

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 29, 2020

A special meeting of the Mannington City Council, called by Councilmembers Ken Fletcher and Tim Fluharty, was held Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Ray Shadrick presiding. Council members attending were Chris Efaw, Denny Efaw, Ken Fletcher, Nelson Elliott and Tim Fluharty. Also present was City Attorney Peter DeMasters. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the meeting was held via Zoom. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the termination of Chief of Police Brian Stewart.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Two people had submitted requests to speak. Jennifer Leer asked if council had seen the video that was mentioned by Mayor Shadrick and stated that she disagreed with the mayor's comments that people outside the city did not have a say in the decision concerning the chief. She said the City's police were often called to areas outside the city when assisting the county and/or state police so it affects them too. She finished by saying she would like to see Stewart reinstated as the chief of police. Tim Van Pelt said he was upset over Stewart's dismissal and the way the executive session was handled at the last meeting. He said Stewart was not even allowed in that executive session. He asked council to bring Stewart back.

Chris Efaw made the motion to go into executive session to discuss Brian Stewart's dismissal. Denny Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:20 p.m. Elliott asked if the city clerk could come into the executive session. She said that was up to council and they agreed she should attend. Fluharty moved everyone else to Zoom's waiting room.

Elliott made the motion to reconvene into regular session. Denny Efaw seconded the motion and it carried. The time was 7:38 p.m.

Robert's Rules of Order says a motion to rescind must be made by someone who voted for the original motion. Shadrick asked for a motion to rescind. No such motion was made so it died.

DeMasters made a brief statement in which he said the investigation and personnel issues cannot be discussed in an open meeting.

Brandon Clyde asked Stewart if he was aware of any investigation and Stewart said he had no idea what they were referencing.

Elliott made the motion to adjourn. Denny Efaw seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.