

DRAFT
SPECIAL MEETING -WILLIAMSON LAW
Town of Shelby
4062 Salt Works Rd. Medina, NY

July 17, 2024 6:00pm

Please note: We are live streaming our meetings through YouTube. See www.townofshelbyny.org and click on the link.

Present:

Scott Wengewicz, Supervisor
Steve Seitz, Councilman
Eddie Zelazny, Councilman
Jeff Schiffer, Councilman
Linda Limina, Councilwoman
Darlene Rich, Town Clerk
Jim Conway, Constable

Others:

Jim Heminway	Alana Koneski	Helen Limina
John Parada	Leona Weese	Sharlene Pratt
Scott Carlton	James Zelazny	Barb Daluisio

Called to order at 7:12 PM

This special meeting is in regards to Williamson Law. Last Thursday or Friday Kathy called Williamson Law to get arrangements for a phone call. Williamson Law President called the supervisor and after he explained everything to the President he apologized and said he thought everything had been taken care of. He asked for some additional time to figure out what the problems were. Supervisor received another call stating they had a staff meeting and they were assigning Ted (he thinks he is one of the owners) to dive deep and try to figure out what is wrong with the account. Supervisor thinks this could potentially save us some money if they can find the problem.

Seitz- If they can't come up with the answer then we would still go with another firm.

Schiffer-How confident are they in figuring it out? Supervisor said it was a simple matter just going through lines. Supervisor said he is not laying blame on anyone he just wants it fixed. Supervisor said they have been staying in touch with Miranda twice today so its daily they working with Miranda on this. Schiffer- what is the time frame?

Supervisor said he did not know maybe one week or maybe two weeks.

Zelazny-over the last year and a half you claimed that you contacted Williamson and they were working on it and now all of a sudden, they have to put their best man on it. He doesn't understand why it took so long for them to decide that. Supervisor said he understands and like he said the employee that set up the account and was working on

it that we were working with no longer works there. Limna-What is he saying our problem is? Supervisor-he doesn't know, that is why he is requesting some time and why he assigned Ted just to the Town of Shelby books to see if he can find the issue. Zelazny-We agreed to talk as a board why didn't that happen? The whole board should be informed. We have questions for him and we can't even ask him a question. Supervisor said that is why we are meeting tonight. This happened on Friday afternoon. Zelazny said he doesn't want an answer from the Supervisor. He wants an answer from them.

Seitz- maybe this is a chance for things to get corrected and if we can get this corrected in a couple weeks then that would help us all out. Everybody here is taxpayers and save some money but if it can't I understand, then I think we have to move forward but don't you think we deserve to give them a couple weeks and then do the phone call and ask them the questions that everybody might have?

Limina-personally she thinks they owe this board an explanation as to why it's been over a year. She has in the minutes from the April 2023 meeting where it is noted there was a software glitch so we have been going on 14 months for software we paid \$75,000 for and we've been told its going to be fixed. I think they owe this whole board and we had some communications via email and from you too Steve I will quote you "I agree the whole board should be involved in something this sensitive. Remember the famous words transparency all of us should hear it so I think we as a board need to call and find out from them. He owes us an explanation as to why he didn't know about it. I think we need to make a resolution as a board get them on the phone and at a public meeting they need to answer questions. Then he can go look up whatever he has to but he needs to answer to us first.

Schiffer- He doesn't see why we can't do both, just what I'm saying to you is give him a couple weeks and we can ask him then what took him so long but have the answer to the issue. Limina said he might not know what the issue is but clearly somebody in his office knows because whoever Supervisor has been talking to for the last year and a half clearly knows whatever the issue is so maybe the president or whoever this gentleman is you spoke with cant answer but he ought to be able to bring somebody to the table that can and we need to understand what it is because a week from Monday we are going to be interviewing hopefully some more accounting firms because we still have issues outside of Williamson that need to be resolved but we need to understand what if any Williamson issues and even if they don't have to be fixed by an accounting firm, we are into eight months into this year and do not have financial reports. That's just unacceptable.

Zelazny- has questions for him before he starts anything. We need to find out what really happened. Were they contacted? I don't know. We have no idea. Supervisor said who? Zelazny said they were contacted for almost a year and a half and nobody's been here, nobody's has come to the table to explain what's going on. Supervisor said we haven't asked them to come in until now to explain it. Zelazny said you said you've been talking to them for all this time and nothings been done. Supervisor said he understands his point of view. But the first half of the year we were working with an employee who either got fired or terminated and now we are working with a new trainer that is working with Miranda and then we agreed to call . Kathy called. They called Supervisor and said we have no idea, give us some time to answer your questions to

