

From: Kirk Allen
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 2:57 PM
To: linda voris
Subject: Windsor FOIA Request

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act of Illinois, I am requesting the following public records.

- 1) Copy of the minutes where the City Council provided their advice and consent to the Mayor's appointment of legal counsel.

I qualify as both media and non-profit under the definitions in Section 2 (c-10) ("Commercial purpose"), Section 2 (f) ("News media"), Section 2 (g) ("Recurrent requester"), and Section 2 (h) ("Voluminous request") of the Freedom of Information Act, for the purposes of being exempt to the provisions of Section 3.1 (Requests or commercial purposes), Section 3.2 (Recurrent requesters), Section 3.6 (Voluminous requests), and Section 6 (Authority to charge fees).

I request expedited processing on the basis of an urgency to inform the citizens and taxpayers of Illinois about their government's activities. If any element of this request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all withholdings individually by reference to specific exemptions of the Act. Please provide all responsive information to me electronically.

I request a rolling production of records, such that the public body furnishes records to my attention as soon as they are identified, preferably electronically, but as needed then to my attention, at the below address. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Rolling production is not to be perceived as an agreement to extend the time frame for compliance under FOIA.

If you are not the FOIA officer responsible for any part of this request you are required by law to forward it to the appropriate FOIA officer.

The purpose of the request is to access and disseminate information regarding the legal rights of the general public and is not for the principal purpose of personal or commercial benefit.

As outlined in FOIA, documents shall be furnished without charge or at a reduced charge, as determined by the public body, if the person requesting the documents states the specific purpose for the request and indicates that a waiver or reduction of the fee is in the public interest. Waiver or reduction of the fee is in the public interest if the principal purpose of the request is to access and disseminate information regarding the health, safety and welfare or the legal rights of the general public and is not for the principal purpose of personal or commercial benefit.

I am requesting the records be provided in electronic format if that is the method in which they are stored.

Thanks,

Kirk Allen

Edgar County Watchdogs

PO Box 593

Kansas, IL 61933

Special meeting of the Windsor City Council was held April 28, 2021. Purpose of the meeting is to canvass the votes, swear in new Council, Executive Session Employee/Legal Issues, Vote on Executive Session Employee/Legal Issues, Appointments, and recognition of Visitors.

Mayor Tull called the meeting to order with Councilmen Wiback, Blythe, Miller, and Leasher present. Present for the meeting were Treasurer Phipps, Chief of Police Ronald Bateman, City Attorney Deborah Riley, Jim Dona, Randy Wallace, Danny Bridges, Rex Kunzeman, Sandy Dona, Alva McQueen, Judy Bridges, Blake Peadro, Jeff Maxey, Donna Johnson, Sonny Ross, Wyatt and Allison Rogers, and Noah Boyer.

The Pledge to the Flag was recited.

Mayor Tull said that this was going to be short. He ask if there was any comments from the City Council people. Wiback and Blythe did not have anything. Miller said that she wanted to thank everyone that she had served with, she appreciated what every body does. Leasher said that he would like to thank everyone on the Council. Leasher said that he wanted to wish the new Council good luck and not to give up. Mayor Tull said that he wanted to thank everyone for the last 48 months. Mayor Tull said that he wanted to thank Linda for all that she does, he appreciated all the help she gave him. Mayor Tull thank Treasurer Phipps for what he does. Mayor Tull said that over all he thought things went pretty smooth. Mayor Tull thanked Chief Bateman, and Sonny for what they did. Mayor Tull said that he wanted to wish the new Council all the luck in the world.

The Clerk read the canvassing of the vote there were 697 registered voters, there were 182 votes cast. For Franklin James Dona there were 115 votes for 63.19% and for Noah Boyer there were 67 votes for 36.81%. For City Council there were 697 registered voters, 571 total votes, for Tricia Miller there were 122 votes 21.37%, D Rex Kunzeman 97 votes, 16.99%, Randallee D. Wallace 87 votes for 15.24 %, for Danny Bridges 83 votes for 14.54%, for Wyatt Rogers 61 votes for 10.68%, Robert Brown 48 votes for 8.41%, and Xavier Beck 73 votes for 12.78%. The Clerk said that for Mayor it will be Franklin James Dona, for Councilmen it will be Tricia Miller, D. Rex Kunzeman, Randallee D. Wallace, and Danny Bridges. The Clerk said that she has certificates for the Office for them.

Attorney Riley gave the Mayor and Councilmen the Oath of Office. Attorney Riley said that the old Council is now officially done.

Mayor Dona said that he would like to go into Executive Session for Personnel. Miller made a motion to go into Executive Session. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. Time out 6:40 pm. Attorney Riley said that they need to have everyone step outside, because it has been known that people have tried to move closer to hear what was going on in Executive Session.

Mayor Dona said that he appreciated their patients while they were in Executive Session. Mayor Dona said that they will continue with the meeting. The Clerk said that they need a motion to return from Executive Session. Miller made a motion to return from Executive Session at 7:22 PM. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed.

Mayor Dona said that if they can not hear him to raise their hands. Mayor Dona said that his first responsibility as Mayor is to make the following appointments. Mayor Dona said that all the appointments that he will be making are temporary and they will be temporary until he has time to evaluate and make a decision at his own discretion of whether to make these appointments permanent or otherwise. Mayor Dona said that he will go down the list and these are temporary appointments until otherwise deemed necessary. Mayor Dona said that first appointment will be City Attorney Deb Riley and there will be no vote on this because it is one that he makes at his discretion. The seconded one will be City Clerk Linda Voris, the third will be Jon Phipps as City Treasurer, the fourth will be the Building Inspector which will be Gary Lovett and Carl Leasher will be his back up. Mayor Dona said that there will be times that Gary will be working on a project and it will be turned over to Carl to do. Mayor Dona said that the fifth appointment will be Ron Bateman, there will be no vote on Ron because this is at his discretion, the sixth appointment is the

Ambulance Board representative for the City of Windsor and this will be Dennis Hostetter, the seventh temporary appointment he will be making is the Ambulance Co-Ordinator with the consent of the Ambulance Board Chairman Albert Shafer will be Tom Coventry of Shelbyville. Mayor Dona said that Tom has 27 years of experience on their Ambulance Service there. Mayor Dona said that he is a Paramedic and he feels like this is an important person to name as our Ambulance Co-Ordinator. Mayor Dona said that they have an either appointment which is Richie Reynolds as their Water & Sewer Superintendent.

Attorney Riley said that they will need to vote on these appointments individually. Miller made a motion to appoint Linda Voris as the City Clerk. Wallace seconded the motion. Vote was taken on the motion it was 4 to 1. Miller made a motion to approve Richie Reynolds as Water Superintendent. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. Miller motioned to approve Jon Phipps as Treasurer. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. Miller motioned to put Gary Lovett and Carl Leasher as back up for Building Inspector. Kunzeman wanted to know if this was Inspector or building permits. The Clerk said that this is what he does is the permits. Miller made a motion for Gary Lovett as Building Permits and Carl Leasher as backup. Wallace seconded the motion. The vote was 4 to 1. Miller made a motion to approve Dennis Hostetter for Ambulance Board. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. Miller made a motion to approve Tom Coventry as Ambulance Co-Ordinator. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. Miller made a motion to keep all the Police on the roster. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. These were all temporary appointments. Mayor Dona said that these are all the appointments that he is making tonight.

City Attorney Riley said that the Commissioners are usually done by the number of votes that they received. Miller said that she was going to do Cemetery, Parks and Finance. Kunzeman said that he would take Sewer and Water. Wallace said he would take Police. Bridges will be Streets and Alleys. Mayor Dona said that he would accept their appointments of those positions.

Mayor Dona said that they would recognize the visitors. Wyatt Rogers said that his comment would be that they are going to have an out of District Ambulance Co-Ordinator. Wyatt said that Sonny paid out of his pocket for his ID. Wyatt said that they have a Paramedic from over by Strasburg, and one from over by Findlay, and he doesn't think another one is a good idea because of the amount of work he has put in because of his job.

