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Board Meeting - December 5, 2022
Transcription of Audio Recording

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1 (Notes from transcriptionist: Spellings
2 are phonetic. Speaker names are written when there is
3 a significant level of confidence in the speaker's
4 identity, based on voice and context. MAN or WOMAN is
5 used when speaker cannot be identified.)

6

7 (Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

8 MAN: Okay, we'll have roll call.

9 WOMAN: Geppert.

10 MS. GEPPERT: Here.

11 WOMAN: Fetter.

12 MR. FETTER: Here.

13 WOMAN: Newbold.

14 MR. NEWBOLD: Here.

15 WOMAN: Kerns.

16 MR. KERNS: Here.

17 WOMAN: Politsch.

18 MAN: Yeah.

19 WOMAN: Wilson.

20 MR. WILSON: Here.

21 MAN: Do you have the list, or is it up
22 there?

23 MAN: I'm going to stand up here so I can
24 hear a little better. I'm a little hard of hearing.

1 Folks in the back, I won't hear you.

2 MAN: This is visitors and public
3 comments, and how this works is as you sign this, this
4 is the order that I go through. I will ask anybody if
5 they want to make any comments.

6 I would ask that you do a couple things for me.
7 Number one, confine it to five minutes if you can. If
8 you can't, I'm not going to call you on it. You know,
9 if you want to talk for an hour, I'll listen for an
10 hour, but I -- there's a lot of these here, and so if
11 you can confine it to five minutes, be appreciated.

12 The second thing I'm going to ask is that it
13 would be nice if we didn't get repetitive. In other
14 words, if somebody's made a comment, to make the
15 comment a second time as somebody else serves little
16 purpose.

17 So with that being said, we'll start with the
18 first person on roster. Matt Redland.

19 MR. REDLAND: Yes. I'd like to address
20 the board.

21 MAN: Sure.

22 MR. REDLAND: I spoke with my supervisor,
23 Chris, who also spoke with the mayor about this, and I
24 just want to let you know that I intend to file a

1 grievance with the Department of Labor, and that
2 grievance consists of what I would say is harassment,
3 bullying at work, which is contributing to a hostile
4 work environment. And that's -- like I said, I'll let
5 you know. Did you have any questions for me currently?
6 That's all I got.

7 MAN: Okay. Thank you. Richard
8 Fitzgerald. Any comment?

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Me? I don't have any
10 comments at this time, but I am running for village
11 board, so after the meeting if you want to sign my
12 petition, I'll be outside.

13 MAN: Thank you. Kyle Wetzel.

14 KYLE WETZEL: Just listening tonight.

15 MAN: Jeff Wetzel.

16 JEFF WETZEL: I'm just observing.

17 MAN: Okay. Eileen Wetzel.

18 MS. WETZEL: Same.

19 MAN: Okay. Devin Brown.

20 MR. BROWN: Observing.

21 MAN: Hans Carpenter.

22 MR. CARPENTER: No comment.

23 MAN: Okay. Daniel Earnhardt.

24 MR. EARNHARDT: Observing.

1 MAN: Farmer Mayor Richard Klein.
2 MR. KLEIN: Observing.
3 MAN: Cheryl Klein.
4 MS. KLEIN: Just observing at the moment.
5 MAN: Erica Penne.
6 MS. PENNE: Observing.
7 MAN: Nancy Ritter.
8 MS. RITTER: Observing.
9 MAN: Michelle Neff.
10 MS. NEFF: Just observing the shit show.
11 MAN: Tim Joellerbeck.
12 MR. JOELLERBECK: Just here.
13 MAN: Jeremy Dietzel.
14 MR. DIETZEL: Got nothing to say yet.
15 MAN: Jake Swindley.
16 MR. SWINDLEY: Observing.
17 MAN: Nicole Smith.
18 MS. SMITH: Observing.
19 MAN: Mark Schroeder.
20 MR. SCHROEDER: (Inaudible.)
21 MAN: Darrell Higgin.
22 MR. HIGGIN: I'm just here to observe the
23 meeting.
24 MAN: Scott Bush.

1 MR. BUSH: Same as him.

2 MAN: Cole Klein.

3 MR. KLEIN: Observing.

4 MAN: And Terry Hammond.

5 MR. HAMMOND: I'm here to support my chief
6 and my Leo Simburger any way that I can.

7 MAN: Okay. Thank you. All righty.
8 We'll move on to approval for the December 21st
9 minutes.

10 MAN: I find the minutes to be in order
11 and I make a motion to approve the minutes as
12 presented.

13 WOMAN: Seconded.

14 MAN: Motion made and seconded. Any
15 discussion? Hearing none, I'll call for the vote. All
16 those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

17 (Multiple people say aye.)

18 MAN: Opposed, same sign. Ayes have it.
19 Reports and communication. I have none.
20 Village clerk.

21 WOMAN: Nothing to report.

22 MAN: Treasurer. Police chief.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, a few things to say.
24 I wrote this out in hopes of maintaining a little more

1 composure. So I didn't have to -- so I can just read.

2 A little bit about Liddy's past. Liddy
3 graduated from Freeburg High School in 2016. She
4 joined the Missouri Army National Guard as military.
5 Thanks.

6 In October 2016 -- present. And she carried the
7 rank as sergeant. College was a bit delayed 'cause of
8 an overseas deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where
9 she guarded the terrorists.

10 After she got back, she went to Missouri State
11 University in Springfield, Missouri. She proceeded to
12 graduate with a bachelor's degree in communications.
13 She was a social butterfly.

14 She made some mistakes, sometimes big ones. She
15 got a DUI in late 2019. She wanted to plead guilty and
16 take her lumps in court, but then came COVID and the
17 courts were closed. Her case wasn't adjudicated until
18 about a year-and-a-half ago, where her condition of
19 probation was to have a breath alcohol ignition
20 interlock device installed on her car for two years.
21 To be -- it was going to be done in May of 2023.

22 I want to talk about her future a little bit.
23 Right here, right now I want to dispel any thoughts
24 that she wanted to do this.

1 WOMAN: It's okay, Leo.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: I got to do it.

3 MAN: Leo, do you want me to read it
4 for --

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Try to do this.

6 MAN: Okay.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: Liddy had a hotel
8 reserved in Nashville New Year's Eve with a couple of
9 friends. Reserved. Not I'm going to go. She had it
10 reserved. She had six days scheduled off for her
11 birthday in February, already approved.

12 We just got a vision plan in December -- on
13 December 1st and she already made an appointment. I
14 don't know where. We had planned for me to bring her
15 several pounds of deer sausage on Thursday, last
16 Thursday, so she could take it home on Friday morning
17 when she got deer -- when she got off.

18 There are two steaks marinating in her
19 refrigerator as we speak. She was as happy as I've
20 ever seen her as she got the opportunity to be a police
21 officer, which she wanted to do since she was five.

22 She started here, working here on August 14th
23 after graduating from Police Academy. She showed up
24 for work as scheduled and already had many traffic

1 stops, several arrests, to include two DUI arrests,
2 which is two more than the other three full-timers here
3 put together. Her work performance here was exemplary.

4 Tell you something else about her. Nothing
5 scared her. I never got a call saying she was scared
6 in Army basic training. I never got a call saying she
7 was squared -- scared at Guantanamo Bay guarding the
8 mid-level terrorists, sometimes close as you and I.

9 I never got a call saying she was scared of all
10 college, to include the year she worked as a bouncer at
11 a college bar. On November 30th, 2:25 in the morning,
12 I got a call from her saying she was scared. So what
13 changed?

14 On October 26th, I get an email from John asking
15 me for the last six months of training classes attended
16 by the officers. Yeah, roll your eyes again.

17 MR. FEDER: I didn't roll my eyes.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, bullshit.

19 MR. FEDER: I'm just doing my job, Leo.
20 It wasn't none against her.

21 MR. SIMBURGER: No, it was against me.

22 MR. FEDER: No --

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Bullshit.

24 This could only mean that one or both of the

1 other full-time officers complained about Lydia
2 receiving more training. It should be noted that Jake
3 already had nearly all of the classes Lydia was
4 attending. Lydia wanted to help and learn with
5 investigations.

6 Tim has never been good at investigations and
7 doesn't want to be good, so why would I waste time and
8 resources to send him to any investigation classes?

9 I had spoken to both Tim and Jake explaining the
10 schedule was going to be a little tough through
11 November, as with any new officer who requires
12 additional training and certifications after the
13 academy. I also had to explain to Jake numerous times
14 that I had to schedule the night shift around Lydia's
15 drill schedule. Her drill was once a month but on
16 different weekends. He couldn't seem to understand
17 that.

18 Was there a complaint to John when Tim got six
19 days off in October because he wanted to do something
20 with his family? Did Jake complain about the seven
21 days off he got to go to Vegas? Or did he complain
22 about having both deer hunting weekends off? Those
23 also disrupted the schedule.

24 I do not have a part-time officer who will work

1 a midnight shift. So when I make the schedule, each
2 pay period is 14 days. I have to fill seven night
3 shifts with one officer and seven night shifts with
4 another officer. So if somebody's gone in Vegas,
5 somebody's gone at school, somebody's sick, I got to
6 bring Tim down to work a midnight shift, and God forbid
7 that happens, apparently.

8 On October 29th, I get an email from Debby with
9 a complaint concerning the drug -- drug takeback date.
10 This ended up being an email argument, but I wouldn't
11 back down. Apparently that started the war too.

12 November 15th I get a rather snarky email from
13 Debby complaining about the interview process of a new
14 part-time officer.

15 On November 21st, John spoke both Lydia to me
16 about a story he heard about her falling off a bar
17 stool at a bar in Belleville. He then makes mention
18 about the BAIID on her car. How -- who in the hell
19 found out she had a BAIID on her car? Somebody looking
20 in her windows?

21 He then says there is way to override it, and I
22 said that will never happen. For the record, we didn't
23 even know what he was even talking about concerning the
24 bar stool.

1 On November 29th, I got an email from Debby
2 asking for a personnel meeting with Lydia and myself.
3 I was given a choice of December 1st, 2nd, or 5th. I
4 knew Lydia was coming in on the 1st, so I asked for
5 that day.

6 There was no mention of what this was about. It
7 was obvious one or both of us were under some sort of
8 investigation. Still don't know what the meeting was
9 about. What was the meeting about, Debby?

10 MS. POLITSCH: I told you we'd discussed
11 that when we meet in --

12 MR. SIMBURGER: We're meeting in person
13 right now.

14 MS. POLITSCH: In an executive session.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Bullshit.

16 WOMAN: Everybody deserves an answer as to
17 why they're having --

18 MR. SIMBURGER: So do they.

19 MAN: I would agree me.

20 MAN: Yeah. If it was very important.

21 WOMAN: Out of respect, I will not.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: Don't even say that word.

23 WOMAN: You owe them the respect.

24 WOMAN: I think the respect has gone out

1 the window.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: There's never been respect
3 from certain members of this board to myself or other
4 department heads.

5 MAN: I've seen that personally throughout
6 my career in New Athens and after as a board member.

7 MR. SIMBURGER: So I call Lydia to inform
8 her of it. She was in a sexual assault investigator
9 class, which requires -- is a certification for the
10 State of Illinois to investigate a sexual assault. You
11 have to have that class. Is that okay she took that
12 class, John? We need your permission?

13 MR. FEDER: All I asked was what classes
14 they took. I just wanted to know what they were
15 taking. I didn't mind her taking.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: Why? Why? Why?

17 MR. FEDER: I just wanted to know. I
18 heard she had never taken classes. I thought, well,
19 let's send it out -- I sent it to everybody. It wasn't
20 no secret. I didn't hide nothing.

21 MR. SIMBURGER: Why'd you --

22 MR. FEDER: I'm not against her, Leo.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Why'd you want to know?

24 MR. FEDER: We wanted to know what classes

1 they were taking. All of a sudden we were short
2 officers. I didn't understand how. We had hired
3 somebody. So I wanted to know what was going on.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: How were we short
5 officers? The shifts were being filled.

6 MR. FEDER: Yeah, but we should have had
7 an extra one and we didn't.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: It's called training,
9 John.

10 MR. FEDER: That's why I asked. I got my
11 answer.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh yeah, yeah.

13 MR. FEDER: I'm not going to argue -- sit
14 here and argue with you, Leo.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Of course not.

16 MR. FEDER: You lied on half the answers
17 you gave me.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Bullshit.

19 MR. FEDER: Well --

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Bullshit. That's
21 bullshit, John.

22 MR. FEDER: Ask Tim. He already
23 confronted you about it.

24 MR. SIMBURGER: About what?

1 MR. FEDER: The classes that you said he
2 took here, but he didn't.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: They were on the MTU site
4 as taken here.

5 MR. FEDER: Okay.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, he didn't tell me he
7 took 'em with Randolph County.

8 MAN: Doesn't matter where he took them.
9 If he took them, he took them.

10 MR. FEDER: That wasn't -- that wasn't how
11 it was asked.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: He scheduled for more
13 classes.

14 MR. FEDER: That's fine. I just asked.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, that's fine. Well,
16 thanks. Thanks for giving me permission.

17 MR. FEDER: I mean, I thought the board
18 should know what they were doing.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: So I have to report to the
20 boards to send my officers to training?

21 MR. FEDER: We just thought we should know
22 what classes they were taking.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, right.

24 MAN: You should become an officer if you

1 wanted to know what classes they're taking.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: He couldn't pass the test.

3 I assured her it could not amount to anything
4 because she did nothing wrong. I told her it could
5 only be a couple of possibilities. The additional
6 training and/or the BAIID. I reassured her that she
7 was not in violation of anything.

8 The BAIID is a Missouri matter because it was a
9 Missouri DUI, and this board knew about this DUI during
10 the interview. It's on her application. The BAIID is
11 a Missouri matter, and no Missouri law applies in
12 Illinois. No Illinois law applies in Missouri.

13 Secondly, even if Illinois law applied, you only
14 get a BAIID after your second DUI, and it only applies
15 to one's personal vehicle. That's in the law, in
16 print. If you'd have asked me for it, I could've given
17 it to you in about three minutes.

18 MR. FEDER: You and me had the
19 conversation. I was done with that. I was fine after
20 you told me no, that it was --

21 MR. SIMBURGER: Then why didn't you tell
22 Debby we didn't need a meeting?

23 MR. FEDER: I didn't know anything about
24 it until we were sitting here, Leo.

1 MR. SIMBURGER: Bullshit. You could have
2 said Monday night, last Monday night, no, we don't need
3 that meeting. We're good.

4 MR. FEDER: I said I would talk to you
5 about it. She said she wanted to know that. That's
6 why we had the meeting.

7 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, I'm -- I'm not done
8 here.

9 MR. FEDER: Well, whatever. I'm
10 listening.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: There was no meeting
12 required. John and Debby could have had a five-minute
13 conversation with me, and I could have explained
14 everything to them. Instead, they use their power on
15 the personnel committee to schedule a meeting, witch
16 hunt, with a brand new officer out of the academy
17 three-and-a-half months.

18 I don't care who she is. I don't care how tough
19 she is. New job, new career and you get called for,
20 you don't even know why, before the personnel
21 committee. What the hell is she supposed to think?
22 She's going to get an award?

23 MR. FEDER: I talked to her every time she
24 worked, Leo. Why didn't she ask? I would've told her

1 she wouldn't get in trouble.

2 WOMAN: She shouldn't have to ask.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: I called her on Tuesday,
4 dumb ass. She killed herself Tuesday morning.
5 Wednesday morning. I'm good.

6 WOMAN: She should have known what the
7 meeting was about, at least.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Remember I said she wasn't
9 scared of anything? And remember I talked to her early
10 Wednesday morning? That's why Liddy called me in the
11 morning, to say she was scared. As much as I tried to
12 reassure her, she was equally as scared, if not more,
13 of John spreading rumors and all of her life's secrets,
14 anyone who would listen at The Bullpen or The Nail,
15 which is what you do.

16 Yeah. Shake your head all you want. We all
17 know it's true.

18 MAN: Whatever you got --

19 MR. SIMBURGER: John and Debby -- shut up.
20 John and Debby do not deserve to be on this board as
21 they have grossly, grossly misused their power and
22 authority. If Debby sees an imperfection, she goes
23 from zero to the sky is falling, as if she does nothing
24 wrong like locking the door for an open meeting. Yeah,

1 it happened.

2 Failing to record meetings. John and Debby have
3 created an increasingly hostile workplace environment,
4 grossly affecting the morale of those -- of those of us
5 in leadership positions along with rank-and-file
6 employees.

