

The Hanover Township Board of Supervisors held their **Special Meeting** on **July 9, 2012** at 4:00pm at the Municipal Building. Those present were David Duerr-Chairman, James Donohue-Vice Chair, Kevin Lemmi-Supervisor, Herbert Grubbs-Supervisor, Donald Winkler-Supervisor and Wendy M. Turrentine-Secretary/Treasurer.

Call to Order:

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Board went into an executive session for personnel at 4:02 and the meeting resumed at 4:36.

Questions on Agenda Items:

None

New Business:

1. Hire of New Seasonal Employee

Mr. Winkler stated there needs to be a change of leadership at First Niagara Pavilion and motioned to appoint Lawrence Brush as the manager.

Mr. Duerr read a letter of support for the current manager, James Lauria, from the general manager of the First Niagara Pavilion Brandon Bucar. In this letter, Mr. Bucar requested the Board's support to keep Dr. Lauria on as the manager.

Mr. Duerr explained that there have been 4 concerts with no major problems. He went on to say that his style may not be what the Board is used to but Dr. Lauria has a strong background and that the manager should not be changed in the middle of the season because of differences of opinion.

Mrs. Voelker asked what the reason was for replacing the manager.

-Mr. Winkler said that Dr. Lauria has a nice resume but should not be the manager as there are issues that need to be addressed.

Mr. Grubbs asked if Dr. Lauria would stay on even if he wasn't the manager.

-Mr. Winkler stated that he had spoken to him today and that Dr. Lauria told him that he wanted to do traffic next year.

Mr. Duerr stated that when he spoke to Dr. Lauria this afternoon, he expressed that he feels he is being pushed out and will continue on as manager with the Board's support.

Mr. Grubbs questioned the other Board members about how many hours they have been at the pavilion and stated that Mr. Winkler can not be second guessed because he has been the one at the pavilion.

Mr. Duerr stated that he saw it differently and that conflicts of opinion will exist no matter what.

Mr. Winkler said there are things that can not be talked about because of personnel but that there was a serious issue at the second concert.

Mr. Duerr said that he has spoken with the pavilion and they stated that their security was the issue, not the police department.

Mr. Winkler said that every rule has been broken at the pavilion this year giving the example of the dress code and command center.

Mr. Niederriter asked who made the rules.

-Mr. Winkler stated they are a consensus and have been followed for years and went on to say that the ex chief would have made the officers adhere to them.

Mr. Niederriter suggested Mr. Winkler stay away from the operations at the pavilion for a period of time.

-Mr. Winkler stated he is doing the time sheets for the employees.

-Mr. Noble stated that Mr. Winkler has no business in the police department on their computers doing police work.

-Mr. Winkler stated that he is doing his job and no one can say that he is not.

Magistrate Havelka told Mr. Winkler he is taking people's statements of opinion as a personal attack and he should not. He went on to say that no one is implying Mr. Winkler isn't doing what he said he would do.

Mr. Winkler stated that people would be at a loss for things that were said in the executive session and that he was able to do in 18 days what the former chief did in 90 days.

Mr. Winkler said that Mr. Bucar is a very nice guy who gets along with everyone but that he is not used to dealing with such a large venue and the number of people.

Mrs. Voelker stated that she is disappointed that 3 of the supervisors have not been to the pavilion.

-Mr. Grubbs stated he is not going down there to have to park a mile away.

Mrs. Voelker stated that her point was that the Board decided to be in charge of the police department as a committee of the whole and if that is fact, then they should have input and 1st hand knowledge is better than 2nd hand.

-Mr. Grubbs stated that Mr. Winkler is doing all the work.

-Mr. Donohue disagreed with Mrs. Voelker by referencing Mr. Duerr being in charge of the road department and no one questioning decisions made there.

-Mr. Grubbs explained that the whole Board can not make decisions regarding matters unless it is in a public meeting and that someone has to be able to control the mess.

Mrs. Voelker asked if the general manager at the pavilion supports Mr. Lauria and Mr. Winkler says he doesn't, then where does the Board get its knowledge.

-Mr. Winkler said that this was his 90th concert and it is Mr. Bucar's first year. He stated he sees serious issues and in the past, the Board waited too long to address them.

-Mr. Grubbs asked what input he would be able to give.

-Mrs. Voelker stated Mr. Winkler was in charge of the police department in the past but did not want sole responsibility this year and the agreement was that the entire Board oversees the department.

