Robinson stated he would like to add one comment before we vote. Vice Mayor Robinson stated he is not happy with this whole matter and this potential action in front of us, I would have felt much better this evening if Commissioner Neal came in an simply apologized for his action.

Commissioner Krajewski stated he also is not happy with the actions of Commissioner Neal at the January 19th meeting and is disappointed, further stating we are not here for anyone else's actions, on those of Commissioner Neal on January 19th.

Commissioner Neal exited the meeting at this time.

At this time Commissioner Blackburn withdrew her motion and Vice Mayor Robinson withdrew his second. Vice Mayor Robinson moved to suspend Commissioner Neal without pay for the duration of his term as Commissioner for District Two for maleficence, for violating Sec. 12-22 of the town code, which prohibits electioneering on town properties, for Commissioner Neals comments that were misleading or untrue regarding Mayor Henderson and personnel actions, for comments that were misleading and untrue regarding an alleged ethics complaint against Mayor Henderson and for misleading and untrue statements regarding his own ethics complaint, all which occurred at the January 19th Commission meeting, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn. Attorney Denhardt stated before you vote the record should reflect that Commissioner Neal exited the meeting about three or four minutes ago. Roll call: Commissioner Blackburn, yes; Commissioner Krajewski, yes and Vice Mayor Robinson, yes. Mayor Henderson did not vote as she recused herself.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary F. Palmer, MMC
Town Clerk