

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-33**

**A RESOLUTION ADMONISHING COUNCIL MEMBER DIANE SPRADLIN FOR  
INTENTIONALLY MISTATING FACTS RELATING TO COUNCIL'S  
DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Village of Mount Sterling had a Special Meeting on October 27, 2016 to address employee health insurance needs, and;

**WHEREAS**, Diane Spradlin posted on Facebook the following:

The Village reversed itself, yet again, on Thursday at a Special Meeting from what it had unanimously approved 24 hours earlier at its first Special Meeting on Wednesday regarding health care for village employees. On Wednesday our fiscal officer advised Council that it COULD opt to renew our current contract for health care with Medical Mutual with no 10% contributions from employees as was stipulated and passed in the first version of the health care resolution at our regular Council meeting on Monday. Rank and file employees were upset with this first resolution because they did not want to incur an unexpected pay cut for their 10% share of of the premiums and instead most preferred to keep their current plan with the same high deductibles, but with no payroll deductions. Our fiscal officer presented the numbers for this option to Council on Wednesday which she explained would only cost the village \$2,484.12 annually instead of \$8297.96 as was originally proposed on Monday--thus saving the village \$5,813.84 over the resolution passed on Monday. I strongly supported this option at the meeting, and after much discussion, Council voted UNANIMOUSLY to renew our current contract at a very significant savings to the taxpayers of Mt Sterling. Last night, Thursday, our Mayor and 4 council members did a 360-degree reversal under strong and heavy-handed urging by our Village Administrator to NOT ONLY not require even a 10% contribution by employees but to go with the higher cost health plan they wanted on Monday. I am totally outraged that our mayor, administrator, and 4 Council members, including our Finance Committee Chair Mary Lou Stiverson would aggressively lobby for and agree to a resolution that will cost taxpayers \$10,000 MORE than a plan that was unanimously agreed upon by Council just 24 hours earlier! I stated last night, and I will state again, that we have a fiduciary responsibility to ALL of our taxpayers. We are most certainly not in office to bend to the will of 7 village employees over the fiscal interests of our taxpayers at-large. This was an outrage, and I just hope voters will remember this flagrant act of fiscal irresponsibility, and;

**WHEREAS**, John Martin, Village Administrator, subsequently explained the following was left out of Diane Spradlin's, council member, Facebook posting:

- 1) She contends that we flipped the plan from Wed to Thur at my urging.
  - a. Fact: We actually flipped the UNANIMOUS decision of the finance committee at her urging from the plan we finally chose to do the one she urged unilaterally and bushwhacked the rest of council with on WED. All we did on Thursday was to go back to what the finance committee originally (including her) decided in the first place. A convenient omission on her part.
- 2) She states that she had information from all the employees who said that they preferred the much higher deductible. I am at a loss as to which employees she interviewed – I certainly was not asked and the several employees I spoke to say that no one asked them

- 5) She in fact was the bully on WED when SHE unilaterally pushed a change to the finance committee's decision that was extensively discussed with her present and she voted along with all others to adopt the 2080-1000 plan.
- 6) She also left out the fact that the council killed the employee reimbursement ordinance in deference to the employees' very likely massive burden of contribution and very high deductible. I did not offer ANY opinion on the employee contribution. That was not my place to proffer an opinion and I did not do so at any time in this process.
- 7) She further appears to have no compassion for the village employees and their financial well-being. By knowingly strapping them with a \$9000.00 family ceiling BEFORE the first insurance dollar is paid she appears to be completely dismissive of the fact that employees endured four years of abuse by the previous administration, stuck with the village and stayed. These are outstanding and valuable employees who keep this village running smoothly. To just and seemingly flippantly strap them with such a financial burden is no way to thank them for that dedication.
- 8) A \$9000.00 family ceiling is ONE THIRD of the yearly GROSS of one of our employees. It is nearly half of his take home pay which is currently about \$400.00 per week after taxes.
- 9) She also believes that you can just pop into the hospital and claim indigency and they will cut your medical bill to nearly nothing. NOT TRUE. Since we offer insurance, the hospital will refuse that request, and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE  
OF MOUNT STERLING, STATE OF OHIO**

**SECTION I.**

The Council of the Village of Mount Sterling publicly admonishes Council member, Diane Spradlin for publically misrepresenting what happened at Special Council meeting regarding Village employee's health insurance. Council understands Diane Spradlin's First Amendment right of free speech but Mrs. Spradlin has a responsibility to the community to state the facts correctly. Mrs. Spradlin cannot run for public office by making untrue statements.

**SECTION II.**

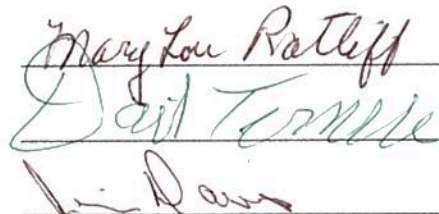
That the Clerk of Council, pursuant to O.R.C §731.23, shall cause to be published in a manner required by law this resolution.

PASSED: A signature is required if voting yes!

Mary Lou Ratliff, President Pro Tempore

Rebecca Burns

Jim Davis





Submitted to Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED:

Date of Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark J. Pitstick, Law Director  
Approved as to Form

I, Bonnie Liff, the Clerk of Council, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No.2016-\_\_\_\_\_ was published in the Madison Messenger for once a week for two consecutive weeks beginning on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 and ending on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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Bonnie Liff, Clerk of Council