

Village of Kirkersville Special Council Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2024

Mayor Ashcraft called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Council in attendance: Holly Branham, Darren Coe, Mark Davis, Jim Kincaid, and Carrie Slone.
Council not in attendance: Dave Engel.

Agenda

Special Meeting to consider the Mayor's recommendation to hire a new police chief.

Mayor Ashcraft introduced the applicant, Gabriel Poling, to Council members.

The clerk read Ordinance No. 08-2024, AN ORDINANCE CONSENTING TO THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF GABRIEL POLING AS CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE VILLAGE OF KIRKERSVILLE, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved to suspend by Kincaid, seconded by Davis. Following vote on the motion is recorded; yea, 5; Branham, Coe, Davis, Kincaid, and Slone. Nay, none.

It was moved to adopt with typo corrections of Gabriel Poling's name by Kincaid, seconded by Coe. Following vote on the motion is recorded; yea, 5; Branham, Coe, Davis, Kincaid, and Slone. Nay, none.

Council members asked Gabriel Poling to talk about himself and his experience.

Gabriel Poling said he is 23 years old, born and raised in New Lexington, Ohio, and has been in law enforcement for 4 ½ to 5 years, most recently as Chief for the Village of New Straitsville. He is accustomed to the financial constraints of a small village, so is big on getting grant money. He implemented body cameras to save liability and false accusations. He stresses paperwork and uses statistics to support reasons for projects. At his last post, he had 4 to 5 auxiliary officers working for him. Kirkersville has more traffic than he is used to. He has zero tolerance for school zone violations. Currently, he is employed at OSU Wexner Security and will work at the Village on his days off that job.

Mayor Ashcraft said that the other shifts can be covered by auxiliary officers.

Vote

Mayor recommended hiring Gabriel Poling as new Chief of Police, seconded by Coe. Following vote on the motion is recorded; yea, 5; Branham, Coe, Davis, Kincaid, and Slone. Nay, none.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved to adjourn by Kincaid, seconded by Coe. Following vote on the motion is recorded; yea, 5; Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, and Slone. Nay, none. Meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor