

Town of Trout River
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Minutes of a Meeting held on Monday, January 26th, 2015 at 6:30 a.m.

Present:	Mayor	Michelle Harris
	Councilors	Aaron Brake
		Gloria Barnes
		Nelson Barnes
		Helen Harris
		Viola Parsons

Also Present:	Town Clerk/Manager	Emily Butler
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Meeting called to order at 6:42 P.M.

The purpose of this meeting was to do the hiring of the Temporary Part Time Clerk. Council was informed shortly before the meeting time the hiring process would not continue as a result of an inquiry to the Dept. of Municipal Affairs.

Council questioned why this happened when those involved in a Conflict of Interest already stated they would leave the meeting for any discussions for the applications belonging to relatives. An email from the manager of the department was tabled for Council. Expressions of Conflict of Interest for all living in a small community was tabled whether its family, friends or working relationships. Several council members questioned why the hiring process could not process as planned and why the mayor would contact the department. The mayor informed Council she was not contented with doing so and look to the department for guidance. The mayor indicated to the members she was not stopping them from hiring but the legislation would remain and their seats vacated.

Councilor advised the table he was capable of making a bias decision and would certainly depart for discussions in regards to his family member. The table expressed their views of the Conflict of Interest in respect to how both some councilors and the public perceive the mayor's position in relation to the maintenance man and the daily operations of Council. It was questioned why the position of maintenance man is not posted to welcome applicants each year.

The town clerk/manager brought forward the incidents that occurred during the layoff period of the maintenance man. Though lift station #3 had ran over the road in the past but this time it seemed to be the fault of having the maintenance on layoff and calls were forwarded to the Dept. of Municipal Affairs. The clerk/manager also received a call from the administrator at the Trout River Clinic in regards to her cleaning the clinic during this period. The town clerk/manager informed Council as well as the administrator that no one who has cleaned the clinic now or before has any signed "Oath of Confidentially" and she has no problem with doing so. Also, residents wanting their services hooked up inquired if that was the reason for not allowing the hook up and asked if they could pay the maintenance man directly to do the hook up. The mayor explained when she was asked by the public health who was cleaning the clinic and she indicated it was the town clerk/manager and the information must have been passed along to the administrator.

All present expressed their displeasure in the ways operations of the Council was.

Council agreed to the hiring committee consisting of: Mayor Michelle Harris, Deputy Mayor Gordon Barnes, Councilors Nelson Barnes and Helen Harris. The hiring will proceed tomorrow-Tuesday, January 27th.

Resolution 15-012

Parsons V/Barnes G

Moved to adjourn the meeting

All in favor