7 And there's Bill. And I'm not going to forget
8 about you, Bill. Has twice -- twice publicly accused
9 me of taking bribes or kickbacks. Once from Wetzel's
10 and once from Russell Furniture in Staunton, Illinois.
11 Just throws crap against the wall to see if it'll
12 stick.

13 Has disliked me since I refused to buy AMSOIL
14 from him for the squad cars. Tyler refused to buy it
15 as well. He even tried to sell to the village from his
16 account after he was elected, which is illegal.

17 MAN: I don't have an account.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: You did then. You said
19 you did.

20 I further believe that John has actively been
21 seeking revenge against me. I had a call with him on
22 June 15th, and I had to force him to do something he
23 did not want to do. Since then he's treated me
24 decisively different.

1 MR. FEDER: Leo, I backed you --

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Shake your head all you
3 want.

4 MR. FEDER: I backed you on everything I
5 could.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, really? Face to face
7 maybe, and then as soon as I turned around, you stabbed
8 me in the back.

9 MR. FEDER: No, I went in and asked what I
10 had my question about.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh yeah, you really backed
12 me up when Debby wanted to -- wanted a meeting.

13 MR. FEDER: I didn't think it was a big
14 deal.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Well, Lydia did.

16 MR. FEDER: I wish she'd called.

17 MAN: Now do you think it's a big deal
18 now? Now do you?

19 MR. SIMBURGER: Really, John?

20 MAN: Now do you think it's a big deal?

21 MR. SIMBURGER: She still won't tell me
22 what the fucking meeting was about. You think you
23 were going to tell her what the meeting was about? You
24 think she's going to call you?

1 WOMAN: Somebody's daughter --

2 MR. FEDER: I would've talked to her.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: John, 5:55 Wednesday
4 night, I opened my doors -- apartment. She was dead.

5 WOMAN: You didn't have the balls to
6 tell --

7 MAN: He might not say it. You two are
8 responsible. I'll say it.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: I'll say that too.
10 Because you two could have prevented this shit.

11 MR. FEDER: How? By having a meeting?

12 MR. SIMBURGER: You have meeting, a
13 personnel meeting, you explain what's happening. It's
14 in the bylaws. You tell them what the meeting's about.
15 You two scared her to death. That's bullshit.

16 MR. FEDER: Debby lined it all up with it.

17 WOMAN: You're blaming someone else.

18 MR. FEDER: No, but I mean --

19 MAN: What was it about? Well, yeah --

20 MAN: Yeah, what was the meaning about,
21 Debby? The public wants to know. The public needs an
22 answer.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: It was about the BAIID, I
24 know it was, and I could've explained it to you in

1 three minutes. Three goddamn minutes. I've been a cop
2 for 31 years. You don't think I don't know she can
3 drive a squad car or she can drive a fucking truck, a
4 UPS truck. She can drive anything except her car. You
5 didn't ask. You didn't bother to have a discussion
6 with me.

7 MS. POLITSCH: I came in here a couple of
8 times to see you, Leo, and you weren't here, and one
9 day I was here and --

10 MR. SIMBURGER: What the fuck is this?
11 You don't remember -- you called once in a while.

12 MAN: Jesus, excuse --

13 MAN: Shady, underhanded bullshit.

14 MAN: Doc's got -- Doc made the minutes.

15 MAN: Shut up.

16 MAN: Somebody get 'em.

17 MAN: God, I hate that mother --

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Nobody -- nobody fought
19 for her. Nobody said, hey, do you really need a
20 meeting? Do we really need to call her in like this or
21 anybody else? Some mystery meeting where there's --
22 there can be no other thought that there's --
23 somebody's going to get in trouble or fired or you're
24 going to attempt to --

1 MR. FEDER: Nobody thought --

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Roll your eyes again,
3 motherfucker.

4 MR. FEDER: I didn't roll my eyes, but
5 nobody thought they were getting fired.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Really?

7 MAN: Oh, no shit.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Did you talk to her?

9 WOMAN: Debby wouldn't tolerate it if it
10 was her daughter. And would you tolerate it?

11 MR. FEDER: It ain't like you -- it ain't
12 how it went down. Every one of us was sitting here
13 when this meeting all took place.

14 MR. SIMBURGER: And nobody said -- nobody
15 said, hey, let's ask Leo. He's been a cop for 31
16 years. He can probably show us the laws.

17 WOMAN: You can get online and find --

18 MR. SIMBURGER: And I can do it for free.

19 MR. FEDER: I asked you when we were in
20 there. I thought it was a done deal. We didn't --

21 WOMAN: It was a done deal --

22 WOMAN: Well, if it was a done deal, why
23 was there a meeting coming up? Why was there a
24 meeting, Debby?

1 MR. SIMBURGER: And you don't think that
2 was a dig on her? Oh gee, John -- well, she doesn't
3 even fucking know what the hell you're talking about,
4 but she knows that you'll go down and tell your bar
5 patrons --

6 MR. FEDER: I didn't know -- I didn't know
7 --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Bullshit. Bullshit.
9 Bullshit. If you got a secret, it's gone.

10 MAN: You know, the sad thing --

11 WOMAN: Everybody else likes to talk down
12 on the bar.

13 MAN: The sad thing about it is it's a
14 disgrace that you are public officials that were
15 elected by this village and you represent them.

16 WOMAN: It's an embarrassment on the
17 village.

18 MAN: What an embarrassment. And what you
19 did to me and now -- and the mayor can control it too,
20 but decides not to.

21 MR. SIMBURGER: Actually, I disagree with
22 that.

23 WOMAN: Be on the board.

24 MR. SIMBURGER: The mayor does not, cannot

1 control a committee member or committee chairperson.
2 If she wants to have a meeting, she can have a meeting.

3 MAN: And I will tell you, I've spoken --
4 I'll be honest with you, and I've spoken out against
5 somebody on certain things, but I'll tell you what, Joe
6 Behnken has supported Leo 100 percent on everything
7 that he's done, and he's been a police supporter ever
8 since then. So you know what? What's right is right.
9 What's wrong is wrong, Joe. And he has supported Leo
10 100 percent. I will give him that.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: He has supported all
12 police.

13 MAN: Thank you.

14 WOMAN: If there was a meeting that was
15 going to be done, why wasn't it dealt with her
16 supervisor, and then therefore I'm guessing the mayor
17 is involved --

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, where's the chain of
19 command here, huh? Where's the chain of command?
20 Didn't Gary get in trouble for not using the chain of
21 command about two weeks ago? Wasn't something said
22 about that? But no, you go straight the fuck over my
23 head. My daughter's dead. Yours is alive. My
24 daughter is not coming to our Christmas Eve dinner.

1 (Inaudible.)

2 MAN: Thank you.

3 MAN: You know, when I was the mayor,
4 before I became the mayor, our police department was a
5 disgrace. I sat on that table with Brendan Kelly, who
6 was our state's attorney at the time and said, New
7 Athens is on the radar. You better do something about
8 it. And I was a trustee at the time.

9 When I became the mayor, we ended up hiring Leo,
10 and I'm going to tell you something. There ain't a man
11 that's more professional than this man.
12 I will take anything that this man said or did for this
13 village.

14 He turned that police department over in three
15 months, and Brendan Kelly came back with his associate
16 and said, I'm going to tell you right now, you did the
17 right thing. That man has turned this department
18 around completely.

19 And he got ridiculed all the time that he wasn't
20 out patrolling like a police officer should be. But
21 you know what? There's a lot more than just
22 patrolling. It's paperwork.

23 WOMAN: Investigating.

24 MAN: And investigating, all that stuff.

1 And this man had to do all that. Worked numerous hours
2 over his eight-hour and 12-hour shift just to make sure
3 that he was doing it for the village.

4 And this is the thanks that he gets. My
5 daughter -- what a disgrace.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: And I have to live with
7 the guilt of introducing her to this fucking cesshole.
8 You and you. Especially you two.

9 MAN: I can't even see how you two sit
10 here in your seats anymore.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: And you're laughing,
12 cutting it up like some fucking comedian from the
13 meeting.

14 MR. FEDER: I haven't laughed nothing.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Before the meeting you
16 were laughing. Before the meeting. Really?

17 MR. FEDER: Leo, we all know that's not
18 how this all went down.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: No, I -- that's exactly
20 how it went down.

21 MAN: I think I speak for everybody. You
22 two are a disgrace to this village board. A disgrace.

23 MAN: Well, I sure hope you all think
24 about it.

1 MAN: And learn something.

2 MAN: I bet -- I hope -- I hope you all do
3 the right thing -- and implement.

4 WOMAN: I think you need to leave here --

5 MAN: This is fucking devastating.

6 WOMAN: -- with resignations.

7 MAN: Absolutely.

8 MR. FEDER: Ain't happening.

9 MAN: Absolutely.

10 MR. FEDER: Ain't happening. Kick me off.
11 Ain't happening.

12 WOMAN: You're a disgrace to this
13 community.

14 MAN: Is that the coward you are, John?

15 MR. FEDER: No, it ain't happening. I
16 mean, this ain't how it down.

17 MAN: Bullshit.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: What did I say that was
19 wrong?

20 MR. FEDER: What do you mean, what'd you
21 say that was wrong?

22 MR. SIMBURGER: I'll say it slower. What
23 did I say that was wrong?

24 MR. FEDER: You act like your meeting --

1 You act like the meeting -- We were having some
2 secretive, real bad meeting. We weren't.

3 MAN: Did Leo know about it? Did Leo know
4 what was going on as chief of police? Did Lydia know
5 what was going on? According to the bylaws, they have
6 to know what's going on and what the meeting was about.
7 No, they didn't.

8 MR. FEDER: Time out. During committee --
9 the whole --

10 MAN: He can arrest you but you can't
11 arrest him, so you should have went to him.

12 MR. FEDER: During committee of the whole,
13 they set it all up. Every one of us board members were
14 sitting here when this happened. And they said they
15 were going to have a meeting about it.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: About what? About what?

17 MAN: Yeah. We don't know.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: On the agenda -- you know
19 what the agenda item was? One fucking word. Police.
20 What the hell does that mean?

21 WOMAN: If it wasn't --

22 MR. SIMBURGER: No shit, Sherlock.

23 WOMAN: -- a big deal, then why was there
24 a meeting? You got your answers already. Then why was

1 there a meeting?

2 MAN: I wouldn't wish this on anybody.

3 But it's sad that you sit there and argue --

4 MR. FEDER: I said I would get out the
5 minutes.

6 WOMAN: Go ahead.

7 WOMAN: Why can't we just say, what was
8 the meeting about?

9 MAN: I don't get it.

10 WOMAN: Somebody at the table needs to say
11 it.

12 WOMAN: I think the chairperson of that
13 meeting needs to say --

14 MAN: Oh, that'd be Debby.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: It was about the BAIID.
16 I already know it was. It has to be.

17 MR. POLITSCH: It was, Leo. Okay?

18 MR. SIMBURGER: And you couldn't talk to
19 me?

20 MR. POLITSCH: I was in here two times --

21 MR. SIMBURGER: The phone.

22 MAN: Go again.

23 MAN: Hold it.

24 MR. POLITSCH: Time out.

1 MAN: No time out.

2 MR. POLITSCH: I'm being respectful to
3 your daughter --

4 WOMAN: When? When are you respectful
5 ever?

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, really?

7 MR. FEDER: Leo, there wasn't much
8 discussed in the meeting. I'm sure -- I'm sure it's
9 recorded.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: I don't give a shit.

11 MR. FEDER: Okay. I'm just saying she
12 said she wanted to have a meeting. That was what was
13 pretty well discussed. There wasn't stuff discussed.

14 MR. SIMBURGER: My daughter -- you put my
15 daughter in a position to think that death was the only
16 way out.

17 MR. POLITSCH: We wanted to meet to talk
18 to you and her about the device and what the conditions
19 of her court orders were. That was it.

20 MAN: Why did you have to come -- Why
21 didn't you go to him? He could have printed out in two
22 seconds and get it to you.

23 MR. POLITSCH: The way to go through it is
24 to go through a committee. That's what --

1 MAN: Then why didn't you go to him and
2 tell him that's what it was about so he could be
3 prepared so --

4 MR. SIMBURGER: That worked really well,
5 didn't it, Debby? You two wanted to punish me. I have
6 no doubts about it.

7 MR. FEDER: Leo, I've never --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: And you -- you've
9 succeeded in punishing me as God only can. My daughter
10 is gone. She loved this country. She loved that flag.
11 She loved everything.

12 MAN: And she had such a bright future.
13 You have no idea. Just speaking to her. She -- I
14 mean, anybody that spoke to her, she had such a bright
15 future. She would've made it the whole way.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: If you're on this board
17 for a minute longer --

18 MR. FEDER: I'm not leaving.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: Fine. Don't ever fucking
20 say a word to me again. Not thank you. Not good
21 afternoon. Not good morning. Not nothing.

22 WOMAN: That is so disrespectful. You're
23 not leaving.

24 WOMAN: I would like to know the process

1 it is to --

2 MAN: You go to the courthouse and start a
3 petition -- file a petition to remove a board member.

4 WOMAN: Absolutely.

5 MAN: Takes about eight hours of
6 paperwork.

7 WOMAN: That's fine.

8

9 WOMAN: You know what? I'm off work until
10 the 19th.

11 MAN: I have nothing else to do.

12 MAN: They don't want to resign. Let's
13 remove them.

14 MAN: I'll sign it.

15 MAN: Got to have the.

16 MAN: I don't want to say anything.

17 WOMAN: These two individuals should not
18 be able to represent --

19 MR. SIMBURGER: What's this about, John?
20 What --

21 MR. FEDER: I don't want to start
22 arguments.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh -- oh, really? You
24 don't want --

1 MR. FEDER: Could she have had something
2 else go on that day, maybe? I mean, I'm not --

3 MR. SIMBURGER: She said she was scared.
4 She said she was scared. She told -- was fucking
5 scared. What the fuck do you think, John?

6 WOMAN: Oh, my God.

7 MR. SIMBURGER: What the fuck do you
8 think, you evil, fucking prick?

9 WOMAN: I don't understand how you two --

10 MR. SIMBURGER: Something else going on
11 that day.

12 MR. FEDER: I just asked a question.

13 MAN: Someone's going to take care of you.

14 MAN: No shit.

15 WOMAN: As a whole, what village members
16 were aware of all the harassment and everything going
17 on prior to this? My next question would be is what
18 were you all doing?

19 MR. FEDER: There was no harassment.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Of course.

21 MAN: There was no harassments.

22 There's harassment --

23 MAN: She's the king of harassment of
24 every employee. She's a micromanager. She thinks she

1 runs this fucking village.

2 MAN: Agreed.

3 MAN: I agree.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: And she does it. One
5 board member has no fucking power. It's the collective
6 of the board. It's the board's vote. Get that through
7 your fucking heads. I will never forget you asking
8 that question.

9 MAN: And you sit there and still sit
10 there and not -- you are disgusting.

11 MAN: A list of all the people that
12 signed --

13 MR. SIMBURGER: This was set in motion by
14 you. She felt that she had no other alternative.

15 MAN: As a police officer for 30 -- him,
16 31 years and me over 15 years, do you know what it
17 takes for somebody -- takes in their mind that that's
18 all there is left? To lose their career? She thought
19 she was losing her career, her everything, what she
20 worked so fucking hard for her because you guys didn't
21 want to do what was right and just -- all you had to do
22 is pick up the phone and call the chief of police
23 because you think he would've hidden something.

24 That -- don't shake your fucking head. That's

1 what --

2 MR. SIMBURGER: You accused me of lying.

3 MR. FEDER: I backed Leo many, many times.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: You accused me of lying
5 just a few minutes --

6 MR. FEDER: I walked in and asked you,
7 Leo --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: No. How about those two
9 classes that Tim took? There wasn't a lie.

10 MR. FEDER: But I didn't make a big huge
11 deal about it.

12 MAN: Oh, my God.

13 MAN: You just did.

14 WOMAN: His daughter's dead. Do you not
15 think he's going to make a big huge deal about
16 anything?

17 MR. SIMBURGER: You don't even care what
18 you said.

19 MR. FEDER: No, I do. I do.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, bullshit. Bullshit. I
21 can see it in your eyes.

22 WOMAN: Fucking mouth if you care.

23 MAN: No, but honestly --

24 MR. SIMBURGER: What else happened to her

1 that day? Fuck you, John.

2 MR. FEDER: Did she call -- crying saying
3 she broke up with her significant other that same day?

4 MR. SIMBURGER: No, I think -- no. That
5 was a month ago, motherfucker.

6 MR. FEDER: I don't know --

7 WOMAN: That's what her personal life --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Well, maybe fucking Tim
9 lies, too. You think of that.

