

STATE OF INDIANA
BEFORE THE TOWN COUNCIL OF SELLERSBURG, INDIANA

RESOLUTION NO. 2017 – R – 003

A RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CENSURE OF COUNCILMAN BILL CONLIN

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-2 *et seq.*, this Town Council of Sellersburg, Indiana (this “Council”) is the town legislative body and the President of the town council is the town executive; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-5-2-9, the legislative body may adopt ordinances and resolutions for the performance of functions of the town; and,

WHEREAS, on the 3RD day of August, 2017, during a special meeting where the public was invited, this Council, by majority vote, censured Councilman Bill Conlin.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Town Council of Sellersburg, Indiana the following:

1. This Council does hereby formally censure Councilman Bill Conlin. A copy of the letter read by President Rhodes during the aforementioned special meeting on August 3, 2017 establishing the reasoning for the censure is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
2. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and promulgation as evidenced by the affirmative signatures of the undersigned as the majority of the duly elected and serving members of this Council.

So Resolved this 28 day of August, 2017

[Signature page to follow]

“Aye”

“Nay”

Absent

Paul J. Rhodes
Council President

Brad J. Amos

Brad Amos
Council Vice President

Martina Webster

Martina Webster
Council Member

Jim LaMaster

Jim LaMaster
Council Member

William Conlin
Council Member

Michelle D. Miller

Attested by: Michelle Miller
Sellersburg Clerk-Treasurer

Motion: Webster

Second: LaMaster

Vote: aye: 3 nay: 1 abstain: 0

Paul J. Rhodes
Council President

Brad Amos
Council Vice President

Martina Webster
Council Member

Jim LaMaster
Council Member

William Conlin
William Conlin
Council Member

EXHIBIT A

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE JULY 24TH 2017

SELLERSBURG TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

3 August 2017

For much of last year this council has tolerated inappropriate etiquette and behavior from one of our council members, Mr. Bill Conlin. His statements and actions at the July 24th meeting has made this meeting necessary.

Since the July 24th meeting the council has learned that Mr. Conlin has lied to the public in attempt to incite fear regarding our water plant and the water produced, this is outright appalling.

Each council member brings his or her opinions to this council, sometimes in agreement and sometimes in opposition, but hopefully we do so for the best interest of the Town of Sellersburg and always speak truthfully. We do not believe Mr. Conlin has the Town of Sellersburg's best interests at heart. His behavior and statements at our July 24th, 2017 meeting are wholly unacceptable and may subject our town to unnecessary lawsuits.

At that meeting Mr. Conlin addressed several different unrelated issues inappropriately:

1. Mr. Conlin made the following statement in the 24 July meeting speaking to those present: *"Let me make one point...Ok. I went and got dry cleaning today...Ok. Nu-Yale..Ok. Sir here is your free bottle of water...So why are you giving a free bottle of water, said because we don't think the water is safe..Ok. You know the businesses in Sellersburg are buying bottled water? What can we do to let them know it is safe if it is safe? I'm giving my dog bottled water..I'm sick of buying bottled water"*. [THIS STATEMENT CAN BE VERIFIED WITH THE AUDIO]. This was a lie. Mr. Conlin's statement was dishonest and unprofessional designed to intentionally deceive and incite the citizens of our community. Myself and councilman Mr. Brad Amos personally spoke to the employee who waited on Mr. Conlin and she informed us both that she never made such a statement. In addition to speaking with the employee, we contacted the owner of Nu-Yale who wrote a letter explaining that they leave water bottles out at all of their locations for their customers and have done so for years as part of their marketing. "In no way is this related to any water company quality of water". [MOVE TO ADMIT NUYALE LETTER INTO THE RECORD].
2. Mr. Conlin also spoke to the audience about information regarding a former employee that was discussed in an executive meeting. Executive meetings are meant to be confidential in nature so that certain matters may be discussed by a quorum, which may have adverse legal consequences if they were discussed in the open public. His actions gave our insurance agent of record, who was at the meeting, such grave concern about a potential lawsuit that he penned a letter to this Council warning this Council about Mr.

Conlin's behavior and that his actions "are avoidable and the Town Council needs to address" it.

3. Mr. Conlin slandered Mrs. Webster asserting that she kicks him under the table. At no time prior to his outburst, had Mr. Conlin ever mentioned anything of the sort. These types of continued lies and grandstanding will not be tolerated.

These statements put the town at risk of lawsuits and this board finds it necessary to remind Mr. Conlin, that should his actions and behavior result in law suits, it is the citizens of this town and their tax money who would be paying for his irresponsible behavior and lie. Therefore I believe this board should officially reprimand Councilman Conlin for his actions that have put the town at risk, for publicly lying regarding Nu-Yale's marketing policy of providing free water to their customers, publicly slandering and violating the confidentiality of executive sessions.

This council in no way condones or supports Councilman Conlin's statements or behavior. I am asking the Town Council to penalize Mr. Conlin for his actions and statements.

Paul Rhodes

President Sellersburg Town Council