

**Graysville Board of Mayor and Commissioners
Special Called Meeting
Graysville Municipal Building
September 16, 2013 7:00 p.m.**

Call to order by Mayor Ted Doss

Prayer led by Commissioner Andy Beene

Pledge led by Mayor Ted Doss

Roll Call:

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| Mayor Ted Doss | Present |
| Vice Mayor Denesa Reel | Present |
| Commissioner Andy Beene | Present |
| Commissioner Charles Kaylor | Absent |
| Commissioner Michael May | Present |

Fire Chief Position

Mayor Doss "Did you receive any applications for this?"

City Recorder Michelle Horton "The only one turned in was from Kenny Riley."

Mayor Doss "Is anyone else interested in it?"

Vice Mayor Reel "Yes Mike Miles, I think he would be interested in coming out of retirement to take the position back, is that correct Mike?"

Mike Miles "Yes."

A motion to put Mike Miles as fire chief was made by Vice Mayor Reel; 2nd by Commissioner May. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Beene "Yes as long as Scott and Kenny come back as assistant chief."

Mayor Doss "Mike is there anything you would like to say at this time?"

Fire Chief Miles "I hadn't planned on coming out of retirement, I decided to come back because I have a lot of family and friends here in Graysville, it will be a pleasure to come back and work with everybody."

Mayor Doss "Thank you sir."

Vice Mayor Reel "We are glad to have you back."

Erik Redden

Mayor Doss "Whats the pleasure of the board tonight?"

Vice Mayor Reel "I make the motion to put him back to work."

Linda Kaylor "I would like to challenge a vote if I could please. I believe if a commissioner is going to financially gain from a vote they have to disclose that information, but Andy I think you will financially gain if he votes on this. I love Andy to death but things need to be honest here, Mr. Beene did you not set in a meeting where Erik received \$100.00 from somebody to get their car out of compound?"

Commissioner Beene "No."

Mrs. Kaylor "So he did not receive any money?"

Commissioner Beene "No."

Mrs. Kaylor "That's not what was told at all, you didn't arrange the meeting or have anything to do with it at all?"

Commissioner Beene "I did, I helped someone get their car out of impound, I sure did."

Mrs. Kaylor "Did it go to court?"

Commissioner Beene "I have no idea, I haven't been to court."

Mrs. Kaylor "Did you see any money exchange?"

Commissioner Beene "No."

Mrs. Kaylor "I think that's one of the things TBI is investigating."

Commsiissioner Beene "They have not contacted me about it then."

Mrs. Kaylor "I'm sure they will."

Commissioner Beene "I hope they do."

Mrs. Kaylor "I do believe if all this comes out to be true you guys will owe this city an apology, because you could vote to give him the money after TBI is done. Heather Moreno would have liked to have her vehicle back but she didn't get it back, a lot of people didn't get theirs back so I don't know how one did and others don't."

Kay Thurman "If I had known the news media was here I would have baked a cake. I got to know Erik here working on this building, I tell you I like him no one appreciates him more than I do here tonight. Everybody is innocent until proven guilty, however if there's questions about this situation and it appears the TBI has taken it over my suggestion would be to avoid any kind of conflict legally where Erik might be involved in an arrest that might let a murderer go free in case he is not exonerated from this or maybe a rapist goes free or a child molester and this has happened. I would say as a citizen to pay him, suspend him and wait till the outcome of this TBI investigation is thru. I truly hope he is found to have some logical explanation for this. I do think you will be liable if it comes up and he is found guilty with letting a person go free because he was involved as an officer."

City Recorder Michelle Horton "With all the information the board has been made aware of, and I have told you guys that there is a very real possibility this will become a hostile work environment when you put someone that has been suspended back to duty with free range of sensitive information and access to building. There are several employees myself included among those that have concerns about our safety with the particular situation. I think that needs to be voiced, not one department but people expressed it from each department."

Robert Baldwin "Today I have been receiving phone calls from an unknown individual that has matters in this case, it is an ongoing investigation by TBI. I guess these would be more less threatening phone calls trying to get us to back down from the investigation, and I'm not happy with it and this person is still working for your police department, so how would you take that?"

Mayor Doss "I don't understand why you are involved in the investigation."

Mr. Baldwin "I'm not officially allowed to talk about it at this time."

Mayor Doss "Ok that throws me for a loop."

Mr. Baldwin "I wasn't the only one who got these phone calls. There have been five or six people who have said they have gotten the phone calls too."

Vice Mayor Reel "I have heard some of the phone calls today."

Mr. Baldwin "I'm not too happy with it at all, I'm not the person to be threatening at all, I'm not taking too lightly to it."