10 MR. FEDER: I'm just saying there could be
11 a lot of other things --

12 MR. SIMBURGER: I can't tell you how many
13 times Tim has lied to me.

14 MAN: What she does in her personal
15 life --

16 MR. FEDER: And I didn't have a problem
17 with any of that. I'm -- I'm just saying --

18 WOMAN: Oh, bullshit.

19 MAN: If anybody can get anything on
20 anybody, they're going to do it.

21 WOMAN: Especially that one.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: It had been at least a
23 month since they broke.

24 MR. FEDER: Okay. I didn't know. I'm just

1 asking.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh -- oh, yeah. I'm just
3 asking.

4 WOMAN: You should shut your fucking
5 mouth.

6 WOMAN: That day. Don't talk if you don't
7 know accurate information.

8 WOMAN: You're supposed to be an adult.
9 You're supposed to represent a community. You're doing
10 a shit fucking job of it.

11 WOMAN: Amen.

12 MAN: Amen.

13 WOMAN: So as of right now, you should sit
14 there, shut your mouth, and attempt to look pretty.

15 MAN: That's not possible.

16 WOMAN: I know.

17 MAN: No. What they should do is they
18 should resign and give the mayor their resignation
19 right now and walk out in shame with their head down.

20 WOMAN: There's no way I would want these
21 two individuals to be able to represent or represent
22 me.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: And they have authority.
24 They have power in the city.

1 MAN: That's all it is.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: You want your little bit
3 of power -- use it on people. Because that's what you
4 did. That's what you did. That's what you did.

5 MS. POLITSCH: You know what I say? I
6 had --

7 WOMAN: We don't give a shit what you say.

8 MS. POLITSCH: I had utterly amazing
9 respect for your daughter.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, really? Really? How
11 much respect you got for me? Everything -- every time
12 you talk to me, it's nitpicking about something. You
13 don't talk about the 10,000 decisions I made that are
14 correct.

15 MAN: And it's not only the chief, it's
16 every employee.

17 MS. POLITSCH: Talk to you. No, the
18 problem we have --

19 WOMAN: The problem we have --

20 MR. SIMBURGER: The problem we have is
21 you.

22 MAN: Either one of your mouths. Either
23 one.

24 MS. POLITSCH: I took an oath to look out

1 for the good of this --

2 MR. SIMBURGER: You violate that oath.
3 Bullshit.

4 MS. POLITSCH: We were concerned about a
5 possible liability.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Possible liability. Can
7 you fucking talk to me -- the attorney? I'm sorry,
8 Debby, but I probably -- about DUI law than you ever
9 knew.

10 MS. POLITSCH: When you guys hired her and
11 you looked at her application.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: I don't need that -- I
13 mean, I used to write a lot of DUIs. I know the
14 goddamn law.

15 WOMAN: I don't even know how you can sit
16 there and try to argue with this man when you're the
17 cause of her death.

18 MS. POLITSCH: I'm not arguing, Miss
19 Cheryl.

20 WOMAN: Yes, you are.

21 MAN: Not arguing, Cheryl.

22 MS. POLITSCH: You're trying to --

23 WOMAN: Arguing.

24 WOMAN: -- what you've done.

1 WOMAN: There's no justification for your
2 actions, and you should really be ashamed of
3 yourselves.

4 WOMAN: You can't bring her back. So just
5 put your resignation in --

6 WOMAN: This man has lost his child. She
7 served this country.

8 MS. POLITSCH: I -- I completely
9 understand.

10 MAN: No, you don't. I don't think you
11 do.

12 WOMAN: And how either one of you can look
13 at yourself in the mirror right now and think it is
14 appropriate for your asses to be sitting on this board
15 right now, that is disgusting. Do better. Do better
16 for yourself and do better for this community.

17 You are supposed to be supporting this
18 community. You're not doing it. I'll tell you what.
19 The little bit of time have been in this town, this man
20 has been amazing. This man knows that my husband --

21 MAN: Thank you. Yes.

22 (Applause.)

23 WOMAN: He knows that my husband is
24 currently serving 21-and-a-half years in the Marine

1 Corps currently in California. This man checks on me.
2 He hunted down for my dog. And he didn't know me from
3 Adam at the time.

4 I see him all the time interacting with people
5 in this community because he cares.

6 MAN: You don't --

7 WOMAN: I don't see you. I don't see you.
8 I've never even seen you until today. I don't see
9 anything that you do for this community.

10 MAN: You know, for a person who doesn't
11 live in this village, who lives outside of this
12 village, he cares more about these people in this
13 village, every single one of these people, more than
14 you and you ever have.

15 WOMAN: You should attempt to even try to
16 be half the man that he is.

17 WOMAN: Good luck.

18 MAN: Did anyone on the board like just
19 say we need to say what's going on here to them?

20 MAN: No.

21 MAN: Not one of them?

22 WOMAN: Anybody could have stopped that
23 meeting. Anybody could have said, hey, do you really
24 think it's necessary to have that meeting? Just ask

1 Leo.

2 MAN: Very childish.

3 WOMAN: Anybody could have done that.

4 WOMAN: This could have been prevented.

5 MR. SIMBURGER: No, but we have to have a
6 secret clandestine as soon as freaking possible
7 meeting. And yes, we demand that a
8 three-and-a-half-month veteran in a new job in a new
9 career be present. After some of the fucking comments
10 he said, we all knew what this was about. One of two
11 things.

12 MAN: So we didn't find out from board
13 members. We find out from the public because someone
14 was running their mouth, apparently.

15 MAN: There's a lot of rumors going around
16 town that this board is after employees' families. I'm
17 just telling you rumors that I hear. And that is sad.

18 MAN: I don't think it's a rumor.

19 MAN: Because if I'm hearing it --

20 MAN: Ain't a fucking rumor anymore, Rich.

21 MAN: Nope. You know, your job is to take
22 care of us only. Not to nitpick, not to go after
23 somebody because you don't think it's right. You're
24 supposed to be professional.

1 WOMAN: Keep your nose out of personal
2 business.

3 WOMAN: You're supposed to have the best
4 interest of the community.

5 MAN: When I called Ted Dennis, our other
6 attorney, and talked to his wife and Ted, his wife
7 couldn't believe it because she has known Leo for I
8 don't know how long, and said you couldn't find a more
9 respectable police officer, and that at the time he was
10 working at Swansea, and this is the thank you that he
11 gets. You ought to be ashamed of yourself.

12 WOMAN: All of them. I'm sorry.

13 MAN: Yeah, all of them.

14 WOMAN: I believe all of them. Because
15 somebody had to have known that this was all happening
16 and going on and nobody did anything. And you all
17 shouldn't be able to put your head down on a pillow at
18 night and sleep well over the bullshit that's gone on
19 past this, let alone costing someone their life.

20 WOMAN: They may need to wipe out and
21 start clean.

22 MAN: I don't know what to say.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: All the lives affected,
24 not just my daughter. The 911 call I made was to a

1 woman who used to dispatch me -- for me for years at
2 Swansea. I didn't even know. She's affected greatly.
3 The Belleville officer that showed up that night went
4 to the academy with her. Their lives are never the
5 same.

6 MAN: The entire law enforcement community
7 is in mourning. And every one of them is disgusted by
8 the actions of this place.

9 MAN: If you guys stay on, you're a
10 disgrace.

11 WOMAN: You need to leave.

12 WOMAN: You can't expect to be staying
13 here when Leo comes back to work. There's no way that
14 you can expect him to do that.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Everyone at this table has
16 kids. To my knowledge, there are two men in this room
17 besides myself who knows what it's like to lose their
18 daughter. The pain is unimaginable. And it was
19 avoidable.

20 MAN: You should --

21 MR. SIMBURGER: All of you have kids,
22 imagine. Just imagine finding them dead. Put that in
23 your mind, because in my mind, when I go to sleep, when
24 I wake up, and a thousand times a day --

1 MAN: And it should be in your heads too.
2 Every single minute. You should lay your head in
3 shame.

4 MAN: I'm so disgusted by some of you
5 people. Not all of you.

6 MAN: I don't see how you guys are going
7 to sleep at night.

8 MAN: Something tells me they'll sleep
9 just fine.

10 MAN: Oh yeah, that's right. Because you
11 guys don't care. The only thing you care about is your
12 little bit of power, Debby, and your little bit of
13 power, John. That's all you care about is your little
14 bit of thing. That's all you care about.

15 MR. FEDER: There's power being on a town
16 board?

17 WOMAN: If you don't want the power, then
18 resign.

19 MR. FEDER: I'm not resigning.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Fucking bullies. Bullies.
21 Both of you.

22 WOMAN: Is there any plan from the village
23 to help with like crisis intervention for situations
24 like this? I mean, this is a significant loss. It

1 affects a lot of people. What is your plan? I mean,
2 you have to have some sort of resource, don't you?

3 MAN: Nope.

4 MAN: Probably some chicken shit ass --

5 MAN: I have a policy.

6 WOMAN: That's not your worry, though, at
7 this point.

8 MAN: Yeah, you're --

9 MAN: You're going to worry about it?

10 WOMAN: No.

11 WOMAN: No.

12 WOMAN: No, we know they're not going to
13 worry about it.

14 WOMAN: Should be.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: I have someone to talk to.
16 She's a certified therapist lives a few houses down
17 from me if I need her.

18 MAN: And he can call me 24/7.

19 WOMAN: He knows he's got our backs.

20 MAN: He's got my back. That's for damn
21 sure.

22 MAN: Actually, this meeting kind of went
23 the way I expected it to. You throwing on a smug look
24 every fucking minute. Like that one.

1 MAN: And being the coward you two are,
2 not getting up and doing what the right thing of
3 resigning and walking out. Figures.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: Laughing like you're a
5 comedy show right before the meeting. Oh, you want to
6 check the tape, John.

7 MR. FEDER: I don't know what I would've
8 laughed about.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Well, I don't either.
10 That's my kind of my point.

11 MAN: Let me ask the village attorney a
12 question. I'm not accusing John of doing this, but any
13 of yous, if you're at anywhere outside this building
14 and you're talking about an employee -- or you're all
15 employees -- about their personal life -- and I'm
16 talking about going after their personal life. Is
17 there against the law of that?

18 MAN: You know, what I would say is if
19 there's a --

20 MAN: I can't hear you.

21 MAN: Well, listen.

22 MAN: Well, you guys do that.

23 MAN: I can't hear you.

24 MAN: Good.

1 WOMAN: Well, you're a smart ass too,
2 aren't you?

3 MAN: You seems that way.

4 WOMAN: Right on board.

5 MAN: If there's an --

6 WOMAN: Attorney.

7 MAN: If there's a problem with an
8 employee that comes to any of the village trustees'
9 attention, it should be discussed not out in public --

10 MAN: But down the chain of command --

11 MAN: It should be --

12 MAN: But down the chain of command
13 attorney is what --

14 MAN: It should be -- It should be
15 discussed among the trustees.

16 MAN: How about with the immediate
17 supervisor first?

18 MAN: Pardon me?

19 MAN: How about with the immediate
20 supervisor first? The chain of command. He's not an
21 intelligent --

22 MAN: I'm not aware of that, but it
23 shouldn't be -- the question was, should it be talked
24 about individually, privately out in the public? And I

1 say no, shouldn't.

2 MAN: Second time I've ever seen -- I know
3 they'll let you -- another question you didn't answer.
4 The second time I've ever seen him since Joe's been in
5 the office. So he's probably not nothing against Joe.
6 I just letting you all know his standing.

7 WOMAN: Yeah.

8 MAN: But if you all don't keep doing
9 this, nothing's going to fucking change. I'm going to
10 tell you that. I've been coming up here and it doesn't
11 change.

12 MAN: Because there's nobody here but me
13 and Kratz. Matt shows up sometimes.

14 MAN: A little bit --

15 MAN: People -- I feel --

16 WOMAN: Yep.

17 MAN: This is not the first time -- and it
18 wasn't this board. This is not the first time a board's
19 bullied somebody.

20 MAN: No, sir.

21 MAN: Isn't that right, Mr. Klein?

22 MAN: Yep.

23 MAN: Because I was one of 'em.

24 MAN: Yep.

1 WOMAN: Yep.

2 MAN: You got it.

3 WOMAN: You got it, Terry.

4 MAN: And we took care of it immediately.

5 MAN: Yeah, because I threatened to sue.

6 MAN: Well, not just that, but we knew it
7 was the right thing to do. It was the right thing to
8 do because the former chief of police was after me
9 because I turned him in for stealing evidence out of
10 the vault and using it for personal use. So I was
11 targeted. Not mentioning anybody names, because I'm
12 not going to do that because that's not my style. But
13 I was targeted, and I won that. Didn't I, Mr. Klein?

14 MR. KLEIN: Yes, you did.

15 WOMAN: Yes, you did.

16 MAN: And I beat it.

17 MAN: Yep.

18 MAN: So this is not the first time the
19 board's done this.

20 MAN: And it's a disgrace because I've
21 seen it twice.

22 MAN: Yeah. This is twice. And if it
23 wasn't for that man right there and the St. Clair
24 County Investigations Team, same thing might have

1 happened to me because I was losing my family. I was
2 losing my career. Did I think about it? Hell, yeah, I
3 did, because of fucking board members.

4 MAN: You know, the sad thing about it, I
5 got on that board because I replaced somebody that
6 quit, and that all was going on and not one person did
7 anything about it. Nobody did anything about it. They
8 let the chief run wild, do whatever he wanted to do.
9 And now he's a felon, because I did the right thing
10 when nobody else would. Because I went to my immediate
11 supervisor. He wouldn't do the right thing, so I did.
12 And it cost -- it almost cost me my family and my
13 career.

14 MAN: And it was a good thing I had the
15 resources and I knew I had the power.

16 MAN: That was the only man to help me.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: So fuck you and fuck you.

18 MAN: -- did to his family.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: My wife was right behind
20 me walking through that apartment door. She had to see
21 it. What'd you do today, Debby? What'd you do today,
22 John? I had to finish my daughter's obituary. What'd
23 you do Saturday? Have fun? I had to order an ern.

24 MAN: You know what? You might not have

1 pulled the fucking trigger, but you loaded the goddamn
2 gun, didn't you? By your fucking mouth and your
3 fucking actions, you loaded the fucking gun. So you're
4 all responsible. And I don't think anybody here
5 disagrees with me.

6 WOMAN: Nope.

7 MAN: Nope.

8 WOMAN: If you're not going to resign,
9 then we're going to take it to the point -- and I
10 guarantee you, everybody on the list that signed in
11 tonight will be signing the petition along with anybody
12 else we find and you'll be gone.

13 MAN: I'll start it.

14 WOMAN: So make your choice.

15 WOMAN: It will be done.

16 MAN: Start it tomorrow.

17 MAN: There's one more needs to leave too.
18 For bullying.

19 WOMAN: For harassment, for bullying.

20 MAN: As a business owner --

21 WOMAN: For the village not doing anything
22 about it.

23 MAN: As a business owner, I've been --
24 I've been harassed by one of the board members

1 constantly. One thing after another. I was accused of
2 paying the chief to bring his cars down for me to work
3 on. I asked the village to get rid of them. They
4 won't. Several times.

5 MAN: Get rid of me.

6 MAN: And now we have another issue.
7 Supposedly I have containers of toxic chemicals down
8 there, and he wanted to have the chief come down and
9 issue me a citation. So I had Mr. Newbold come down
10 today and confirm that they're empty.

11 MAN: You guys have no power as a single
12 board member.

13 MAN: It's bullying. It's all it is.
14 It's bullshit. You expect people to conduct business
15 in this town? With that attitude?

16 MAN: That information you said, I did not
17 say.

18 MAN: Just like you said, I didn't -- I
19 didn't want to collect bribes.

20 MAN: Yeah, you did. Yeah, you did. I've
21 got it.

22 MAN: I said, I wonder what all the
23 containers are doing down at Wetzel's. That's all --

24 MAN: You've been after Wetzel's ever

1 since you've been on the board, Bill, so don't even go
2 there.

3 MAN: Hey, Leo -- Bill, did you turn 'em
4 into the fire marshal a few years ago?

5 MAN: No.

6 MAN: For the -- yeah, you did. Yeah, he
7 did.

8 MAN: I don't even know who the fire
9 marshal is.

10 MAN: No, you had us do it. Our fire
11 department investigated too. His wood-burning stove.
12 That came from you. Ain't that sad? That's pathetic.
13 But it's all personal. It's not business. It's all
14 personal.