Blythe ask on what grounds are they terminating him. Attorney Riley said that there are no grounds that this is an appointed job. Blythe said that this is a stupid move.

Miller made a motion to adjourn. It was asked if they were not going to be able to talk. Miller thought they had went around and they were through. Noah ask why did they go with him. Mayor Dona said that they want experienced person and if they have someone within their Ambulance people EMT's and Paramedics that want this position, this is why he made this a temporary position is to give people time to say yes I want to do this and to learn more about what the Coordinator does and why he does it. Blythe said so why don't they keep Sonny in that would make the most sense. Blythe said that they should leave Sonny in, he knows what is going on so he could train somebody. Kunzeman said that this other guy is already trained. Blythe said no his is not, not here. Blythe said that it does not matter. Kunzeman said that it did. Mayor Dona said there is no ruling saying the Ambulance Coordinator has to be in our District. Blythe threw his pager on the table and said that I quit. Kunzeman said thank you for your service, bye. Kunzeman said that if any of you other guys feel that they have to quit too that is fine. Blythe said that they might as well fill the Ambulance Service.

Miller said that she would just like to make one comment, she said that the Community needs the Ambulance Service. Miller said that anything could happen to anyone of us tomorrow, something could happen to us and they are no longer here, so are they saying that one man makes the determination if they go out and serve in our Community. Miller said so are they saying that if that person is not coordinator they will not service in our Community. Miller ask what is important to serve the Community or loyalty to one man. Miller said that this is her comment, this all she has to say.

Roger said that without that one man they would not have had a service the last 3 years. Kunzeman said that they do not have much of a service now with nobody responding. Kunzeman said that many times that he has seen Mattoon, and Shelbyville come over and if you listen to the radio frequency there is no response. Peadro want to know if he had checked the numbers. Kunzeman said that he was sorry he was not going to get into numbers tonight. Peadro said that he was just saying did he have numbers to back him up. Peadro said they work very hard to cover runs. Peadro said that he works full time and he has 3 children, this is not his fault. Peadro said that they are Volunteers, he said everybody has things to do, don't get him wrong, there is morality, do they want to get up to respond to calls. Mayor Dona said that he would respond to this, he was an EMT for several years, President of the EMT's, they had a different system to what they are using now. Mayor Dona said that he served because it was his Community and he thought he had an obligation to do this. Mayor Dona said that he had a person to die in Church one day and he did not know what to do. Mayor Dona said that he decided to become an EMT so that if this ever happened again he would be prepared. Mayor Dona said that he wants our Ambulance Service to be good and as workable as possible. Mayor Dona said he knows what it is to get up and go and then have to go to work. Mayor Dona said that he hopes the feeling is that their loyalty is to the City of Windsor, he said that this is why they have the Ambulance. Mayor Dona said that he has heard over and over that you don't know how hard we worked to get this Ambulance where it is. Mayor Dona said that if people walk away from it then that tells him one thing, they did not work that hard for the right reason.

Rogers said that the City made an unwise appointment. Rogers said that the City would not pay for his license, he said that he came up here and ask the City to pay for his license and they would not. Rogers said that Sonny paid for this out of his personal account, he said no other coordinator is going to do that. Mayor Dona said that he was sure if he applied today that the Council would probably pay for it. Miller said that the City already paid half, correct. The Clerk said that the City pays half for the class, she said for a long time they paid the full amount. The Clerk said that she did not know when Wyatt came to see about this. Mayor Dona ask Wyatt when this was. Wyatt said that it was 2 ½ years ago. Noah said that it was after they paid for his. Mayor Dona ask if he came to the Council or an individual. Bridges ask if it was the last Council. Wyatt did not know. Miller said that he did not recall ever recall him coming to a board meeting except for him coming with Sonny. Miller said that we do pay for the class. The Clerk said that we are paying for half of the class and they pay half and after a year we give them their half back. Mayor Dona said he is sorry that it ended up that way. He is glad that he did get the class paid for. Mayor Dona said that he hopes they are here to serve the Community. Mayor Dona said that when he was on he had a family, and he ask why did he put his family second. He knows what it is like to serve. Mayor Dona said that when he was on they would go to Sarah Bush and they would wait to see if the patient was going to be admitted or if they were going to go back home, so it would be long hours. Mayor Dona said that he did the work as being an EMT because someone needed to do this.