Mayor Doss "My suggestion to it is you get with the district attorney."

Mr. Baldwin "I plan on calling Jason after the meeting."

Mayor Doss "Thank you sir."

Citizen Darlene Hickman "Did I understand you right, that your receiving threatening phone calls from someone on this police department?"

Mr. Baldwin "Yes."

A motion to put Erik Redden back to work with back pay was made by Vice Mayor Reel; 2nd by Commissioner May. Motion carried 3-1. Mayor Doss voting no.

Mayor Doss "From what I understand Andy you will have to read that prior too."

Commissioner Beene "I don't need to I think she done said it all."

Mayor Doss "Then my understanding from the attorney is that your vote doesn't count."

Crowd Outburst (Hard to hear meeting recording)

Commissioner Beene "I think my vote counts as much as anybody's does."

Vice Mayor Reel "If it was in their favor it would."

Commissioner Beene "I really think that when this is all over if what comes out is true I will apologize for my vote but I don't think it will be that way but if it is I'll be the first to tell you I was wrong to put him back to work and if it comes out the way I hope it does then we will all be ok. I think a man is not guilty by accusations; it might take the TBI a few weeks before the TBI finalizes anything or it might be longer. There is more important things then investigating money missing or whatever the deal is, see I have not gotten to hear it all. My proposal is after this meeting is on our next city meeting we have an internal affairs committee put together so we can take care of it in-house instead of letting everybody else take care of it, because we need to know what is happening not everybody else."

Crowd Outburst (Hard to hear meeting recording)

Mayor Doss "I have been here five years this is the first I have known about this ethics law so if you want to redo you motion."

Vice Mayor Reel "No I'm sticking with what was said."

Sean Shelton "Thank you Mayor, it is my understanding the board of commissioners have made a 3-1 vote that Erik be reinstated with back pay and currently return to work pending a TBI investigation which has not been finalized by the district attorney office, is that my understanding that he will be returning to work, acting as chief, with administrating responsibilities with full access to police department, police records as well as our evidence is that my understanding the board has decided."

Vice Mayor Reel "Yeah that's what we decided."

Michele Yearwood "Are you kidding me?"

Mr. Shelton "Ok if the board is deciding that Chief Redden pending his investigation with the TBI have full access to the police department, officers files as well as our evidence and any other administrating duties I would ask under the circumstances that I am also a witness to this investigation and things that transpired in which I'm not allowed to discuss, I would ask that I be placed on administrative leave with pay for what might be considered a hostile work environment and a threat to my safety."

Crowd Outburst (Hard to hear meeting recording)

Mr. Shelton "So it is the board's decision that I will not be afforded leave with pay pending the outcome of this investigation, and I will be required to be at work under the direction of Chief Redden who is currently under investigation in which I am the individual who brought forth this investigation, is that my understanding?"

Joy Keylon "That's what I call a friend of ten years."

Mayor Doss "We will put it to a vote. I will make a motion to place Mr. Shelton on administrative leave with pay."

Mike Knox "Is that on the agenda?"

Mayor Doss "We will have to take that up at a special called meeting."

Mr. Shelton "In the meantime between now and the special meeting, what am I to do; am I to be here under the direction of Chief Redden? "

Mayor Doss "We will have a special called meeting on that in the near future."

Michele Yearwood Court Clerk "I don't understand how the city council is going to let him work knowing some of the circumstances they know. I am one of the people involved in this; I have picked up paper work and brought it here to the city. You guys are making a big mistake by letting him come back, when the city finds out what he has done in a couple weeks or a month you're going to be sitting here thinking why didn't we listen to Mrs. Horton."

Crowd Outburst (Hard to hear meeting recording)

Mrs. Yearwood "Yeah it's a big joke to you, because she has done so much wrong for the city right. This doesn't have anything to do with her; it has to do with us the citizens. If we can't trust our chief of police... interrupted."

Vice Mayor Reel "I trust him."

Mrs. Yearwood "You trust him now Nesa but when the stuff comes out people are going to be asking why you paid him, why your letting him come back to be around evidence and other people. It's not just one person that doesn't want to work with him it's the whole darn city because we know what he is up too, employees ok not the citizen's because they are not aware they are not privy of what is going on yet because it is a TBI investigation and we can't tell no one can know until it's over with. Innocent until proven guilty so when he gets proven guilty then what are you going to say? Oh wow we just him for two months after he stole all this money from us. The money was turned in after it was asked for."

Mayor Doss "Thank you."

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Doss; 2nd by Vice Mayor Reel. Motion carried 4-0.

Submitted by: Amanda Sulcer

Mayor, Ted Doss

City Recorder, Michelle Horton

Date