15 MAN: Wood-burning stove would be a
16 safety issue.

17 MAN: You think you've got -- it wasn't.
18 Fire department said it's not.

19 MAN: The fact of the matter is we have
20 lost a great officer and a great -- and this man has
21 lost every fucking thing. Everything in his life he
22 has lost.

23 MAN: Leo, can I ask you a question,
24 please? You made a comment, are you -- I hope you're

1 staying. But I'm going to tell you something. Joe, I
2 feel sorry for you if this man quits, because that's
3 police department is going to go right down the tubes
4 like it was when I inherited it. Yeah.

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Tim -- officer -- You
6 think it's so fucking great. Cannot. Oh, yeah --
7 yeah, I know.

8 MAN: I promise you that.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: He cannot even do a
10 felony arrest from start to finish because he's too
11 goddamn stubborn to figure it out.

12 MAN: Time for him to go.

13 MAN: Former Mayor Klein, I agree with you
14 a hundred percent. The -- in my estimation, you can't
15 beat Chief Leo.

16 MAN: He can't be replaced.

17 MAN: You can't beat him.

18 MAN: You can't.

19 (Applause.)

20 MAN: Cause this man changed that
21 department completely.

22 MAN: I believe it.

23 MAN: Completely. And that came out of
24 Brendan Kelly's mouth who is now in charge of the State

1 Police.

2 MAN: I believe it.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: A shit department. I
4 built it from bottom-up. And despite -- despite
5 backstabbers all around me for the past
6 eight-and-a-half years.

7 WOMAN: You're not going to be able to
8 fill those shoes if he goes.

9 MAN: You're not. You're not.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: For the past two
11 elections. And the last one was from your office, Mr.
12 Bueller's. Oh, Chief Leo. He does nothing. He does
13 nothing. He does nothing. He does nothing. He does
14 nothing. I think I need to be the next chief. Oh,
15 yeah. Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Yeah. That came from your
16 office. Just because you didn't tell him doesn't mean
17 it wasn't said.

18 MR. FEDER: No, I've never heard nothing
19 about him being chief.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: No, of course not. Yeah.

21 MR. FEDER: He wasn't even -- he's had the
22 opportunity to be chief a couple times and he turned it
23 down.

24 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah. There's a lot

1 involved with the police chief. A lot. He's been
2 ripping me and backstabbing me since I've been here.

3 MR. FEDER: Leo, I've never thought you
4 were a bad chief.

5 WOMAN: And Leo --

6 MR. SIMBURGER: He has lied to me I don't
7 know how many freaking times.

8 WOMAN: My husband knew what was going on
9 and tried to tell Leo, but Leo is a good man. He's a
10 good man. And he did not want to think bad about any
11 of his police officers.

12 MAN: Or at least tried to make it a
13 little better.

14 MR. FEDER: I've never thought you were a
15 bad chief. I've never said you were a bad chief.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: I'm --

17 MR. FEDER: And I don't know where this --
18 thing come in place that he was -- you thought he
19 wanted to be chief when Gary was --

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Really?

21 MR. FEDER: He was part-time or temporary
22 chief when Gary was there.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, I know. He's been
24 backstabbing me ever since I've been here. Especially

1 around election time.

2 MAN: The fact of the matter is --

3 MR. SIMBURGER: You're a Tim lover. She's
4 a Tim lover.

5 MR. FEDER: No, I get along with him. I
6 get along with Jake. I offered your daughter -- your
7 daughter to dinner every night too.

8 WOMAN: What?

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, you know, that's
10 nice --

11 MR. FEDER: No, I take -- I go to dinner
12 to Jake. I do that --

13 MR. SIMBURGER: I know you have dinner
14 with him every fucking night. And find out what's
15 going on in the department.

16 MR. FEDER: No.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: His version.

18 MR. FEDER: I offered your daughter every
19 night too.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah. Unfortunately. I
21 can't verify that with her anymore, can I?

22 WOMAN: No.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Because you don't lie, do
24 you, John? You never lied.

1 MR. FEDER: I'm just saying, I mean, I was
2 just being nice to her.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah. This man has never
4 shown favoritism under me. Never. The only reason she
5 got more training is because she's a brand new officer.
6 Certain things -- PA, sexual assault investigation --
7 requires a certification. Jake's had those classes.
8 Tim's had those classes.

9 MR. FEDER: I asked the question, I got my
10 answer, and it was dropped.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, really? Really? Then
12 why did you send me another email? Which ones are
13 mandatory?

14 MR. FEDER: That was part of the question.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: It's fucking training,
16 John. How about you let me decide what they need to
17 do? How about you let me run the goddamn department?
18 I don't think you've been a cop. I don't think you've
19 been a cop. I don't think you've been a cop.

20 MR. FEDER: I've never --

21 MR. SIMBURGER: -- you've been a cop.

22 MR. FEDER: Wasn't micromanaged. 15, 20
23 years, 30 years. It doesn't matter. We go through
24 training. We train, we train.

1 MR. SIMBURGER: We train more now because
2 of the new laws.

3 MR. FEDER: We never stop training.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: Some of the training --
5 some of the mandatory training is frankly bullshit.
6 But I got to send them, which creates a void in the
7 schedule because I'm operating on an absolute skeleton
8 crew.

9 I had a fifth man almost paid for. But you
10 didn't like him. You said his wife said he was going
11 to work day shift and be a detective, which was never
12 the case. And even if she said it, big fucking deal.
13 That was never going to happen.

14 WOMAN: It was never said. People like to
15 run their mouth and think that other people are talking
16 shit.

17 MR. FEDER: The fifth person was to go to
18 Lenzburg.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: No, that was here.
20 Lenz -- we weren't going to be in Lenzburg 24/7. And
21 you knew that if you read the goddamn contract.

22 MR. FEDER: Four patrols, John. That's
23 it. Four patrols on a 12-hour shift. That's it.

24 WOMAN: It was in a minutes. I read it in

1 the newspaper.

2 MR. FEDER: Hell, County goes down there.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: We already go down there
4 that fucking often some days.

5 WOMAN: That's okay.

6 MAN: I know one thing. I'm sorry, Leo,
7 but I'm glad I'm not in this shit because I wouldn't
8 put up --

9 MAN: I'm glad I left. That was the best
10 thing I did, leave this board.

11 MAN: You know, that's why you have the
12 department heads and they run the show. And committee
13 -- committee --

14 WOMAN: They know what to do.

15 MAN: Right. And when you have a meeting,
16 you state on the meeting what it's about -- a meeting.

17 MAN: That's why you have department
18 heads, for them to run to the departments, not to
19 micromanage them.

20 MAN: Soon as you start that secrecy,
21 that's where that bullshit starts.

22 WOMAN: Just because --

23 MAN: It creates fear.

24 WOMAN: Doesn't make you the head. You

1 don't even know anything about being a police officer.

2 MAN: Oh, they think they do.

3 MAN: I've never said that.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: No, you just act like it.

5 Your actions -- bullshit. They don't know shit.

6 MAN: Wasn't the meeting recorded?

7 MAN: I don't know.

8 WOMAN: No.

9 MAN: Oh, it wasn't?

10 WOMAN: Nope.

11 MAN: Well, the personnel meeting she had
12 with him wasn't recorded about three weeks ago,
13 whatever. When -- I don't know when it was. That
14 wasn't recorded. That's the one with the locked door
15 on an open meeting that Chris was instructed to lock
16 the door.

17 MAN: Oh, well, now that's a violation of
18 open meeting. You're not getting it. Maybe -- call
19 the State Police.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: But did I make a big deal
21 out of it? No. I knew it a long time ago. Did I make a
22 big deal out of it? Did I call anybody? No. Because
23 in the big picture, it doesn't mean much. If I -- I'm
24 58 years old. I'm a big boy. I can take the shit.

1 But a brand new officer just out of the academy,
2 starting a new career, maybe, maybe isn't as strong as
3 me. She's never scared of anything. She didn't scare
4 of anything her whole life. She was a three-sport
5 athlete from fourth grade through the eighth.
6 Two-sport athlete, part of the -- part her high school
7 played volleyball three years, played co volleyball,
8 dove on the floor, put her fucking head into a concrete
9 wall once in Mascoutah diving for a ball.

10 MAN: You should have been transparent
11 with him and her completely. And you wasn't. They had
12 a right to know what was going on as chief of police
13 and as the person being accused. That is in the
14 bylaws.

15 MAN: I wasn't the one that typed it up or
16 anything.

17 MAN: And six of us --

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Are you not part of the
19 personnel committee? Are you on the personnel
20 committee?

21 MAN: But it was during committee of the
22 whole.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Are you on the personnel
24 committee?

1 MR. FEDER: Yeah.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah. Okay.

3 MR. FEDER: There was six of us they could
4 have asked, though. We --

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Okay. Okay. Okay. So
6 you're saying she's 100 percent responsible?

7 MR. FEDER: No. I'm saying she could --
8 they could have -- she could asked any one of us six.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Or could one of you six
10 spoken up and said, hey, let's ask the chief first.
11 Let -- let's not just fucking have another goddamn
12 meeting like we do 300 fucking times a year.

13 MAN: Because you thought he was going to
14 keep a secret because it was his daughter.

15 MR. FEDER: I've never taken a dollar from
16 -- for a meeting.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, well -- I'm just
18 saying --

19 MR. FEDER: Don't be thinking that --
20 don't be thinking that's why we're having the meetings.

21 WOMAN: It is for some of you.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: You could still waste --
23 it's still a waste of taxpayer money. I could've
24 answered that question in three goddamn minutes. I

1 could've showed you. I could have printed out the
2 goddamn law.

3 MAN: No, but there's no transparency.
4 There was secrecy. And it cost a good person, a good
5 girl, a good officer her life.

6 Your daughter's still here. Your daughter's
7 still here. You would never have done this to your
8 kids. Never. If this was brought up and she was -- if
9 your daughter was employed and your daughter was -- and
10 she was standing right here employed and somebody did
11 that --

12 WOMAN: All hell would break loose.

13 MAN: Oh, yeah. All hell would break
14 loose. You're damn straight it would.

15 WOMAN: Yep.

16 MAN: Because if it was your kid, you
17 wouldn't put up with it. You wouldn't put up with it.
18 You would've went straight to the chief. Hey, this is
19 the situation. This is what happened. I didn't know
20 this.

21 That's exactly what you would've done. All you
22 had to do was go to this man right here and he would've
23 told you. Hell, you could've looked it up on fucking
24 line.

1 MAN: Any of you people could've looked it
2 up online too. It's right fucking there.

3 MAN: No, but you had to cost somebody
4 their life because of your ignorance and your secrecy.

5 WOMAN: Why didn't any of those other six
6 people let them know? Was it a decision amongst all of
7 you not to tell anybody?

8 MR. FEDER: There was not that much talked
9 about. She said she wanted to have a meeting. We
10 lined up a meeting. That's how it went.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: You all knew what the
12 meeting was about. Nobody told me. Everybody knew but
13 Leo. I don't --

14 MR. FEDER: I haven't talked to you since
15 the committee -- the whole meeting --

16 WOMAN: Pick up a fucking phone.

17 MAN: Would you want him to come down to
18 The Bullpen and sit with you?

19 MR. FEDER: No, but I mean --

20 MAN: I called this man at two o'clock in
21 the morning. I wouldn't -- it went about.

22 MR. FEDER: I didn't know there was an
23 issue.

24 MAN: I call this man at two o'clock in

1 the morning, he would answer it. He'd pick it up.

2 MAN: I found out at one-something in the
3 afternoon that she even wanted this meeting. Who is on
4 that committee?

5 MR. FEDER: Debby, John, and Arlene.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: She killed herself about
7 14 hours later.

8 MAN: Who was the third one?

9 WOMAN: Arlene.

10 MAN: She didn't show her? I'm sorry.

11 MAN: I did tell Leo Wednesday afternoon.
12 Yeah, Wednesday afternoon, was it, at about one o'clock
13 what the personnel meeting was about.

14 MR. SIMBURGER: But unfortunately she had
15 already been dead.

16 MAN: No, no. That was --

17 MR. SIMBURGER: Yes. She's already been
18 dead for about 10 hours.

19 MAN: Too late. Too late.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: I tried -- I tried calling
21 her about three o'clock. Didn't know any better. I
22 tried to -- she tries -- she keeps on her night
23 schedule. 15, 20 times. Texted her. Delivered, but
24 not read.

1 MAN: Am I confused?

2 WOMAN: So why -- why wasn't this --

3 MAN: Because we had the meeting

4 Wednesday. It was -- right?

5 (Crosstalk.)

6 MAN: It was the same day --

7 WOMAN: Committee meeting was scheduled --

8 MAN: Somebody -- somebody -- at this
9 fucking table --

10 MAN: We don't know the answer to that.

11 MAN: There's a matter of --

12 MAN: The important thing --

13 MR. SIMBURGER: That's why it matters now.

14 They saw something they could maybe grab onto, maybe
15 punish me with or her.

16 WOMAN: A 22-year-old.

17 MAN: 24.

18 WOMAN: 24.

19 MAN: But you know what? We all have
20 skeletons in our closet. Here's all -- some of us has
21 always done something. What she done is no business to
22 anybody else. It was on her resume. It would've not
23 have prevented her from being a police officer
24 whatsoever. That -- none of us -- drank and drive, and

1 she was paying the price.

2 WOMAN: Here -- we as voters to the
3 village assume that when she or any other officer gets
4 hired, that any kind of subject matter discussion on
5 the personal or professional level of that employee has
6 already been checked out, been done, over, take care
7 of. Come to work. Let's go. So what happened --
8 happened, Debby?

9 MAN: So why was it afterwards you had to
10 bring up a meeting, Debby? Why?

11 MR. SIMBURGER: Who brought this to your
12 attention?

13 MAN: John --

14 MS. POLITSCH: We did discuss the DUI when
15 we hired Lydia.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, but we didn't discuss
17 the BAIID.

18 MS. POLITSCH: We Didn't.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: Because you think maybe I
20 checked that out and maybe you think I'd know it's not
21 an issue.

22 MS. POLITSCH: But maybe that should have
23 been shared with the board. So we were aware.

24 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, oh, it's my fault.

1 I'm sorry.

2 WOMAN: Shared with the board. That's
3 enough.

4 WOMAN: Why didn't somebody --

5 WOMAN: What's the difference --

6 MR. SIMBURGER: You are never wrong, are
7 you? You have no responsibility in this, do you?

8 WOMAN: That's the condition of the DUI.

9 MS. POLITSCH: It is a condition of a DUI.
10 That's what we were trying to get clarity, clear
11 information on.

12 MAN: But you wouldn't go to the chief of
13 police to clear it up?

14 WOMAN: Why does it matter at that point?

15 MS. POLITSCH: Because she's driving a
16 Village of New Athens police car.

17 WOMAN: She was hired for the job.

18 (Crosstalk.)

19 WOMAN: If it was questioned, it should --
20 it should have been done in the beginning, during the
21 application process. All of your ducks should have
22 been in a row at the application process before or
23 during her interview. You should have known this.
24 It's common sense.

1 MS. POLITSCH: We discussed the DUI. We
2 were not aware of the device in her car.

3 WOMAN: What difference does that make?

4 MR. SIMBURGER: Who was? Who told you?

5 WOMAN: Yeah, who looked in the car?

6 WOMAN: They didn't know about the device
7 in the car. What difference --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: It's a little tube that
9 comes out -- somebody literally had to do this to look
10 inside.

11 MAN: Because they're pretty --

12 MR. SIMBURGER: Trying to get dirt on her.

13 WOMAN: Yeah, she worked night shift.

14 WOMAN: I don't believe anybody was trying
15 to get dirt on her. I believe it was --

16 MAN: So it was for Leo, to get revenge on
17 Leo because you guys don't like him.

18 MAN: Yeah, let's just schedule a --

19 MAN: I'll just say it.

20 MAN: I don't give a shit, Debby.

21 MS. POLITSCH: I don't either at this
22 point. Okay?

23 MAN: I know you don't.

24 MS. POLITSCH: Yeah, because --

1 MAN: You didn't give a shit about
2 anybody, including Lydia.

3 MS. POLITSCH: You are way off base.

4 MAN: Leo, I only met your daughter one
5 time and she was beautiful to me. I just want you to
6 know that.

7 MR. SIMBURGER: A lot of people said.

8 WOMAN: But why was it a problem now after
9 the fact that she'd been hired as an employee --

10 MR. SIMBURGER: Because Debby's pissed off
11 at me since -- from the last month. John's been pissed
12 off, Debby, since June.

