

VILLAGE HALL OF HARRISTOWN

January 27, 2025

released  
12/15/25

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Village of Harristown Board of Trustees entered closed session at 9:25 pm pm to discuss closed session minutes from September 12, 2024 and personnel issues. Trustees Jay Trusner, Les Jenkins, Jeff Eller, Kevin Vessels, Kurt Terry, April Bogan, Attorney Joshua Dubbelde, Clerk Penny Allen, and Mayor Evelyn Deverell were present. .

Mayor Deverell discussed her accidentally erasing the closed session minutes from the recorder for the 9/12/2024 closed session. She said the board can go with the minutes that were previously written or Trustee Trusner or Treasurer Acree can write/type them up to be more accurate.

Trustee Trusner does not believe it was an accident. He feels she does not want the public to know what was discussed. He said he will get with Treasurer Acree. He indicated this is very frustrating. He feels Mayor Deverell wants to perceive herself a certain way to the public and not report everything. Attorney said the minutes may be able to be recovered.

Trustee Trusner discussed a personnel issue. He said he had a conversation with Jonathan Closs, Mr. Closs contacted Trustee Trusner. Jonathon is very upset at the way the Mayor is handling things. Mr. Closs said he and Misty had a conversation regarding bourbon. He tried to look up Frair Tuck on his computer but was not able to do it, websites are blocked, even Rural King website. He said notifications are sent to the Mayor every time he tries to look up something he feels he cannot be a supervisor. He was also upset that the Mayor made comments to him, Jessie and Chad about their checks saying how they should be really good checks that week. He said the spreadsheet was brought up and the Mayor was snippy to him, saying she was the mayor for 4 more months. Misty also said Mayor snipped at her but the next day the Mayor apologized. Trustee Trusner said there should be no restrictions on Jonathan's computer. Nothing should ever be said about paychecks. Mayor said she gets weekly report showing what sites are blocked and Jonathan should have said something to her. Trustee Trusner stated Jonathan did not come to her for fear of retaliation. Mr. Closs had asked the Mayor for the minutes for the URWC meeting and he still has not received them. Mayor said she doesn't recall him asking for this. Mayor Deverell said she did get snippy that she was mayor for 4 mores months in regards to timecards. Mayor Deverell stated Jonathan asked Treasurer Acree to go to the personnel meeting and she is not a board member. There are conversations that go on that she does not know about. Trustee Trusner said Teresa was asked to come to the meeting because she was familiar with the spreadsheet. Mr. Closs had stated if Mayor Deverell was going to be here next term, he would be looking for a new job. Trustee Trusner said he just found out all this stuff today that is why it didn't go thru personnel. Trustee Trusner said if there are internet restrictions, it has to be across the board, not just on certain computers. Jonathan feels like it is a trust issue with him since it is only his computer. Mayor stated if the Board feels she should resign to make Jonathan happy, she will. Trustee Bogan asked why he did not ask about this? She feels this is getting out of hand; board cannot function like this. Trustee Trusner stated there is no transparency in this village. We are not getting information that the Board should be getting. There should be no secrets. He knows for a fact there have been phone calls between Krishna, Hupp, and the Mayor that the Board doesn't know anything about. He is trying to fact check stuff because don't know what is going on. He said the Mayor and Trustee Jenkins are having daily meetings that the Board knows nothing about; need to let the Board members know what is going on. Trustee Trusner

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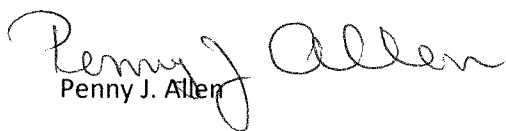
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stated some residents do not trust her. All he is asking for is transparency. Someone came to the office to see the zoning map and file was not in the office; this should not have happened. Trustee Trusner said Trustee Jenkins questioned him about why he (Trustee Trusner) was looking at the bills. Trustee Trusner said that is his job and the other board members job to do that. Trustee Eller said he does not see a failure of the Mayor or the Board. Trustee Trusner wants to have honesty and transparency. If there is nothing to hide, why is there behind closed door meetings? Trustee Eller questioned how did the Mayor say the comment about their paychecks? Mayor said she does not recall the comment. Mr. Closs has never said anything to her about having an issue with her. Trustee Trusner said he is just bringing the complaint to the board the employee came to him about. Mayor questioned what do we need to do? Trustee Trusner said need to watch what you say. Mayor Deverell said she will watch her tone and then asked if the Board wants to know everything? Trustee Trusner said yes, we should know everything. Trustee Vessels said Mayor should have a conversation with Jonathan. He said there can be behind door meetings, just no decisions. He does not want to know everything; just most important issues and financial issues. Trustee Trusner said he respects everyone here including the mayor. Big decisions, he is going to question and will speak up if something does not look right. Should not be overreach by Mayor. Be open, honest and be transparent; that is all he is asking. Trustee Terry asked Mayor if she feels comfortable talking to Jonathan? Mayor said no, she prefers one or two people are there also. Trustee Trusner stated Mr. Closs told him he does not feel like he is allowed to do his job without getting questioned. The minutes from the URWC meeting needs to be given to Jonathan.

A meeting will be set up with Mayor Deverell and Jonathan. Trustees Eller and Jenkins will also be present. Mayor will send an email

Motion by Trustee Terry to exit closed session and to return to regular session. Trustee Trusner 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Approved 6-0

Exited closed session at 10:19 pm and returned to open session

  
Penny J. Allen  
Village Clerk