Mr. Bucar introduced himself as the general manager of the First Niagara Pavilion. He stated that he came from Cleveland and has attended many council meetings but this is the most eventful.

-He respectfully corrected Mr. Winkler by stating that he had managed events of up to 60,000 people at the Browns' stadium and stated that Mr. Winkler has put in a decent amount of time at the pavilion and is to be commended for that.

Mr. Bucar explained that in the 4 months that he has been here, he has developed a great relationship with the police department and there is a transparency between all departments which is good.

-In the 4 shows that have taken place, there has only been one issue and that was with the pavilion's contracted security, not the police department.

-The open relationship at the pavilion with all parties is an asset.

-He stated that if there are issues, they are not seen by him, the staff or the patrons.

-Mr. Bucar stated that issues can be corrected and that the pavilion is heading into 4 show stretch this weekend and he, as the general manager, does not want to go into that with a new manager.

-Mr. Winkler stated there is another issue.

Mr. Niederriter asked Mr. Donohue how he is sure there isn't any trouble in the road department and said that the Board needs to go to the pavilion and evaluate it themselves.

-Mr. Donohue stated that problems are handled by the head of each department and he takes their word for it regarding matters that occur.

-Mr. Niederriter stated that it needs second guessed.

-Mr. Donohue stated he spent plenty of time at the pavilion while he was the fire chief and does not need to be there. He went on to say that Mr. Winkler has the knowledge.

Mr. Grubbs stated that if Dr. Lauria agrees to move over there shouldn't be an issue.

Mr. Havelka stated the Board received resumes from different people and they chose who they thought was best. Dr. Lauria should be able to go to the pavilion, do his job and that be it. He explained

that he manages his office in a hands off approach as he has confidence in his staff and feels that there is a lot of micro managing going on at the pavilion.

Mr. Havelka stated that all the officers are Act 120 certified and that no member of the Board is.

-Mr. Grubbs stated that Act 120 certification does not hold up unless there is also training by the Township.

-Mr. Havelka said his point was that everyone makes mistakes and Dr. Lauria should be left alone to manage the police department at the pavilion without any supervisors.

Mr. Bucar asked if there have been issues that have jeopardized the Township that is unaware of. As the general manager of the pavilion, he does not understand why if the pavilion is pleased with Dr. Lauria's service and there have only been two issues, why the need to replace him.

-He went on to say that if the Township is at risk, then he needs to be aware and the Board needs to be willing to cooperate. The missing link is what the issues are because nothing has come across his desk. He suggested the Board at least give Dr. Lauria a full season.

-He stated that he is here with respect and as the general manager, he feels that the Board should be willing to talk to him about what is going on.

Mr. Winkler stated that Dr. Lauria did not realize how heavy of a situation he was getting into.

-He said that Mr. Bucar says he is willing to help but the Township asked for a light and it is still not there.

-Mr. Bucar explained that the light is currently being used in an area that is otherwise unlit.

Mr. Niederriter asked why a man with 40 years experience who knows what he is doing is being replaced after just 4 shows.

Mr. Havelka stated Dr. Lauria should be able to do what he was hired to do without interference.

Mrs. Noble asked why issues with James Geho were not addressed in the same manner.

-Mr. Grubbs stated because there was a union contract.

Mr. Havelka stated that the pavilion is unlike any other place and that if Dr. Lauria failed it was because he was set up to fail as he was only hired 2 weeks prior to the season starting.

Mr. Duerr stated that Dr. Lauria did not fail and suggested that perhaps things need done differently.

Mr. Havelka questioned how a new manager was going to handle 4 big shows in a row.

-Mr. Donohue stated that now there is a back up.

Mr. Bucar stated that there have been improvements since the first show and with a team effort, everything is down to a science. He also stated that he is willing to increase wages by \$10,000 a day in order to get things in better working order.

-Mr. Winkler mentioned a show letter and told Mr. Bucar that nothing is down to a science there are major problems from parking to ushers. He went on to say that the Board is better off with hiring a new manager now.

Motion: To appoint Lawrence Brush as manager at the First Niagara Pavilion.

Motion: Donald Winkler 2nd: James Donohue

Vote:

Mr. Duerr-no, Mr. Donohue-yes, Mr. Lemmi-no, Mr. Grubbs-yes, Mr. Winkler-yes

Motion Passed

Public Comments:

Mrs. Noble stated that it was no surprise as to the way the vote went.

Mr. Noble asked the Board who had read the code of ethics.

Adjourn:

5:34