13 WOMAN: But here's the thing. If you are
14 hiring somebody to represent the village as an officer
15 who's going to be doing the same thing that they got
16 pulled over for and doing stuff to protect our village,
17 then why aren't you doing your due diligence and doing
18 your research prior to them becoming a police officer
19 here? You guys wanted to rush into things because you
20 had a personal vendetta against other people.

21 MAN: That's the bottom line. What
22 happened in June?

23 MR. SIMBURGER: It's not something I can
24 divulge.

1 MAN: Okay.

2 MAN: You tell him.

3 MR. FEDER: Tried to commit suicide.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: And I got the call. And I
5 had to save his fucking miserable life.

6 MR. FEDER: And he --

7 MR. SIMBURGER: -- there, huh?

8 WOMAN: You should have left.

9 MAN: No, he didn't. I was already --

10 MAN: No, no, no. As a CNT officer I go
11 through this every day. He mandated you to go to the
12 hospital.

13 MAN: Which was a joke.

14 MAN: No, no, no, no, no. It's not a
15 joke. We can mandate you. We can make you go for 72
16 hours. If you try to commit suicide. Anybody --
17 anybody in this room, if you try to commit suicide, I
18 can mandate you -- any police officer can mandate you
19 to go for 72 hours. Even if we got to cuff you to the
20 gurney. That man saved your life. And if you say he
21 fucking didn't, you're a piece of shit.

22 MAN: He didn't.

23 MAN: Here.

24 MAN: Oh, my God.

1 WOMAN: Oh, my God.

2 MAN: My pen to sign resignations --

3 WOMAN: How can they be declared mentally
4 stable to represent --

5 MAN: That's a good question.

6 MAN: You're the one that disclosed it.
7 So you're the one that brought it up.

8 WOMAN: Pissed me off.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, you haven't had --
10 against me?

11 MR. FEDER: No.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: At that board table.
13 Really?

14 MR. FEDER: If I've told him --

15 MR. SIMBURGER: How about when you accused
16 me of hiring Brad because he is my friend?

17 MR. FEDER: A lot of stuff went on funny
18 there.

19 WOMAN: Really? Like what?

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Who, whoa, whoa, whoa.
21 We're not funny. Be specific.

22 MR. FEDER: No.

23 MAN: No, no, no. Guys --

24 MR. FEDER: Okay, I will. But --

1 MAN: You know what? And I'll be
2 completely honest with you, and no offense, I'm not a
3 big -- either. But you know what? I trust the chief
4 of police. And if he said that he was going to work
5 hard and he did and he's a good investigator and he
6 would've been a good officer, then I trust the chief of
7 police do the right thing.

8 Do you know what Brad Penne did? Do you know
9 what Brad did? He has worked tirelessly, tirelessly to
10 raise money for this man and his family to cover the
11 costs. So you know what? Brad has an A+ plus in my
12 book. You? You don't even fucking register.

13 MAN: You people, you two, I'm going to
14 say it. You're mentally ill. You're sick. That's my
15 personal opinion. Obviously I'm not a doctor. If you
16 sit here, but just no shame, no guilt, no nothing.

17 MAN: There's no remorse from either one
18 of you. It's disgusting.

19 MAN: I just don't understand you people.

20 MAN: I tell you one thing. I sure hope
21 this man here puts everything in the Freeburg Tribune.

22 WOMAN: Are we also going to look into the
23 other officers that are on the department too and get
24 their dirt that they've dug up from their past life

1 too?

2 MAN: And show them -- I'm sorry, but you
3 know, Ted made this -- made this one line. One of you
4 screw up, we all screwed up. Remember that line?

5 WOMAN: When it's nothing done about it,
6 it means --

7 MAN: Unfortunately, you all look like
8 shit. That's -- that's the sad part. Including you,
9 Joe. And I'm not saying it's your fault, but you all
10 look like --

11 WOMAN: They're making you look like shit.

12 MAN: Yeah, they're making you look like
13 shit, Joe. You know --

14 MAIN MAN 1 : Well, here, here's the deal
15 with the mayor.

16 The mayor is responsible for everything and
17 primarily responsible for things that go wrong. The
18 mayor is primarily responsible for things that go
19 wrong. So I accept that responsibility for everything
20 that goes wrong in the village because that's the job
21 of the mayor.

22 MAN: Joe. Joe. No, no, no, no, no, no,
23 no, no. And I know we have not got along. And we
24 haven't. This is not your responsibility. This -- you

1 are not responsible for this.

2 MAN: I'm not blaming you, Joe.

3 MAN: I'm blaming him and I'm blaming her.
4 I blame you not at all.

5 MAN: I'm not blaming you.

6 MAN: You cannot control other actions of
7 board members of what they do and their actions. Even
8 if you told them to stop and they didn't, no. You're
9 not to blame, Joe. You're not to blame.

10 I've never been ashamed of this town in my life
11 except for two times. One, when Dallas Hill was
12 fucking chief.

13 WOMAN: Yep.

14 MAN: And even more so now I'm ashamed
15 of -- to even speak that I live in this town.

16 MAN: But you being the mayor --

17 MAN: Because of you and because of you.

18 MAN: You should look out for the village
19 and make sure these two people drop out.

20 WOMAN: Debby, I'm going to tell you this
21 personally. You caused my husband when he was on the
22 board to have a mini stroke. And now I hold you
23 personally responsible for this young girl's death.
24 And you need to resign. You need to turn that sucker

1 in tonight.

2 Because you know what? If you don't, we're all
3 going to get your butt out of here because we will get
4 that petition. And you know what? I don't think we'll
5 find anybody that won't want to sign that.

6 WOMAN: I'm sorry.

7 WOMAN: You're a disgrace.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, I'm going to make sure
9 it's taken care of.

10 WOMAN: You're a disgrace.

11 MAN: What you did to me. I appreciate it.

12 WOMAN: We'll get it. We'll get it.

13 Mark's on it. Mark's --

14 MAN: Can you hear, Marty?

15 MR. SIMBURGER: I'll say this publicly
16 right now. There's a memorial service for her December
17 18th. Bill, John, and Debby, you're not invited. Do
18 not come. I'll have about 25 police friends.

19 MR. FEDER: I can respect that.

20 MAN: And we will escort you out, in cuffs
21 if we have to.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: And then some. I'll need
23 25 police friends to hold me back too. I don't get mad
24 easy. Anybody here knows. Anybody that knows me knows

1 I don't get mad easy. It takes a lot. And like I
2 said, part of me wishes some of you could feel the pain
3 that I do, but in order for that to happen, somebody
4 innocent has to die, and I don't want that to happen.
5 But I do wish you could feel the pain, because this is
6 hell and you put me there.

7 WOMAN: And if you for some unknown
8 reason, remain on this board, God will get even with
9 you.

10 MAN: And I want everybody to know, this
11 man came in today. He came in today. He is not
12 leaving. He is staying here for you guys. He's more
13 of a man than I would -- than I am because I'd be done.

14 MAN: Yeah, absolutely.

15 MAN: He is staying here because of the
16 love that he has for a town he doesn't even live in,
17 and for him to be shit on as bad as he has been. I
18 came back here part-time because he needed help. Other
19 than that, I wouldn't be back here. Run away -- these
20 people have run away a good person who worked behind
21 that desk.

22 WOMAN: Yeah. More than one person.

23 MAN: More than one person.

24 MAN: Tyler --

1 WOMAN: Tyler's gone.

2 MAN: I'll say this, the main reason Tyler
3 left is because of her.

4 WOMAN: Yep. Yep.

5 MAN: Tyler told me that with his own
6 mouth. The micromanaging, nagging, the constant yip,
7 yip, yip, yip.

8 WOMAN: Having these two people is taking
9 away from the community. It's not adding to it. It's
10 not benefiting the community by any means having these
11 two on the board. It's just simply just tainting the
12 water that we drink, and it's not going to stop.

13 MAN: Really a disgrace.

14 MAN: No, I can look at John and see he
15 feels emboldened. Oh, yeah. There's the look again.

16 WOMAN: There's no remorse on their part
17 whatsoever. And not at one point during this meeting
18 has anybody up there asked Leo, what can we do to
19 support you? What can we do to help you? What can we
20 do for you and your family?

21 MAN: Some of us have been asking --

22 MAN: Some of us have done it privately.

23 WOMAN: Not here. Not here. I'm just
24 saying not everybody.

1 MAN: Three, three, three --

2 WOMAN: But as of right now, nothing here
3 has been even mentioned, what can we do.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: I want to tell you three
5 people that were asking that. Steve, Amy, and Joe.
6 And -- I'm sorry.

7 MAN: I'm sorry, I can't.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Gary -- Gary came in --

9 MAN: I would talk, but I've got a tumor
10 on my vocal cord I found out. So --

11 MR. SIMBURGER: I'm sorry, Gary.

12 WOMAN: Sorry.

13 MAN: It's treatable, right?

14 MAN: Yeah.

15 WOMAN: Arlene, why didn't say anything?

16 MR. FEDER: Because it didn't go down like
17 you think it did. It was a two-minute conversation.
18 We lined up a meeting.

19 WOMAN: Shut up, John. We were not
20 talking to you. You were not addressed. It was her.
21 You were not addressed. So shut your mouth. You don't
22 deserve to speak. Shut your mouth. The question was
23 not directed to you. Yes. Okay? So shut up. Try and
24 look pretty, like I said before. I know it's really

1 hard.

2 MAN: Love that smile.

3 WOMAN: If you were on the committee,
4 Arlene, you could have said something.

5 WOMAN: I had talked to Leo.

6 MAN: You what?

7 WOMAN: I did talk to him.

8 WOMAN: You told him what the meeting was
9 about?

10 WOMAN: No, I didn't tell him what the
11 meeting was about.

12 MAN: Did you know what it was about?

13 WOMAN: Yes. I'm on the committee.

14 MAN: Because I know you were --

15 WOMAN: Were you told not to say anything?

16 WOMAN: No. But I had talked to Leo
17 before.

18 MAN: Not really about the BAIID.

19 WOMAN: Oh, no. I did nothing like that.

20 MAN: That was before that meeting, I
21 believe, that you spoke with him.

22 MAN: Anybody know anything? Are you all
23 in the dark?

24 MAN: Deny anything to take

1 responsibility.

2 MAN: Yeah, no responsibility.

3 MAN: I mean, when you're put on the spot,
4 it's like, oh, clam up. But I'm a village trustee.

5 MR. NEWBOLD: Well, the way it sort of
6 went down was we had a committee as a whole, which is
7 kind of like everybody on the board is there, but you
8 don't vote on anything. Okay? I was the chairman of
9 the committee of the whole, so we ran through the
10 agenda of what -- talked about the marina, sidewalks,
11 what have you, general stuff.

12 And then at the end of the meeting, Debby
13 requested executive session for a personnel matter.
14 Okay? So we entered into -- you have to have a motion
15 and a second and a vote to enter into the executive
16 session, which we did. She brought up, disclosed that
17 it was -- she was informed of this breathing device.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: By who?

19 MAN: We didn't ask.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: I'm asking. Who, Debby?

21 MS. POLITSCH: I'm not going to disclose
22 the citizen --

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Just a citizen just
24 happened to walk by and see it.

1 WOMAN: Meeting was recorded.

2 MAN: So anyway --

3 MAN: I'm sorry, Steve.

4 MR. NEWBOLD: That's okay. So she said
5 that the citizen -- somebody saw that she had this
6 breathalyzer, breathing thing in her private vehicle
7 and was wondering is it -- is it required in the police
8 car, in the squad car? Well, we didn't know. So at
9 the -- it was concluded then to find out --

10 MAN: That's not even logical --

11 MAN: -- whether it would be put in a
12 police car.

13 MAN: We didn't -- I didn't know the law.

14 MAN: You have a 31-year veteran that
15 knows.

16 MAN: Whoa, whoa. Okay. So that's all --
17 that's all that was talked about in executive session.
18 Let's find out, set the meeting with Leo and Lydia, and
19 go from there. So the motion was made --

20 WOMAN: Is there a reason that couldn't be
21 disclosed when the meeting was requested?

22 MAN: Pardon me?

23 WOMAN: Is there a reason that couldn't be
24 disclosed when the meeting was requested? That -- what

1 the meeting was about.

2 MAN: Couldn't be disclosed to them?

3 WOMAN: Yeah.

4 MAN: It could have been, I guess.

5 WOMAN: And you know what?

6 MAN: It should have been.

7 MAN: So this was -- so we left Monday
8 night. Okay? I was supposed to do the minutes. I did
9 the minutes by Thursday. Okay? All this had
10 transpired with Lydia prior to all that. So we got a
11 message that there was going to be a personnel -- the
12 personnel committee got a message that they were going
13 to have the meeting at five o'clock or whatever it was
14 on Thursday, and then subsequently after that they got
15 a message that the meeting was canceled. There was no
16 explanation to the general people, the non-personnel
17 committee member, what transpired. I didn't know until
18 Friday what had happened.

19 WOMAN: Was it a citizen of New Athens
20 that had the complaint?

21 MAN: I don't know.

22 MAN: She can't say.

23 MAN: Nobody made a complaint.

24 MAN: She won't say.

1 MS. POLITSCH: I won't say. That's
2 correct.

3 MAN: The thing is, you see how -- that
4 sounds and you're going to have a committee over that
5 when you could have just went to the chief and asked
6 him the law?

7 MS. POLITSCH: The role is to protect the
8 village. And that was our purpose. We wanted to
9 see --

10 WOMAN: Shit.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: Do you know how many times
12 in the past eight-and-a-half years --

13 WOMAN: -- cost somebody their life. You
14 -- them cost them.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: In the past
16 eight-and-a-half years somebody from this board or
17 previous boards has had -- said, hey, Leo, can you give
18 -- can I ask your advice about something or can you
19 look something up? What's your opinion --

20 WOMAN: Why did Lydia need to be here,
21 Debby? Why did Lydia need to be here? Why couldn't
22 you just ask of him, a meeting with him? Why did Lydia
23 have to be at that meeting?

24 MAN: Because they thought Leo was going

1 to lie about him since it was his daughter. I'll get
2 right then to the point.

3 MAN: I have a more realistic prob --
4 solution -- answer to that question.

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Intimidation.

6 MAN: Control.

7 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, there's that too.

8 MAN: Absolute control of what's
9 underneath her. That's what she wants. That's why
10 that meeting happened the way it is. That's why you
11 didn't talk to him. And it's happened --

12 MAN: That's why she locked the -- that's
13 why she had somebody lock the door in an open board
14 meeting.

15 WOMAN: You go through a background check
16 to get on the police department.

17 MAN: Every department head has
18 experienced the same thing from you. And that's
19 exactly why Tyler left.

20 WOMAN: Maybe you should make a phone call
21 about this.

22 WOMAN: Why I left.

23 MAN: You should.

24 WOMAN: You go through a background check

1 to get on the department.

2 MAN: I couldn't --

3 WOMAN: Go through another background
4 check. There's two background checks that have been
5 completed on her. No, the issue is somebody's dead now
6 because of the fact that somebody was bullying them.
7 And it wasn't an issue when she was originally hired,
8 so now why is it an issue?

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Do you know how many
10 people are out there driving UPS trucks with a DUI?
11 They have to blow into a device in their personal car
12 when they get off work. But they don't have one in the
13 UPS truck. They don't have one in the mail truck. No,
14 but we don't think. We just want to, like Matt said,
15 control. Just sheer, unadulterated control and power.
16 Bullies. Just freaking bullies.

17 MAN: And yet them two are still staying,
18 still sitting there.

19 MAN: Well, it's not done. I don't care
20 what happens by the time we walk out this door. This
21 is not done. I guarantee it. I don't care what I have
22 to do, but I will stay talking with anybody and
23 everybody to make sure this continues dealing with the
24 board.

1 MAN: You two need to do the right thing
2 and resign.

3 WOMAN: No, he's not going to do it.

4 MAN: Oh, he just already shook his head.
5 Ain't going to do it.

6 WOMAN: No. So you would rather get
7 petitions sent throughout town and communication thrown
8 around town and everything to be removed, forcibly
9 removed. That's what's going to happen.

10 MR. FEDER: If you were sitting there
11 during that meeting, you'd realized the six of us did
12 not cause that.

13 WOMAN: Oh, bullshit.

14 MAN: It doesn't matter.

15 WOMAN: Not the six of you. It's the
16 way -- that's the problem. Everything else.

17 MAN: There is no longer any confidence in
18 some of these members on this board. Clearly. Clearly.

19 WOMAN: All it needed to be was a
20 five-minute conversation with Leo. That's all that
21 needed.

22 MR. FEDER: I had the conversation.

23 WOMAN: Then why is she dead?

24 WOMAN: Then why did you need to have a

1 meeting?

