

## AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor Pat Humphrey & City Commissioners  
FROM: Jeremy Howard, City Manager  
DATE: October 3, 2024  
RE: Meeting Excusal – Commissioner Kim Bussell

For the Agenda of October 7, 2024

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Background. The City Charter stipulates "...that if a commissioner shall miss five consecutive regular meetings of the commission or twenty-five percent or more of such meetings in any fiscal year of the city, unless such absence shall be excused by the commission and the reason therefore entered in the proceedings, his office shall become vacant."

The Commission revised its bylaws (*copy att'd*) in regard to meeting excusal in early 2019, thereby significantly narrowing the reasons for excusal from scheduled meetings but nonetheless allowing for such excusal as an exception - generally for hardship or illness. Commissioner Kim Bussell announced at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting that she has a conflicting employment obligation that requires her to travel out of the area on October 7, thus she will miss the City Commission meeting. The Commission is asked to make a determination whether the reason for Commissioner Bussell's absence for tonight's meeting is considered "exceptional" and if so, grant an excusal.

Issues & Questions Specified. Should the City Commission excuse the absence of Commissioner Kim Bussell for the scheduled meeting of October 7, 2024?

Alternatives.

1. Excuse the absence.
2. Do not excuse the absence.
3. Set aside decision regarding this matter to a subsequently scheduled public meeting.

Financial Impact. There is no direct fiscal impact for the City.

Recommendation. I recommend that the City Commission make a determination whether the reason for Commissioner Bussell's absence is considered "exceptional" and if so, grant the meeting excusal by adoption of Resolution 2024-078 (*copy att'd*).

Attachment.

1. Resolution 2024-078.

**RESOLUTION 2024-078**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CLARE CITY COMMISSION EXCUSING/NOT EXCUSING COMMISSIONER KIM BUSSELL FROM A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CLARE CITY COMMISSION.**

**WHEREAS**, the Charter of the City of Clare, Counties of Clare and Isabella, State of Michigan (the "City") specifies within Chapter 6, Section 6.6 "...that if a commissioner shall miss five consecutive regular meetings of the commission or twenty-five percent or more of such meetings in any fiscal year of the city, unless such absence shall be excused by the commission and the reason therefore entered in the proceedings, his office shall become vacant."; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Kim Bussell announced at the September 16, 2024, City Commission meeting that she has an employment obligation that will take her away from the community and she will be absent from the scheduled City Commission meeting of October 7, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Bussell has a very good record of attendance at scheduled; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission has historically made it a practice to excuse commissioners in otherwise good standing from attendance at scheduled meetings for good cause and desires to continue said practice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission deems the reason for absence and advance notice of Commissioner Bussell to warrant/does not warrant continuation of said practice.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Clare City Commission hereby approves/does not approve the excusal of Commissioner Kim Bussell from its scheduled meeting of October 7, 2024.

**ALL RESOLUTIONS AND PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INSOFAR AS THEY CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION BE AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY RESCINDED.**

The Resolution was introduced by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_. The Resolution declared adopted by the following roll call vote:

**YEAS:**

**NAYS:**

**ABSENT:**

**Resolution approved for adoption on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.**

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**Diane M. Lyon, City Clerk**