

# NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## MEETING **Live**AGENDA

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETINGS

February 9, 2021 - 6:00 PM and 6:30 PM via Zoom

**LiveTimeline** of the February 9, 2021 6:00pm and 6:30pm special Board meetings

**CALL TO ORDER of 6:00pm Special Meeting**

**PLEDGE**

**INVOCATION**

**ROLL CALL**

**ADOPT BALANCE OF AGENDA**

**Public Comment: Lisa Lemble**

**AGENDA ITEM 1.**

Dignan makes a motion to go into Closed session: "Pursuant to MCL 15.268(a) to consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, per the request of Mr. Steve Aynes this will be a closed hearing"

- **Manley:**< Motion passes 7 to 0
- (The transition to closed session happens in fits and starts)
- **Jennifer Carlisle** shares on her desktop the Notice of Closed Session. This will remain visible in the public zoom meeting room for the next hour+, well into the 6-30pm special meeting.
- **Boardmembers vanish from public room**
- **Aynes appears:** "Jennifer, it's you, me and Lisa, huh?"
- **Dignan reappears:** "Jennifer, are you there still?"
- **Dignan disappears.**
- Aynes reappears at the top of the public facing zoom window
- The Board remained in closed session for 51+ minutes. Part of that 51 minutes elapsed during the four or five minutes of transition following the vote.
- The stream as it transpired was recorded continuously and uninterrupted to the Township Livestream account as the 6:00pm stream. The Boardmembers left public chat, secure from public observation in a separate zoom virtual meeting room.
- For the purposes of this LiveTimelined stream, I eliminated the need for viewers to either watch 51 minutes of nothing or to guess where the meeting resumed. I cut out most of the 51 minutes of silence, empty room, and dead screen. The 51 minutes I replaced with a 30 second title.

- The 51 minutes was streamed untouched to the Township Livestream recording of the 6:00pm special meeting.
- There is one exception to the contentless-ness of this 51 minute interval. Manager Aynes did not attend the closed session. Physically, he remained in his Township office, fitfully reading bundles of paper. The zoom thumbnail reflecting his activity remained visible at the top of the public facing zoom meeting screen during most of the first closed session. So I time-compressed and overlaid his action-packed 51-ish minutes of office work onto the 30 second title. Aynes was muted. There was no audio.
- At the end of the closed session, [Dignan reappears in public zoom room.](#)
- [Boardmembers reappear in public zoom room.](#)
- Open session resumes.

### **Citizen Comment: Marissa Prizgint at 7-03pm**

### **ADJOURNMENT of 6:00pm Special Meeting**

### **CALL TO ORDER of 6:30pm Special Meeting at 7:04pm**

### **ROLL CALL**

### **ADOPT BALANCE OF AGENDA**

**AGENDA ITEM 1.** Closed session: Pursuant to MCL 15.268(a) to consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, per the request of Mr. Steve Aynes this will be a closed hearing

- [The Board enters into and remains in closed session for 31 minutes.](#) This 6-30pm stream was streamed continuously and recorded in its entirety to the Township Livestream account as the 6-30pm special meeting.
- Apart from Aynes' difficulty in reaching the closed session zoom anteroom, nothing was happening onscreen in the public zoom meeting, so I compressed it into a 20 second onscreen message.
- At the end of the closed session, [Dignan, then the other Boardmembers reappear](#)

### **AGENDA ITEM 2. Possible action as a result of Closed Session**

**Dignan:** Motion to amend the Township Manager's employment agreement as follows, Should Mr. Aynes resign from his position, he shall be entitled to the severance amount referenced in paragraph 9.b of his employment agreement dated July 31st, 2017, contingent upon him entering into a severance agreement. Is there support?

- Manley: I'll support
- Dignan Motion by Dignan Supported by Manley. Roll call vote, please.
- Motion passes 7 to 0

**Dignan:** I'd like to make a Motion. I move to amend the Township Manager's employment agreement as follows, Should Mr. Aynes resign from his position, the Board shall have the right to place him on paid administrative leave for the duration of his 30 day resignation period as set forth in paragraph 9 of his employment agreement dated July 31st, 2017.

- Otto: I'll support.
- Dignan Motion by Dignan Supported by Otto. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, Miss Manley will you call the roll?
- Motion passes 7 to 0

**Dignan: Finally, I'll make a motion. I move to accept the resignation of Mr. Aynes from his position as Township Manager, effective immediately, and to place him on paid administrative leave for the period of 30 days, after which time he will be entitled to his severance amount referenced in paragraph 9.b of his employment agreement dated July 31st, 2017, as long as he executes the release in the severance agreement.**

- Manley: support
- Dignan Motion Supported by Manley. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, Roll call vote, please.
- Motion passes 7 to 0
- Dignan: Mr Aynes, we appreciate the time that you served this community and we wish you well. Thank you Sir.

**ADJOURNMENT of 6-30pm Special Meeting at 7:43pm**

**Boardmember chat**

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