

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF CROSSLAKE MINNESOTA  
SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION  
AUGUST 1, 1988  
10:00 a.m. at City Hall

The City Council of Crosslake Minnesota met in a special session on Monday, August 1, 1988 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The following Councilmembers were present: Mayor Oliver Courts and Councilmembers Lyle Arends, Diana Gallaway, Dean Swanson and Oliver Yates. Also present were City Attorney James Gammello, Park Director Patricia Felber and her attorney Steven Van Drake, City Clerk/Treasurer Arlene Buchite and approximately 29 citizens.

Mayor Courts called this meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and indicated that the Council had been given a copy of the report from James Gammello on his findings at the Park and Community Center. Mayor Courts declared a ten minute recess so the Council would have time to read the report.

Mayor Courts said he would allow no editorializing or speculating which were not founded by fact.

Mr. Gammello stated that this was not a public hearing just a meeting to look over and review the report. Mr. Gammello indicated that Ms. Felber and her attorney had just seen the report also. Mr. Gammello stated that the report should be kept confidential until some official action is taken by the Council.

Mr. Van Drake said Ms. Felber would be happy to respond to any questions but because of scheduling problems they had not seen the report until just before the meeting. Mr. Van Drake stated that there was nothing in the report regarding the allegations against the Mayor.

Mr. Gammello stated he found nothing to justify the sexual harassment but Mr. Van Drake had informed him he was not to question Ms. Felber on that issue so he did not investigate it.

Mr. Van Drake stated he disapproved of the City Attorney acting as an investigator because he is an advocate of the City.

Councilmember Swanson said that there has not been any disciplinary action or any formal charges at this point.

Ms. Felber stated that she felt that there were charges and that it was an official act and that is why she refused to sign the form for Mayor Courts. Ms. Felber stated that she felt it was an attempt to terminate her because Mr. Gammello had been informed and her health insurance was discussed so she hired an attorney.

Mr. Swanson said he would like to have Ms. Felber respond to the report.

Ms. Felber indicated that Exhibit C was difficult to respond to as she has had many employers and that she felt singled out because she worked

two jobs. Ms. Felber stated that she could not be at the Park for 24 hours a day and that she also runs her own errands. Ms. Felber stated that the Park employees break their backs to see that the Park is open at odd hours. Ms. Felber stated that a few years ago she worked many extra hours without charging overtime and that is why she was salaried. Ms. Felber said she is not very good at punching the time clock.

Ms. Felber stated that as far as working the same hours as the warming house attendants, she had to train and supervise them.

Ms. Felber said she does turn in the receipts as soon as she can. The money was never an important part of the Park operation, according to Ms. Felber but she stated that everything is being documented now and they are even accounting for every hour the tennis court is used.

Councilmember Swanson asked Ms. Felber if she were ever directed to attend City Council meetings. Ms. Felber stated that she was accused of not attending meeting but she could count on two hands the number of Council meetings she has missed in the time she has worked for the City.

Ms. Felber said that although she is supposed to have the maintenance assistant for twenty hours a week she does not always get him when she needs him because he is needed for roads or cemetery.

Councilmember Gallaway asked Ms. Felber if she had ever discussed this with her Commission or why she did not inform the Council of the fact that she was not getting Tim for twenty hours a week. Ms. Felber said she assumed that the Council was aware of it.

Regarding the receipts Ms. Felber indicated that a check from Paul Billings was lost and has not been cashed and that three receipts stated missing she thought she had turned in.

Discussion ensued regarding keys to the Community Center. Mr. Arends said he told Ms. Felber to change locks a couple months ago. Ms. Felber stated that the Fire Department has lost several keys to the Community Center.

Ms. Felber stated that she does not notify the City Clerk or Liaison every time she leaves the Park but she does notify them when she leaves the City. Councilmember Swanson asked if Ms. Felber left a note on the door saying where she was going and when she would be back and if it is always imperative when she leaves. Councilmember Arends said sometimes Ms. Felber is on the other end of the property but she is there.

Ms. Felber said she felt she should report to the City Clerk or to her liaison when she was leaving the City and not to the Mayor. Ms. Felber stated that she was keeping a log and receipts would also show when she has left the park to go on an errand.

MOTION NO. 8S1-01-88 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SWANSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ARENDS TO HAVE MS FELBER WRITE A RESPONSE TO ITEMS A AND

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B ON PAGE 5 AND EXHIBIT C AND HAVE IT AVAILABLE FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING ON AUGUST 8, 1988. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Gammello said he would like the Council to have it by Friday, August 5, 1988 in order to be able to study it. Mr. Van Drake assured the Council that that would be no problem.

MOTION NO 8S1-02-88 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER ARENDS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER YATES TO ADJOURN THIS SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION AT 12:01 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recorded and transcribed by:



Arlene A. Buchite  
City Clerk/Treasurer