2 MR. SIMBURGER: You did not have a
3 conversation with me about whether she had to have --

4 MR. FEDER: I asked you --

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Did you?

6 MR. FEDER: Yeah, when we walked in
7 there -- we both were standing right there, I asked --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Did you say --

9 MR. FEDER: I said is -- you said yes.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: Shut the fuck up. Did you
11 ask me if she needed to have one in the squad car?

12 MR. FEDER: You said no, she was good. I
13 said, is what we're doing legal? You said yes.

14 WOMAN: There you go.

15 MR. FEDER: Continue -- I disclosed that
16 during the meeting when we were talking about it.

17 WOMAN: And yet you still allowed her to
18 schedule --

19 MR. SIMBURGER: And no mention was made of
20 a squad car. We were talking about a personal car.

21 MR. FEDER: I said, is what we're doing
22 legal? And you said, yes. That's what I needed to
23 know.

24 MR. SIMBURGER: And I said she was

1 never -- she's never been suspended.

2 MR. FEDER: That's what you said. You
3 said yes, it's good --

4 MR. SIMBURGER: Because she was written on
5 an ordinance violation in Springfield, fucking
6 Missouri.

7 MR. FEDER: An ordinance, no license
8 suspension, and that's all you have to have.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: But nobody asked me that,
10 did they? No. Huh-uh.

11 WOMAN: Debby, why didn't you just ask
12 him?

13 MAN: Because it was a witch hunt.

14 MR. SIMBURGER: She doesn't like me.

15 MAN: It was a witch hunt.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: She hates me. Because I
17 stood up to her a month ago.

18 WOMAN: That there yourself says your
19 character when you don't like Leo.

20 MAN: Well, it was a witch hunt.

21 WOMAN: How can you not --

22 MR. SIMBURGER: All those snarky emails.
23 You accuse me of been snarky. Anybody wants to read
24 these fucking emails, I'll make a copy for you. You'll

1 see who the snarky one is and the smart ass one was.

2 WOMAN: Oh, yeah, we had some of those.

3 WOMAN: Oh, don't worry. We all know how
4 snarky she is.

5 MAN: I still got a pen. If you want to
6 sign your resignation, you can borrow it. Right here.

7 MAN: When we walk out the door, there's
8 no changing your mind. You're going to either be
9 forced off or you're going to be -- out. Take your
10 choice. Right now.

11 MAN: She was 24 years old. She was a
12 good girl. She had the brightest future in front of
13 her.

14 WOMAN: At least be respectful to her
15 after she's gone and resign. That's the least you can
16 do.

17 MAN: The way you went about it, very
18 unprofessional.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: Somebody told me that I
20 shouldn't probably do this tonight. Don't. Because I
21 wasn't thinking clearly. I am thinking crystal-clear.
22 I've done nothing but think about this. I have tried
23 to think about other things, but you know what pops in
24 my head? You know what picture pops in my fucking

1 head? My daughter with a gunshot to the head.

2 That's what won't leave. But you can sit there
3 and fucking laugh and just make jokes and smart-ass --
4 like now, smart-ass remarks. Smart-ass looks. And you
5 sit there like a -- act like a fucking statue. I don't
6 know. No emotion whatsoever. None.

7 MAN: Because they have no remorse.

8 MAN: No character.

9 MAN: No evidence.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: At least Eileen's looking
11 at me like she gives a shit. Arlene, I'm sorry. Not
12 that I expected him to, not that I even fucking want
13 him to. Bill has not said one goddamn word to me about
14 this.

15 BILL: You said you wouldn't accept my
16 condolences.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: When did I tell you that?

18 BILL: 10 minutes ago. You said we
19 couldn't go to the wake.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Have you said you're sorry
21 for my loss?

22 BILL: If you will accept it, I will say
23 I'm sorry for your loss, Leo.

24 MR. SIMBURGER: Now that I got to fucking

1 ask for it, it's --

2 BILL: You just told me --

3 MR. SIMBURGER: No. Did you see me before
4 the meeting started?

5 MAN: He's --

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Did you walk by me before
7 the meeting started? Did I walk by you before the
8 meeting started?

9 BILL: No, I was in there.

10 MAN: Did you message him, call --

11 MR. SIMBURGER: Did I walk by you to talk
12 to Jeremiah?

13 BILL: You may have. I didn't look, Leo.

14 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, of course not. See,
15 everybody's had a fucking excuse.

16 BILL: And I'm tired of hearing the F bomb
17 with everybody out here.

18 MAN: I don't give a fuck. I don't give a
19 fuck. I don't give a fuck. What are you going to do
20 about it, Bill?

21 BILL: Not real professional.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: Neither are you.

23 MAN: Then resign.

24 BILL: Because it -- probably used a few

1 more times.

2 MAN: Fucking resign.

3 MAN: Hey, you know what, Joe would tell
4 -- Joe? We'll tell you the first person -- not
5 professional about this.

6 MAN: I can't believe you all are still
7 sitting at the fucking table.

8 MAN: Because I say what's on my mind,
9 Bill.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: Bill, let's not make any
11 bones about it. You have no use for me. You've not
12 liked me from day one.

13 BILL: I didn't say that, Leo. And every
14 time I tried to talk to you over the time --

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah. Trying to sell me
16 AMSOIL.

17 BILL: No.

18 MAN: Yeah, because you had a vendetta
19 against Wetzels and he has stood up. That's why. You
20 have had a vendetta against this man right here and was
21 trying to sell -- tell him to use AMSOIL, which you --
22 maybe not your account, but your friend's accounts, you
23 would've got kicked back on while I was on the board,
24 which is illegal.

1 You have been after that man and that family's
2 business ever since I've known you and I've been on the
3 board. So don't even go there because you've been
4 after him.

5 BILL: I asked him by putting it in
6 because it makes things last longer.

7 MAN: And he told you no.

8 BILL: No, he said Leo did not want
9 synthetic.

10 WOMAN: Wetzel's don't strike me as --

11 MAN: They have a family business that
12 they support New Athens.

13 MAN: I've seen it on YouTube.

14 MAN: I also -- I also talked to four
15 dealerships.

16 BILL: I know you did. You told me --

17 MAN: Leaving this town. And they said
18 no.

19 WOMAN: And that would be a shame.

20 BILL: Because they sell cars. That's my
21 opinion. I don't want to argue with you, Leo.

22 MAN: They've lived here in town. They
23 spend money here in this town. They have a business in
24 this town. And they are great people.

1 (Crosstalk.)

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Where's the complaint
3 about last meeting about -- office? Looks like a
4 fucking truck stop.

5 MAN: What's that?

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Where's the complaint last
7 meeting about his office? Looks like a goddamn truck
8 stop. But no one complains about that, do they? Nah,
9 that's okay. But we complain about other shit. How
10 many trailers you got there now?

11 MR. FEDER: It's legal. It's commercial
12 ground. No, that whole road is commercial. It's
13 legal.

14 MR. SIMBURGER: I'm well aware of what's
15 legal and isn't, John.

16 MR. FEDER: I'm just saying it's legal.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: Looks like shit.

18 MR. FEDER: That's the way it is. It's
19 legal.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah.

21 MR. FEDER: I own the ground.

22 MAN: But you don't own that seat.

23 WOMAN: Nope. Nope.

24 MAN: You're just keeping it warm, buddy.

1 MR. FEDER: That's all I'm asking to do.

2 MAN: Good. Good.

3 MR. FEDER: I'll be happy to give it to
4 you.

5 MAN: Well, then get the fuck up and get
6 out. I'll go sit there right fucking now.

7 MR. FEDER: Not today, though.

8 MAN: Yes.

9 (Inaudible.)

10 MAN: Yeah, I run a business.

11 MR. FEDER: You know, I do more for this
12 town than most people know.

13 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, yeah. Woo. Standing
14 ovation, everybody. John's fucking --

15 MR. FEDER: No. Leo, that's not --

16 MR. SIMBURGER: How many people you
17 killed?

18 MAN: Way to toot your own horn, John.

19 MR. FEDER: No, I'm sorry about your
20 daughter. I mean, a hundred percent.

21 MR. SIMBURGER: No, you're not.

22 MR. FEDER: We did not cause this, Leo.

23 WOMAN: Oh, bullshit.

24 MR. FEDER: One meeting did not cause it.

1 WOMAN: Apologize --

2 MR. SIMBURGER: What changed in her life?

3 MR. FEDER: Every one of these people on
4 here have had a meeting that they had to talk -- go
5 somewhere with. But they didn't do it.

6 MAN: But to scare somebody to death over
7 their career?

8 MR. FEDER: Why didn't she -- I would've
9 been happy to say something -- or you?

10 MAN: I did.

11 MR. FEDER: I didn't even know anything
12 about this.

13 MR. SIMBURGER: I didn't know about it
14 either. I didn't know what it was about. You never --
15 what it was about.

16 MR. FEDER: All that was said we were
17 having a meeting. I didn't know anything about it
18 until it was all over with.

19 MAN: Well, then I guess it's time for you
20 to fucking quit.

21 WOMAN: You didn't know about the meeting?
22 I thought you --

23 MR. FEDER: No, we knew we were having a
24 meeting, but other than that, we didn't know anything.

1 WOMAN: So you --

2 MAN: You didn't know about the BAIID
3 machine when it was discussed; correct?

4 MR. FEDER: Well, we all knew about it.
5 We all sat here and had --

6 MAN: Arlene said that she's on the
7 committee and knew what the meeting was about.

8 MR. FEDER: Well, everybody did. All --
9 the whole board did.

10 WOMAN: You're a fucking liar.

11 MR. FEDER: No. Us -- all six,
12 whatever -- and Joe was here, probably seven -- we knew
13 we were having the meeting. That's the end of it.
14 That's all we heard until after --

15 WOMAN: How did Arlene --

16 MR. FEDER: Fucking bingo. It was done.

17 WOMAN: Arlene knew. And I'm --

18 MR. FEDER: We didn't look at the paper
19 how she had it wrote up.

20 WOMAN: Arlene, did you not know the
21 context of the meeting?

22 WOMAN: And you didn't question her about
23 this any time before this happened?

24 WOMAN: Board knew.

1 MR. FEDER: Question what about it?

2 WOMAN: The whole board knew the context
3 of about her DUI, about her -- breathalyzer in her car.

4 MR. FEDER: Yeah. I asked about it. It
5 was done with.

6 WOMAN: Yeah. Did you --

7 MR. FEDER: I said that night that I that
8 I -- she was fine.

9 MAN: We knew about the -- we knew about
10 the DUI, 'cause I even specifically asked her about it.
11 I said, how would that affect how you handle a DUI -- a
12 stop here in town? And she explained herself, made
13 sense. It was fine. We didn't -- we did not know
14 about the --

15 WOMAN: Well, John did.

16 MAN: I did.

17 MAN: Who's the chairman of the personnel
18 committee?

19 MAN: We all did. The whole --

20 MAN: -- months later.

21 (Crosstalk.)

22 WOMAN: At The time of her -- at the time
23 of her being hired, you did not know that she had a
24 breathalyzer in her vehicle?

1 MAN: That's correct.

2 MAN: They did not.

3 WOMAN: That's not the question I believe
4 that everybody's asking. And I might be
5 misunderstanding. The question that everybody is
6 asking now is the current meeting that was supposed to
7 happen prior to the demise, were you aware of the
8 situation of the meeting that was being called upon?

9 MAN: Yes.

10 WOMAN: Okay. And why --

11 MAN: It was reported -- it was reported
12 that there was the device in her personal car.

13 WOMAN: Okay. Why, Steve? Why?

14 MR. NEWBOLD: I don't know why it was --

15 WOMAN: Why did it have to be a meeting?
16 Why couldn't it have been a phone call?

17 WOMAN: It's because now some people --

18 MAN: That happened at 9:30 at night.

19 MAN: And the chairperson of the board
20 should have went to the chief of police and discussed
21 this with them prior to anything. The chairperson,
22 because she's the one that called the meeting, she
23 should have been the one discussing it.

24 MAN: Exactly. Should have went to --

1 MAN: Because she's the one that called
2 it. She should have been the one who discussed it with
3 the chief of police -- one of his employees.

4 WOMAN: So you had people on the board who
5 can't go through the proper chain.

6 MAN: Correct.

7 WOMAN: What --

8 WOMAN: What would've --

9 WOMAN: -- in the community.

10 WOMAN: And in regards to her employment.

11 WOMAN: That's sickening.

12 MAN: I'm sorry?

13 WOMAN: What would the meeting of this
14 current situation change in regards to her employment?

15 MAN: Nothing.

16 MAN: Nothing.

17 WOMAN: Why the hell -- the meeting --

18 MAN: We didn't know if it was -- we
19 didn't know the law. We didn't -- we didn't know the
20 law.

21 WOMAN: All you had to do is pick up the
22 phone -- hey -- I have a question. What is this -- the
23 law --

24 MAN: We did not -- I did not know that

1 the --

2 WOMAN: You're an adult. It's common
3 sense.

4 MAN: You should -- executive session.

5 WOMAN: You thought that he would protect
6 his daughter, didn't you? You thought he would lie,
7 didn't you?

8 MR. SIMBURGER: She thinks that. She has
9 called me a liar I don't know how many times.

10 WOMAN: Leo, I would like to ask, is this
11 public knowledge that they could have pulled this
12 information up? I mean, could they not have found out
13 what the rules and legalities are for having this
14 breathalyzer?

15 MAN: Why couldn't they call the attorney?
16 Again, very simply. Very simply, this was a Missouri
17 DUI. There is no Missouri law that applies in
18 Illinois.

19 MAN: It doesn't.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: And again, even Illinois
21 law, which I printed out in preparation for the meeting
22 that never happened -- and even Illinois law, which
23 doesn't apply, but even if it did, you don't get one of
24 these devices until your second DUI. And it is only --

1 clearly states -- only on your personal vehicle.

2 WOMAN: We used to --

3 MR. SIMBURGER: But I didn't even get to
4 show that to anybody.

5 WOMAN: Know all that. Dude, it's not
6 that hard to find out when you have a chief of police
7 that has that information.

8 WOMAN: Instead of calling a meeting, you
9 could have --

10 MR. SIMBURGER: Google Illinois DUI law
11 and you probably could have found it not as quick as I
12 do, but maybe 10 minutes.

13 MR. FEDER: I got an honest question for
14 you, Leo. If you could please answer me honestly about
15 -- so -- I understand -- I'm sorry about the situation.
16 Was the problem -- I guess I don't understand -- I
17 didn't realize she didn't -- you guys didn't know what
18 the meeting was or this or -- is it --

19 MR. SIMBURGER: She wouldn't tell me.

20 MR. FEDER: She called you and wouldn't
21 tell you what was happening?

22 MR. SIMBURGER: It was on -- no, she
23 said -- this was email communication. And I even hit
24 reply all this time, John.

1 MR. FEDER: I appreciate that. And I
2 didn't mean that smart ass, Leo.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, of course not.

4 MR. FEDER: No, but so when we had the
5 meeting for the interview, I didn't even -- I thought
6 the meeting was canceled. I didn't even know we had an
7 interview meeting. We had it, and then I -- because I
8 didn't get in the middle of the emails. I didn't get
9 to the back.

10 You know, you'd been sending emails. I guess
11 you had said something about one person had backed out.
12 So I didn't realize what was going on there. And
13 that's why I said, could you please --

14 MR. SIMBURGER: And you see her remark
15 after yours?

16 MR. FEDER: I noticed that you do that
17 frequently.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: I answer hundreds of
19 emails a week. And it's almost always not reply all,
20 just reply.

21 MR. FEDER: I just asked if you --

22 MR. SIMBURGER: Fucking muscle memory,
23 guys. That's all. That's all it was. It was a
24 freaking mistake. No, she wants -- I understand what

1 you said. What was my response to you, John?

2 MR. FEDER: Probably sorry or --

3 MR. SIMBURGER: Sorry. It was an
4 accident.

5 MR. FEDER: I thought you and me always
6 got along good. We've had our arguments. The next day
7 we're fine. I back you every time I can.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Those days are over.

9 MR. FEDER: I realize that.

10 MR. SIMBURGER: But the fact remains is
11 that all you people needed to do was call me. You did
12 not need a meeting. She doesn't want to have -- she
13 doesn't want to talk to me. She definitely doesn't
14 want to speak to me alone. The other day, I tried
15 shaking hands with her, and it's probably still on
16 video. I held my hand out, what, seven seconds. You
17 looked down at it twice. Looked back up, like I was
18 holding a knife, before you finally --

19 MAN: And you're the chairman.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: And I was -- I was being
21 the bigger person on that.