find out what the problem is and then we will gladly talk to you. Zelazny- how do they know our questions. we never talked to them. How do we know what we are asking them. Supervisor said wouldn't you want answers? Limina- You have been talking to them for over a year and they don't know what our problems are or that we even have problems here. Is that what you're saying? Supervisor-apparently the president didn't know he thought it was resolved. Limina- ok but if he thought it was resolved then somebody in that company knows what our problem is. The need to be on the phone with us. Supervisor -they request sometime from us to find the issue and he doesn't see an issue with giving them time because we haven't interviewed other firms yet. Limina- doesn't see an issue with us being able to understand what the problem is. She wanted to know what harm taken to spend 10 minutes to try and get an answer. If there is no answer it only took up 10 minutes of time. She is willing to give him the time to fix it but we need to understand what the problem is. We've been hearing for a year, two more weeks, the end of the month, next month, pretty soon and how much longer are we doing to do that? So, lets understand what the problem is, from that we might be able to determine what's a reasonable amount of time to allow them to fix it. Schiffer- what he is hearing is they don't know what the problem is and if we need to give them time. Limina said the president doesn't know. Schiffer- they put a guy specifically on there I think it would be a wasted phone call. Limina-somebody can explain to us what happened. Supervisor – they don't know what happened, that's the problem. Limina- She wants to hear it from them. Zelazny said he wanted to hear that from them. Limina-She want to talk to them directly, it needs to be a board phone call with them. Seitz- he agreed we should all talk to them but he thinks we have to give him a couple weeks or some time, a little time to get some kind of program together so they can talk to us about what's going on. Limina-What's the harm in calling? Maybe they won't tell us anything but if it makes a couple of us feel better. What's the harm in doing it? The worst that's going to happen is they are going to say they do not know.

RESOLUTION 75-24

RESOLUTION TO GIVE WILLIAMSON TWO WEEKS TO COME UP WITH THE ANSWERS REGARDING ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE BEFORE WE CALL THEM

Motion-Supervisor Wengewicz; second, Schiffer

Discussion-Limina would like to know from Jeff to help her understand what is the harm in asking them to tell us what they know right now. Jeff said they don't know anything. Limina said your saying that, but we don't know that from them so that's what I am asking what is the harm, what is the worst that's going to happen, we are going to waste a 10-minute phone call, isn't that the worst that can happen? What's the harm in that if they don't know anything. Zelazny—this started in executive session. They had an agreement they were going to do two and two and they were going to be given permission by the Supervisor to talk two on two and then it changed. Steve and Jeff even said you didn't know the finances and just as soon not get involved and you were going to let us take care of it, now you guys want to get involved with it. I had no problem but we need to talk to them first. I have questions and I want to know what the hell is going on. Seitz- said he had questions too. Zelazny- I think it should be done now. Steve- I think instead of you and Linda being there maybe it should be me and Linda or Linda and Jeff. Limina- It was agreed all of us. Jeff said all of us. Limina- you

guys said it in your email that you wanted it to be an entire board and that is what she prefers. She said she wanted to make the call as a board. Limina- we might find something out. Seitz- in his mind he just as soon has the time to look up stuff and then when we come into question them, they have answers we need. Limina said to Steve you believe its not worth 10 minutes of time to get more information now and if there is no answer in two weeks then what, are we going to give them two more weeks? Seitz -I said a little while ago if they don't come through then we will hire a firm and get it done. Zelazny- the emails regarding Williamson Law should be for the whole board. Steve said if they need a little time I say give them the time. Schiffer- Listening to Linda after two weeks you want to talk to them. Maybe they won't have answers. He doesn't want to waste every body's time. He wouldn't even want to put a time limit on it. I just want to make sure we get it done. I think this is bombarding them with questions and you know they don't have answers. Limina- disagreed with Jeff. She believes somebody has answers. If Supervisor has been talking to someone over there for the last year- somebody knows what our problem is. You and Miranda sat here within the last couple of meetings saying that some Joe person from Allied and Williamson are working on our problem so if they been working on it somebody clearly knows what the problem is so she would like to know what is the problem. That will help us to better understand how much more time should it take or of they have they taken too much time already. I don't know about you but if I paid \$75,000 to have something done at my home and it was a year later and it wasn't right I would be going back at the company for something and I think we need to understand the time they are taking is responsible or not. Supervisor understands and sees both points of view. Zelazny asked Supervisor if the whole board is going to be on that call like it should have been originally. Supervisor said yes or you guys can do it in twos. Zelazny said you said that before and we aren't getting any answers we wanted to talk to them you've said that we already had agreements on all this way back in executive session. Our attorney was sitting there, she agreed to it. She was going to contact them.

Roll call vote

Schiffer-Aye

Seitz-Aye

Limina-Opposed

Zelazny-Opposed

Wengewicz-Aye

Motion carried

RESOLUTION 76-24

RESOLUTION THAT IF THE TOWN OF SHELBY BOARD DOESN'T HAVE A RESPONSE FROM WILLIAMSON LAW BY JULY 31 THAT THIS BOARD WILL SET UP A PHONE CALL FOR AUGUST 1, at 6PM TO TALK TO THEM TO DETERMINE WHAT EXACTLY IS OUR PROBLEM

Motion-Limina; second, Zelazny

Discussion- Zelazny- in two weeks if they call or we call them we are going to have a public meeting in here with everybody. Supervisor said we can do two by two calls. Limina said we can do two by two calls but she is going to do it right here in the board room so the public can participate. Schiffer asked if Williamson will permit the board to

do that with them. Limina- if Supervisor gives the ok -yes Supervisor said the board can call that's not a problem. Schiffer said he was thinking they might feel like they are being attacked. Limina said she is not asking for them to come out here. They can do it on the tv for zoon or team's call.

Schiffer-Aye

Seitz-Aye

Limina-Aye

Zelazny-Aye

Wengewicz-Aye

Motion carried

Motion by Schiffer and seconded by Seitz to close the Special Meeting at 7:35pm

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Rich, MMC / RMC
Town Clerk