Judy Bridges said that she hopes that this new Council works with the Ambulance Service and maintains the Ambulance Service. She said that she realizes that they have other jobs and that it is hard during the day time. She said that they have elderly people here and she hopes that they will maintain this Ambulance Service.

Mayor Dona said that if there is someone on our Service that wants to step up to this position then they need to have that happen.

Sonny said that he thought some of the disconnect with the EMT's and the City, he would like to say publicly that he is interested in that position. Sonny said that he thought the EMT's did not understand what he has done to not deserve to stay in this position, so they feel some what betrayed, by the City Council. Sonny said that if he had done something gross and negligent he thought it would be very clear to everyone that he should be removed and should not be retained. Sonny said that he does not think anyone understands why he is not being reappointed. Sonny said that there is concern from Councilmen Kunzeman about calling other Ambulances, he said that he has all of the records if anyone wants to see them. Sonny said that when the Mayor appointed him he was very clear that the coordinator needed to be a citizen of Windsor, which they do not have to be. Sonny said that this is not happening here. Sonny said that personally he feels that his lack of being reappointed is the fact that there is no paper work. Sonny said that

he has been trying to get to the bottom of this and trying to get it corrected and he is on the outside looking in. Sonny said that he thought that they at least owed the EMT's as a whole a powerable explanation as to why they did not reappoint him.

Donna Johnson said that they do not know her, she has worked in numerous places. She has been in four different places. She said that she has never work with a good bunch of people as she has here. She said that they have good 1st Responders, Paramedics and Basic EMT's. Johnson said that they do not know how lucky they are. She said that she has worked under dictatorship and that does not work. Johnson said that they all work together and they have a good service here.

Miller said that with this being a temporary appointment as all the appointments were. Miller said that it is important to see what their opinions are and seeing if they are back in a dictatorship then they want to know. Miller said that if will be a constant evaluation. Johnson said that she did not mean that, she does not see that. Mayor Dona was she talking about where she had worked before about people trying to get other people in trouble. Johnson said yes and she does not see this here. Johnson said that she can see people quitting and she does not want to see that. Mayor Dona said that he did not want to see this either. He hopes that every EMT will serve the City of Windsor and help keep our Ambulance Service. Mayor Dona said that they need to try and recruit more EMT's that are here in town and would be able to leave their place of work to go on runs.

Sonny ask so it is better to have some one out of town than in. Mayor Dona ask if he had to answer this.

Peadro ask if they were not going to get an answer as to why Sonny was not reappointed. Kunzeman said no they do not have to . It was ask how long this was going to be temporary. Mayor Dona said that he was not going to put a time limit on it and then they say Jim the time is up. Mayor Dona said that he needs to look to see what is happening on all of these appointments. Mayor Dona said that there will be a time when they make these positions permanent.

Judy Bridges ask if they would make no appointment for the Ambulance would this make more EMT's available. Attorney Riley said that this person they are appointing has 27 years of experience. Noah said so they are going to have outside citizens on their service. Attorney Riley said that they should have anyway because they have 4 other Townships that help with the Ambulance. Attorney Riley said that there is nothing saying they can not be from other towns.

Miller ask Sonny how many calls did he do in the last month. Sonny could not recall without looking. Miller ask the Clerk how many he did. The Clerk said that she had just did the runs on Monday and he had not been on anything for April. Mayor Dona said so for the month of April with what Linda has on record you have not made any runs. Sonny said except for the one for his daughter.

Mayor Dona said that it is his understanding that Sonny has taken over the race track in Charleston and he will probably be spending a lot of time over there.

Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, she thought they had recognized everybody. Wallace seconded the motion. All Councilmen in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned.