

Village of Peoria Heights
Special Board Meeting
January 28, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Everyone stood for a moment of silence and the Pledge to the Flag.

Upon calling roll, the following Trustees were present: Beth Khazzam, Jeff Goett, Brandon Wisenburg, and Sarah DeVore. Trustees Khazzam and DeVore were present by phone. Trustees Sherryl Carter and Diane Mariscal were absent. Others present included Mayor Michael Phelan, Village Administrator and Chief of Police Dustin Sutton, Village Clerk Stephanie Turner, and Village Counsel Attorney Mark Walton.

Mayor Phelan opened the meeting to public comments. Hearing no public comments, he closed the meeting to public comment and moved on to new business.

Mayor Phelan noted that Fire Chief Greg Walters had previously submitted his resignation for retirement and that a committee had been formed to review candidates for Fire Chief. Attorney Walton explained that all chief and officer level positions are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees. Attorney Walton also noted that it was tradition in the Village for those individuals to have an employment agreement as well. Mayor Phelan stated he was pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Donovan Thompson as the Part-Time Fire Chief. Trustee Goett made a motion to approve the appointment Mr. Thompson as the part-time Fire Chief, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The Board approved the appointment of Mr. Thompson 4-0. Mayor Phelan noted that the appointment of Fire Chief Thompson would also lead to the elevation of another member of the fire department. Chief Sutton explained that one of the leaders of the department, Mr. Mike Woo, would be promoted to run and lead day time calls.

Trustee Wisenburg made a motion to approve the employment contract between the Village of Peoria Heights and Fire Chief Donovan Thompson. Trustee Goett seconded the motion. Attorney Walton explained it was a fairly standard, straight-forward contract and reviewed the details. The employment contract was approved 4-0.

Attorney Walton explained that the Board had previously adopted a resolution to put a nonbinding referendum question on the ballot. He noted that when contacting the Election Commission the Village had been informed that the deadline to submit a question had already passed. Attorney Walton apologized for the confusion.

Mayor Phelan noted that he didn't feel that the executive session listed on the agenda was necessary. The Board offered no objection or motion to enter executive session.

Trustee Goett made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Wisenburg seconded the motion. The Board voted 4-0 to adjourn at 5:09 pm.

Michael Phelan, Mayor

Stephanie Turner, Village Clerk