22 MAN: What a smile.

23 WOMAN: What a smirk-ass face.

24 MAN: And you're -- you're his chairman.

1 WOMAN: I can stare at you. Good. Good.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: You have absolutely no
3 respect for the department heads. None whatsoever.
4 You micromanage. You want to micromanage every
5 freaking thing we do. You want to see one imperfection
6 and just freaking blow up on it.

7 You ridicule me for not praising my officers,
8 which I do. I don't think they deserve a trophy every
9 time they make an arrest. Sorry. That's part of the
10 job.

11 MAN: That's part of the job.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: And there's some things
13 that you don't know about with one of our officers and
14 some of his arrests, because I've handled it. It
15 didn't require disciplinary measures yet. I hope it
16 never does.

17 MAN: That's the difference between Leo --

18 MR. SIMBURGER: That's that's one of the
19 other officers that you think is freaking perfect.
20 He's not. You think the other two officers are perfect
21 and they are not. They are far, far, far from it. I
22 don't claim to be perfect. I never have. I strive for
23 perfection.

24 WOMAN: Still working --

1 MAN: Well, I'll say it again. You better
2 hope you don't lose this man, because I feel sorry for
3 you, Joe.

4 MAN: If I lose Chief Simburger, I'm going
5 to feel very sorry for myself.

6 MAN: You got it. Nothing against Chris.
7 I think you're doing an excellent job. But we lost
8 Tyler. It was the same thing.

9 WOMAN: It's not just a loss to Joe or the
10 board, but it's a loss to this community. He is a
11 pillar in this community.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: And I'll never be the same
13 man.

14 WOMAN: I cannot say --

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Ever. My life has changed
16 forever. And like I said, part of me hopes you feel
17 that pain someday. But I don't want anyone else
18 innocent to die to make that happen. I don't believe
19 you're sorry, Debby. I don't believe you're sorry,
20 John.

21 MR. FEDER: I am, Leo. But I mean, I
22 understand you don't want to think that.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh gee, thanks for letting
24 me think the way I want to.

1 MR. FEDER: And I didn't realize this
2 would turn out the way it was. It was a
3 less-than-two-minute conversation. It was taken care
4 of, I thought, after that. Didn't realize what it was.

5 MR. SIMBURGER: No, no. Nothing was taken
6 care of.

7 MR. FEDER: I wish you'd -- I wish you'd
8 called and asked. Either one of you two. I've never
9 not told you what you've asked, Leo.

10 WOMAN: They shouldn't have had to call.
11 They should have been notified --

12 MR. FEDER: I didn't realize they didn't
13 know.

14 WOMAN: If you're calling a meeting, you
15 should have --

16 MR. SIMBURGER: Does it matter, John? The
17 meeting was set that night, that afternoon. And
18 besides, what did I say she was most scared of? You.

19 MR. FEDER: Why me?

20 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh boy. He listens well,
21 doesn't he? Because you're a fucking big mouth.

22 MR. FEDER: No, I listened to that.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Down at The Bullpen and
24 The Nail.

1 MR. FEDER: I've been always good to her.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Spewing shit to whoever --
3 whoever will listen. Oh, I know you do that, man.

4 MR. FEDER: I've always been good to her.

5 MAN: Yeah. Joe --

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, you're just golden.
7 You're like a hero, aren't you, John?

8 MAN: No.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, I've done more for
10 this town -- anybody -- I'm a hero. See, I'm a hero.

11 MAN: This man don't toot his own horn.
12 But this man has done more --

13 MR. SIMBURGER: I refuse to toot my own
14 horn. I feel uncomfortable doing it. I'm a quiet
15 professional and I pride myself on that.

16 MAN: Amen.

17 MAN: Amen to that. I -- that.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Amen. It's the way I was
19 raised by a Dutch German father.

20 MAN: Because he's humble.

21 MAN: Never took praise for nothing.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: I mean, don't get me
23 wrong. I appreciate it. Thank you. Good job once in
24 a while. Don't get me wrong. She never gave it to me.

1 She never has.

2 MAN: She's not even paying attention,
3 Leo. She's on her phone.

4 WOMAN: She's -- on her phone.

5 WOMAN: No, she's just not paying
6 attention. She's not paying attention.

7 WOMAN: I'm listening to every word.

8 MR. FEDER: I'm sure I have said these
9 things several times.

10 MAN: I had to hear from one of the board
11 members when I was the mayor --

12 MAN: I said she hasn't.

13 MAN: I was being questioned why Leo
14 didn't work weekends. Well, first of all, it ain't
15 none of your business because I'm the mayor. Second of
16 all that, to me that's privileges of working in the
17 small town, being the chief, considering all the shit
18 that he does.

19 MAN: And speaking of that, Mr. Klein,
20 scheduling of his officers is his right. As a
21 department head, he can schedule however he's deems
22 worthy.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Like I said, I know two of
24 the officers bitch, and I'm sure they bitch to you,

1 about the schedule --

2 MR. FEDER: I usually let it go in one ear
3 and out the other.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: But then why'd you send me
5 an email?

6 MR. FEDER: I thought it was my job to
7 actually ask you. I asked you. It got dropped, didn't
8 it?

9 MR. SIMBURGER: But it didn't go out one
10 ear and then --

11 MR. FEDER: Did anything ever happen after
12 you sent the email?

13 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, I don't know. You
14 found something bigger and better to --

15 MR. FEDER: No. I was done with it that
16 day.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: You never asked in that
18 squad room. You never said squad car.

19 MR. FEDER: No. I said is what we're
20 doing legal? You said Yes. That's what I cared.

21 MR. SIMBURGER: We were talking about the
22 BAIID in her car. Because you even said there's a way
23 to override that.

24 MR. FEDER: Yeah. But --

1 MR. SIMBURGER: Why would you say that?

2 MR. FEDER: What we said was legal. I
3 said, is it legal, what we're doing?

4 MR. SIMBURGER: Did you say squad card at
5 any point in that conversation?

6 MR. FEDER: No, because you said we were
7 legal. So that's all I cared.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Well, why didn't you tell
9 her that?

10 MR. FEDER: That night? I did say that
11 I'd had a conversation with you. I'm telling you the
12 whole thing lasted less than two minutes, Leo.

13 MR. SIMBURGER: But you didn't tell her
14 that you're convinced it's legal.

15 MR. FEDER: Because she wanted to have a
16 meeting.

17 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah. See, there's my
18 point. Nothing was going to stop her from having that
19 fucking meeting.

20 MR. FEDER: I thought the meeting would be
21 five minutes. It'd be over with.

22 WOMAN: Why?

23 WOMAN: Somebody answer that question?

24 MAN: Why?

1 MAN: Control.

2 MAN: That was the -- meeting. Control.

3 MAN: When you could have got the answer
4 right there.

5 MAN: Even if you would've had the
6 meeting, why wouldn't you go to the chief of police and
7 let him know what the meeting was about? Let her know,
8 say, hey, it's --

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Produced the information
10 in less than five minutes. I could have given you an
11 explanation verbally in about 30 seconds. Steve -- I
12 gave Steve -- Steve -- I gave Steve a full explanation,
13 and I'm not even sure it took 30 seconds.

14 WOMAN: Well, Leo, weren't you going to
15 give her that information in the meeting? So why
16 couldn't she --

17 MR. SIMBURGER: Of course.

18 WOMAN: Yeah. So why couldn't you just
19 done that beforehand? There wouldn't even needed to be
20 a meeting.

21 MAN: A power trip.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: Again, this was bullying.
23 It was intimidation. It was, I'm going to call a
24 freaking meeting and I'm -- I'm in control here.

1 MAN: So let's hear you, Debby. You keep
2 hearing everybody saying why would you have a meeting?
3 Why would you?

4 MS. POLITSCH: There is no point to try to
5 defend this because there's a whole lot of
6 miscommunication -- misunderstand --

7 WOMAN: Can you explain --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Maybe there's no
9 communication. There was none.

10 MS. POLITSCH: There's a lot of
11 misinformation.

12 WOMAN: Well, tell us.

13 MR. SIMBURGER: What are we saying is
14 wrong?

15 MAN: Fake news.

16 MS. POLITSCH: The purpose of the meeting
17 was to find out the specific court order.

18 WOMAN: Okay.

19 MS. POLITSCH: They vary. And I did do
20 some research online for the DUIs.

21 MR. SIMBURGER: Does Missouri law apply to
22 Illinois?

23 MS. POLITSCH: I don't know, Leo. I
24 didn't know where her ticket was from.

1 MR. SIMBURGER: I do. I do.

2 MAN: Then why didn't you ask?

3 MR. SIMBURGER: Did you ask? Again, you
4 didn't ask.

5 MS. POLITSCH: We were going to talk to
6 you about it, okay? That was the whole --

7 MR. SIMBURGER: Fine. Talk to me. Not
8 her.

9 MAN: You should have told him so he could
10 prepare for the meeting. That's what it's about.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: No --

12 WOMAN: You -- have anything.

13 MR. SIMBURGER: I am not pro-union. But
14 this is one goddamn time --

15 MS. POLITSCH: No regret for the meeting.
16 I am sorry --

17 MR. SIMBURGER: I wish we were union. We
18 would have a union rep.

19 MS. POLITSCH: This is not -- the meeting
20 was not -- I don't believe the meeting caused -- I did
21 not cause Lydia's death.

22 WOMAN: Yes, you did.

23 MS. POLITSCH: No, I did --

24 (Crosstalk.)

1 MR. SIMBURGER: That meeting is the only
2 thing that happened in her life that scared her.

3 WOMAN: What was she scared of if this
4 wasn't brought to her attention?

5 MR. SIMBURGER: I gave you a list. And
6 there are many -- there's much more to this list about
7 her future goals, her future plans.

8 MAN: No remorse.

9 MS. POLITSCH: She was an amazing young
10 lady. I could not --

11 MR. SIMBURGER: You want the steak out of
12 her refrigerator?

13 MS. POLITSCH: I would not argue with you
14 at all.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: You want the steak out of
16 her refrigerator. I'll bring it to you and you can
17 cook it. Chew on that for a while.

18 WOMAN: Jesus.

19 MAN: You scared her.

20 WOMAN: -- leaving. Because if you
21 don't, I feel like it's almost time for your
22 resignation.

23 MAN: No. No. They sit there honestly --

24 WOMAN: Can't let go of that seat.

1 MAN: And it wouldn't surprise me if at
2 re-election you run again.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: And John, I'm sorry, I
4 don't believe a fucking word you ever say.

5 MR. FEDER: That's fine. There's six
6 other people here you can --

7 MR. SIMBURGER: No. Ever. Ever, John.

8 MR. FEDER: That's fine.

9 MR. SIMBURGER: Because you lie, you lie,
10 and you lie. And then you lie some more.

11 MR. FEDER: Ask how it happened.

12 MR. SIMBURGER: I'm not even saying you're
13 lying about that, but you typically lie.

14 MR. FEDER: Okay.

15 WOMAN: She's on the committee.

16 MAN: I tell you, Joe, when you do your
17 committees next time, I hope you do a little better job
18 of --

19 MAN: If nothing else, Joe --

20 WOMAN: I wouldn't give her a fucking
21 thing.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: They're not even qualified
23 to manage paint drying.

24 WOMAN: Tell me --

1 MR. SIMBURGER: Let alone dealing with
2 people.

3 WOMAN: Well, I'm sure that when you're
4 fortunately resigned, you will not be coming back for
5 doing another tour of duty. Correct?

6 MR. SIMBURGER: I would make a formal
7 request, Mayor, that committees be reassigned
8 immediately next meeting. I understand -- as soon as
9 possible.

10 WOMAN: And the other department heads
11 would agree with Leo --

12 MAN: I didn't hear you.

13 WOMAN: The other department heads would
14 agree with Leo that we would like committees reassigned
15 immediately.

16 MR. FEDER: Just for the fact is I
17 believe -- I personally believe that unfortunately
18 there's going to be retaliation.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, there's no question on
20 my -- there's going to be retaliation over this meeting
21 against me -- daughter -- you already got her.

22 MAN: I don't think there will be because
23 if anything happens to anybody here, it'll -- it's all
24 public.

1 MR. FEDER: No, they will -- they will
2 find a way to --

3 WOMAN: Isn't there a law against bullying
4 and disorderly contact that any person can file in
5 regards to this?

6 MAN: That's part of my grievance I'm
7 going to file the department --

8 MR. SIMBURGER: Probably more along the
9 grievance process.

10 MAN: There is protections against
11 whistleblowers in a situation like this. So they're
12 against -- protected against retaliation.

13 WOMAN: So what can we as a community do
14 to help you get them gone?

15 WOMAN: We're going to do it. We're
16 getting a petition. We're going to do --

17 MAN: In specific -- in my case -- my
18 individual basis, I don't think there's much you can do
19 other than vote correctly.

20 MAN: Or there might be a way to do it on
21 by petition. I'm not sure the rules --

22 WOMAN: Find a petition.

23 MAN: Right. Unknown circumstances.

24 MAN: -- Thus far.

1 WOMAN: The ethical thing for them to do
2 is to just go ahead and resign.

3 WOMAN: But they won't. They won't.

4 WOMAN: No. They're too much of arrogant
5 assholes. And they want to stay up on that board.

6 WOMAN: Get 'em out.

7 MAN: All that gold in that fucking chair.

8 WOMAN: Got to make it look worse --

9 WOMAN: You bring nothing to the
10 community. You just take away from it. And you're
11 taking and taking and taking. And that's all you will
12 continue to do.

13 MAN: John, I'm surprised you haven't
14 walked out yet.

15 WOMAN: Oh, no. He really wants that
16 chair. That's what he wants.

17 MAN: Oh, no no, no. He's walked out
18 twice.

19 WOMAN: He doesn't want to have to give
20 that up.

21 MAN: It rolls. It's got wheels.

22 MAN: Yeah, you already resigned twice,
23 John. Why -- why not again today?

24 WOMAN: Yeah, I knew you were a piece of

1 shit.

2 WOMAN: I can't imagine that there's
3 another town as -- excuse me -- as fucked up as this
4 is.

5 MAN: I would say that the whole is not
6 completely ruined. There's always that term about the
7 bad apples in the bunch. Some of that needs addressed.

8 MAN: Yeah.

9 MAN: I only have concern with one person.
10 The rest, you do what you like. But that is my issue.
11 We can save a lot of heartache as employees of the
12 Village of New Athens if we had some changes.

13 MAN: Save a lot of taxpayer dollars too.

14 WOMAN: Yeah.

15 MAN: If we really had some changes, we
16 could really improve things as far as employee morale
17 and productivity.

18 MAN: All those unfair labor practices
19 cost money too.

20 MAN: That's my little bit on it.

21 MAN: Don't go out of their pocket.

22 WOMAN: No, it comes out of the village.
23 Yeah, the village. Yep.

24 MAN: Hey, Steve --

1 WOMAN: I wish the people that voted you
2 in were sitting here tonight.

3 MAN: And Steve, remember that last
4 meeting several times ago? Aren't you -- you had made
5 a comment, something like, aren't you proud that we
6 live in New Athens and we have a great police
7 department, great fire department, great school. Can
8 you say that now?

9 MR. NEWBOLD: Not as proudly as I did
10 then.

11 MAN: Exactly. Yeah.

12 WOMAN: Well, you know, this has been
13 going on. There's been improper things that's
14 happened, been said, been done, and nothing gets done.
15 It just gets shuffled around under the chairs and we go
16 on and we come back and it's a whole new slate. Nobody
17 does or says anything.

18 MAN: Eventually --

19 WOMAN: Because there's certain people
20 that think they don't do anything wrong.

21 MAN: Yeah.

22 MAN: Wait for the news cycle to cover it
23 all up. Let it go. People forget about it.

24 MAN: Ain't going to get forgot about this

1 time.

2 WOMAN: Nope.

3 MAN: If you're talking about when you're
4 wanting Bill to resign, that's not as easy as you
5 think.

6 WOMAN: I don't want him to resign.

7 MAN: I'm not.

8 WOMAN: I'm done with that.

9 (Crosstalk.)

10 WOMAN: We'll get him to resign.

11 MAN: No, but to get -- they wanted us to
12 kick him off. That's not as easy as you think.

13 WOMAN: Okay. Sign --

14 WOMAN: I just want you and her kicked
15 off. I'm happy with that.

16 MAN: Saying I resign and walking out the
17 door is pretty goddamn easy. It's real easy. Yep.
18 Nobody's forcing you, well, to stay there.

