



Village of Milan
Special Council Meeting
May 11, 2023

The May 11, 2023 Special Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Pam Crosby.

Mayor Crosby noted that the Special Council Meeting will not go into executive session but to discuss the agenda in the open meeting.

Roll call: McIlrath – absent, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes.

Motion by Taylor, seconded by McManus, to excuse Tim McIlrath from tonight's meeting.

Roll call: Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes.

Also, present: Mayor Pam Crosby, Fiscal Officer Cathy Ramey, Administrator Brian Rospert and Solicitor Jim Barney.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Crosby read the following resignation letter from Fiscal Officer Cathy Ramey dated May 8, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS cont. –

**To: Mayor and
Council**

From: Catherine Ramey, Fiscal Officer

Date May 8, 2023

Honorable Mayor and
Council,

Please accept this letter as formal notification I am resigning my position as Fiscal Officer with the Village of Milan. My last day will be June 30, 2023.

I would like to thank both Mayor Crosby and Council for the opportunity to work here for the past 2 1/2 years. During this time, I have gained additional insight and knowledge in the government arena as pertaining to a small village in Ohio.

During this time there have been many challenges including but not limited to the on-going record requests, questions, innuendo as to the performance of my job and others, and finally the contempt displayed publicly for all employees who continue to come to work daily and continue to perform his or her job to the best of their abilities, because of their love for Milan.

I took this position as a fun retirement because I am still driven to public service and will always be driven to serve. However, I cannot continue to perform in this capacity because of the toxic environment created by external actors. I will not let the stress continue for me and my family.

I would like to thank the Village employees for their help during my time here. In addition, a thank you to the residents who made me feel welcome while here. I hope my departure will foster a new effort to restore an environment where public service professionals can once again enjoy the calling to serve.

Thank you.

**Catherine
Ramey**

Catherine Ramey

Fiscal Officer

NEW BUSINESS cont. – Motion by Bickley, seconded by Taylor, to accept the resignation of Cathy Ramey as Fiscal Officer of the Village of Mian, effective June 30, 2023.

Council President Rospert told Fiscal Officer Ramey that she would like to show her great appreciation for all the work she has done for the Village since she came into a “dumpster fire” and has worked her tail off to clean it up. Council President also thanked Fiscal Officer Ramey for the easy to interpret forms, narratives and financials. These forms have been extra helpful, especially to her. Council President Rospert will miss Fiscal Officer Ramey terribly, wishes her well, and does not blame her for leaving regarding the toxic environment she is exposed to from certain actors.

Fiscal Officer Ramey told Council she enjoyed the people she has worked with tremendously and stated it is truly a family here. Fiscal Officer Ramey continued to say it was a hard decision, but she doesn’t feel that she can do her job as a Fiscal Officer always having to second guess everything she does although she knows the job, she cannot work like that. Fiscal Officer Ramey appreciates the time she has had at the Village. She went on to say regarding the audit, that she cannot keep waiting. The auditors cannot give her an estimate on the time frame it will be done but she has offered to answer questions whenever it is completed. Fiscal Officer Ramey said she will have the Tax Budget done and prepared along with the parameters for the ORC so that Council can approve it before she leaves and the new Fiscal Officer coming in will not have to worry about it.

Administrator Rospert commented on the job Fiscal Officer Ramey has done since coming into the position, noting that she dove right in and fixed issues and hasn’t stopped since. She is always working and the Village has benefited from her.

Council then took turns speaking on behalf of how Fiscal Officer Ramey has been an asset to the Village of Milan and will be missed. One mentioned that he teaches his children to leave a place better than you find it and said that is just what Fiscal Officer Ramey has done and thanked her for that. Councilperson Shafer said prior to his deployment to Afghanistan, Zach Rospert was Fiscal Officer but upon his return, Fiscal Officer Ramey was in the position. He also thanked her as did all the other Council members.

Mayor Crosby said she has learned so much from her and will greatly miss her. Mayor Crosby then asked for the roll call, which was regrettably done.

Roll call: Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Rospert – yes, Bickley – yes.

Motion by Rospert, seconded by McManus, to begin the process of hiring a new Fiscal Officer.

Roll Call: Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes.

Motion by Taylor, seconded by Shafer, to compensate Cathy as a Consultant as need at her current hourly rate upon leaving. Roll Call: Taylor – yes, Shafer – yes, McManus – yes, Bickley – yes, Rospert – yes.

Adjournment

Motion by McManus, seconded by Taylor, to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Roll call: Bickley – yes, McIlrath – yes, Rospert – yes, Taylor – yes, McManus – yes.

Carla Rospert

Carla Rospert, Council President

Catherine Ramey

Catherine Ramey, Fiscal Officer