19 MAN: The two times John's resigned before
20 is when he didn't get his way. Tonight you fucking got
21 your way.

22 MAN: But you forget, we ain't here for
23 you. We're here to back this man up against a bunch of
24 crooked-ass motherfuckers on this board.

1 MAN: Not all of them.

2 MAN: Not all of them.

3 MAN: Not all of them. Definitely not all
4 of them.

5 MAN: So you know, things are going to
6 change around this town, I believe it, because this
7 kind of nonsense can't fucking stand. This is the
8 United States. We have so many levels of government
9 that this little baby shit here at the village level
10 is -- it's uncalled for. It's ridiculous. And you're
11 all -- you're the cause.

12 The citizens vote people in. The citizens sit
13 on that board. If you can't fulfill the oath of the
14 board and do the job effectively, you should no longer
15 be there.

16 MAN: In a professional way. Not for your
17 own benefits.

18 WOMAN: Tell all these political lies to
19 get the position.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: If your goal is to be on
21 the board to garner favor, to be in charge, to run a
22 little fiefdom, that is improper. You should be here
23 for the benefit of the town, the benefit of the people.
24 For the people. And we the people will no longer stand

1 for it.

2 WOMAN: You know, it's really bad whenever
3 your kid is a teenager in high school and they come
4 home and tell you rumors about something that's
5 happened in the community and then they can name-drop
6 and that member is on the board. And these kids are
7 14, 15, and 16 years old.

8 What kind of example is that? What example are
9 you setting for our youth? Do you have kids? You have
10 grandkids? Do you want this kind of crap in their
11 lives, for them to have to deal with it?

12 Why does that 15-year-old go to school and tell
13 me a story that they heard from an adult, other adults
14 and other children? These conversations are going on
15 in homes which are going on -- these kids are hearing
16 it.

17 And then he can -- my child can literally tell
18 me which member of the board it is and his name. He is
19 fifth -- shut up. Don't talk to me -- don't -- don't
20 say a word.

21 MR. FEDER: I was just going to say, I
22 haven't talked to my kids until this week.

23 WOMAN: You don't get to speak. I am
24 speaking. I am not done.

1 MR. FEDER: Make sure you got your
2 facts --

3 WOMAN: Shut up. Shut up.

4 MR. FEDER: Because I haven't talked to my
5 kids until this week.

6 WOMAN: Shut up. You can talk to your kid
7 all that you want, but I know what my kid has brought
8 into my home and has told me.

9 MR. FEDER: I'm saying they weren't
10 getting it through me.

11 WOMAN: I am not done talking.

12 MR. FEDER: Because my kids ain't talked
13 to me until it started this week.

14 (Crosstalk.)

15 MR. FEDER: At least I can talk to mine.
16 At least they can talk to -- disagree.

17 MAN: Did you talk to Blake this weekend?

18 MR. FEDER: Justin? I talked to him
19 Sunday, and I haven't talked to him since.

20 MAN: So he wasn't in the truck with you
21 on Saturday at Napa?

22 MR. FEDER: Saturday. Saturday.

23 MAN: I seen him.

24 MR. FEDER: I don't think I had Blake

1 Saturday.

2 MAN: Really? He was in your truck. I
3 drove up.

4 WOMAN: He can't believe --

5 MR. FEDER: Well, maybe Saturday, but up
6 until then I've never --

7 WOMAN: Great parenting skills.

8 MAN: Doesn't lie.

9 MR. FEDER: No, 'cause it would've -- his
10 mom gets him.

11 MAN: No, you were absolutely certain it
12 wasn't this -- wasn't the weekend -- this week --

13 MAN: At least you get to. At least I get
14 to.

15 WOMAN: Bottom line is if Lydia would've
16 been on a call, anybody had called her for service, for
17 cardiac arrest, or anything like that. But the fact
18 that she had a blood alcohol thing in her car really
19 mattered at that point. If she's pumping CPR and
20 keeping you alive to get you to the hospital, does that
21 matter at that point? If she's coming to your car
22 accident scene and she's the first on scene, would that
23 have mattered then?

24 MAN: Nobody gives a shit if you pull up

1 in a busted-ass Dodson as long as you can save a life.

2 WOMAN: I bet that was Debby's --

3 MR. FEDER: I never said any of that
4 didn't.

5 WOMAN: Wouldn't care.

6 WOMAN: It doesn't matter.

7 MR. FEDER: Never said I was against her
8 having the machine.

9 WOMAN: Then what is this whole line of
10 shit about other than -- when it boils down to it,
11 there was a chain of command of issues to be handled
12 and dealt with and none of you did.

13 MR. FEDER: It was about secrecy. It was
14 about secrecy.

15 MAN: Yeah. And was it Debby complaining
16 about Gary going to -- directly to a board member about
17 something and bypassing Chris? Didn't that just happen
18 a couple weeks ago? Or did we forget about that
19 already?

20 MR. FEDER: Secrecy.

21 MS. POLITSCH: I didn't complain about it.

22 MAN: Oh, of course not.

23 MS. POLITSCH: No, I did not complain
24 about it.

1 MAN: You didn't file --

2 WOMAN: You're perfect. That's perfect.

3 MAN: I didn't complain about it.

4 WOMAN: Thank you.

5 MAN: I think Gary had said something in
6 that meeting -- Gary said we should get Chris involved
7 because of what it was just to make sure that was what
8 Chris felt, and it was a real simple thing. And she
9 said -- and it would've been a real simple thing to get
10 with the chief of police.

11 MAN: Well, I wish somebody would've
12 thought of that about my choice.

13 MAN: Because -- over here with us --

14 MR. SIMBURGER: I don't remember there
15 being a personnel meeting for the Gary thing. It was
16 just handled. It was spoken to him.

17 MAN: It was when we had your interviews
18 for the --

19 MR. SIMBURGER: I know, but when Gary did
20 that, was there a personnel meeting to handle that, or
21 did they just -- you guys just tell Gary, hey, you
22 probably need to involve Chris? You talked --

23 MR. FEDER: I just said we ought to get
24 Chris.

1 MR. SIMBURGER: Right. You talked to him.
2 That's all I'm saying. You talked to him and said what
3 needed to be done. That's all I'm saying. That's all
4 that had to be done with me.

5 MR. FEDER: I didn't realize that you
6 didn't know what it was about.

7 MAN: Did you even ask?

8 MR. FEDER: I didn't talk to Leo in the
9 meantime.

10 MAN: Did you pick up a phone?

11 MR. FEDER: We don't call each other every
12 day, but any time there was a problem I thought he
13 called me.

14 MAN: In a personnel situation, don't you
15 think you should have?

16 MAN: Actually it's her response --

17 MAN: Yeah, you're -- to let know who --
18 what this is about.

19 MAN: We didn't know what the personnel --

20 MR. FEDER: Yeah, I mean she -- I'm
21 telling you, the whole conversation was like less than
22 two minutes. It was --

23 MAN: There was about two or three dates
24 she was going to throw out there. So we didn't know it

1 was going to be Thursday. It could have been -- we
2 didn't know.

3 MAN: She still should have communicated
4 with the chief --

5 MAN: About the situation -- the rest of
6 the board people. Like I said, we didn't know.

7 MR. SIMBURGER: If I'd have known, if it
8 had been on the agenda, what this was about, I could
9 have given you the information in minutes and the
10 meeting could have been canceled. Even if there was a
11 meeting canceled --

12 WOMAN: That wouldn't have been good
13 enough, Leo, because then she couldn't disrespect you
14 or your daughter. She couldn't belittle her.

15 MAN: She couldn't control it.

16 MR. FEDER: I honestly don't think Debby
17 meant that by it, though.

18 WOMAN: Oh, bullshit.

19 MR. FEDER: I'm just saying I don't think
20 she --

21 WOMAN: You know that is her. You know
22 that, John. I've heard you say it.

23 MR. FEDER: I didn't -- I don't think she
24 meant anything by it.

1 WOMAN: Oh, bullshit. You know what she's
2 like and you have said it.

3 MAN: She stood over there by the door and
4 I told her some of her emails were snippy too. And she
5 looked at me and did that with her eyes. It pissed her
6 off because, my God, somebody's standing up to me.

7 WOMAN: Here.

8 MAN: You're not supposed to stand up to
9 bullies. That's how they become bullies. Just about
10 sick to my stomach.

11 MR. FEDER: I can tell you, I'm honestly
12 sorry. I said -- I went in -- had a problem with it.
13 I went in and asked you, you said that, I said that I
14 thought it was fine, but we want to have a meeting,
15 we're going to have a meeting. That's fine.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: Again, John --

17 MR. FEDER: Not part of the committee.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: You said nothing about
19 the squad car in that room. You did not say the --

20 MR. FEDER: No, I asked if we were legal
21 on everything on that. You said yes. So I said okay.
22 I figured the meeting would take two minutes. It was
23 no big deal. And at the time I didn't know we were
24 going to have a meeting. That was like a week before

1 or two weeks before, probably. Several weeks.

2 MAN: That is correct.

3 MR. FEDER: And I thought the deal was a
4 done deal.

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Until she demanded to have
6 a meeting.

7 MR. FEDER: Honestly, when people start
8 probably -- wherever the info come from asking, she
9 probably thought she needed to have a meeting. I
10 agreed. You know, I didn't realize you didn't know
11 about it -- know what it was. And I think everybody
12 including -- and I don't think Debby purposely tried to
13 hold it from me. Maybe -- I don't know.

14 WOMAN: Oh, she did too.

15 MAN: She did.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: She still wouldn't tell me
17 what it was about. I emailed her -- or she --

18 MR. FEDER: I thought you got it off the
19 piece of paper.

20 MR. SIMBURGER: No, no.

21 MR. FEDER: Hung on the door.

22 MR. SIMBURGER: She texted me about Lydia,
23 which almost made me -- but then I asked her what was
24 the meeting about? And then she said she'll tell me

1 when she speaks to me in person.

2 MR. FEDER: I thought she got it off a
3 piece paper off the door. And what I was thinking was
4 everybody would've tried to keep that so the public
5 didn't know what was going on. Nothing against --

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Okay, fine. Don't tell
7 the public. How about telling me? But she knew. I
8 actually understand where you're coming from, John.
9 But she knew.

10 MR. FEDER: I can say I'm sorry, Leo.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: You can say it.

12 WOMAN: It's just a damn shame that
13 Lydia's not here now.

14 MR. FEDER: I hear you.

15 WOMAN: To understand.

16 MR. SIMBURGER: If you people -- I wish I
17 had a recording of it and I wish I could blast it in
18 your ears for the rest of your lives. My wife seen
19 hundreds of times lying on the cold pavement. I want
20 her back. Hundreds of times screaming in an apartment
21 complex. I want her back.

22 MAN: She won't resign --

23 WOMAN: She has no regret. No remorse,
24 nothing.

1 MAN: They didn't do nothing wrong. She
2 shows no emotion.

3 MAN: No, she hasn't.

4 WOMAN: At least they get to talk to their
5 kids. At least they get to be a part of their kids'
6 lives still and watch them grow and watch them prosper
7 and do good things. That was taken away from him.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: And Tim told you that
9 there was a breakup that day? He's a freaking damn
10 dirty liar like I have known he is, like he's lied to
11 me I don't know how many times.

12 MR. FEDER: He said they broke up. I
13 assumed it was --

14 MR. SIMBURGER: Oh, you earlier you said
15 it was that day.

16 MR. FEDER: I assumed it was that day, I
17 guess. He said they had broke up, and I assumed it was
18 that day.

19 MR. SIMBURGER: Why would Lydia -- Tim --
20 and I don't even see Lydia telling him that because she
21 couldn't stand Tim either. I'm not asking him shit
22 because he'll lie about it. When he comes in here in
23 full dress uniform. What the hell? Is that about me
24 or is that about Tim? No, he left. Oh I asked him to

1 leave. Because I don't want him here.

2 MAN: Sorry, I thought he was sitting over
3 there.

4 MR. SIMBURGER: Is that about Tim or is
5 that about me? Hey, look at me. You all look good.
6 Shit.

7 MAN: That's why I said unless you know --
8 Joe knows being a mayor, Gary knows being a mayor,
9 there's a lot involved to be a chief. There's a lot
10 involved to be a police officer too, don't get me
11 wrong. But there's a lot of responsibility on that
12 man's plate to make that office function, not just to
13 be out on the road patrolling.

14 MAN: There's no time for it.

15 MAN: And if you don't understand --

16 MR. SIMBURGER: And I have told you --
17 I've told this board and I even told the previous board
18 that the training mandates are becoming greater and
19 greater and there are -- part-time people who won't
20 work anymore.

21 And I kept telling you this isn't going to work.
22 It's just -- we're not going be a full-time department.
23 I kept telling you that I don't know how many times.

24 MR. FEDER: I think the board wanted to

1 hang onto the full-time department as long as we could.
2 Same with the ambulance. It's better than letting
3 somebody else -- you know, using MedStar or somebody
4 and using County. We want to try to hang onto as long
5 as we can.

6 MR. SIMBURGER: Part-time now. That's
7 damn for sure. So get used to it, people. You're not
8 going to have 24/7 covered anymore. Ain't going to
9 happen.

10 You guys wouldn't listen. You guys had a chance
11 to add one person to this board or to this police
12 department almost fully paid for with two cars that
13 Lenzburg was going to give us. But one of them only
14 had 50-some-thousand miles on it. But it was Brad.
15 so --

16 MR. FEDER: Didn't happen because the two
17 officers were against it.

18 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, I know. They talked
19 to you.

20 MR. FEDER: Talked to everybody, not just
21 me. That was the only reason. So why did we need
22 to -- we can't patrol our own town.

23 MR. SIMBURGER: Of course they were
24 against it.

1 MR. FEDER: No, we can't patrol our own
2 town, but we were talking -- the 24/7. You were
3 worried about that. Why do we want to pick up another
4 town?

5 MR. SIMBURGER: Because it would've given
6 us an additional officer.

7 MR. FEDER: That we were going to send
8 down there four times every 12 hours. By the time you
9 drive down there and you circle through the town for an
10 hour, you made up eight hours.

11 MR. SIMBURGER: It doesn't take an hour.

12 MR. FEDER: I would think -- if I was
13 Lenzburg paying, I would expect you to drive through
14 for an hour.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: I can drive there, drive
16 through the town, and be back in 20 minutes. Easy.

17 MAN: County does it all the time. Trust
18 me.

19 MAN: I do it.

20 MR. FEDER: I'm not saying you can't. You
21 are correct. But are you really doing much patrolling
22 in 20 minutes? If I was Lenzburg paying, I would hope
23 you're going give it a little time.

24 MAN: Yeah, because Lenzburg pays county

1 taxes. So yeah, I can tell you I can go through town
2 in 20 minutes and make sure everything's okay. Because
3 I do it every time I'm in this fucking zone.

4 WOMAN: It's not like he's going through
5 Freeburg.

6 MR. FEDER: And actually, Tony is out down
7 here more often -- more now than ever.

8 MR. SIMBURGER: It was doable. It was a
9 viable plan.

10 MAN: I mean, wouldn't it be less whenever
11 you got a call? I mean, that's really when you need
12 the police --

13 MR. SIMBURGER: We still go there.

14 MAN: Oh, I know. But I'm saying --

15 MR. SIMBURGER: Because County could be
16 God knows where. We're three minutes away. So CENCOM
17 calls us to go there and -- at least the emergency part
18 of it -- and then wait for County. Yeah, and
19 actually -- and we still get charged for that call too.

20 MAN: Because I tell you what, because if
21 it wasn't for Marissa and New Athens and stuff like
22 that, we're running cold all the way from Lebanon doing
23 80 miles an hour trying to get to an emergency in
24 Lenzburg -- these guys help us out and stuff like that.

1 And we can reduce -- and we save people's lives,
2 officers' lives and stuff.

3 MR. SIMBURGER: I'm telling you guys, I
4 had a viable plan. It would've worked. It would've
5 solidified this department as a full-time department
6 24/7 with maybe one or two part-timers for emergency
7 purposes.

8 MR. FEDER: And as a citizen, I want
9 24-hour coverage. I don't care what it costs.

10 MAN: And I think -- similar to -- 24-hour
11 coverage is what they want. They're not worried about
12 the cost.

13 MR. SIMBURGER: And scheduling is
14 honestly -- it's a nightmare. I tried to explain this
15 to you people, too. You got a 14-day pay period.
16 Somebody takes off, you know. When Jake took off his
17 seven days to Vegas, Tim got screwed, Lydia got
18 screwed. But that was okay. Jake -- Jake was okay
19 with that. But he didn't like it when he got screwed.
20 He complained about that.

21 MR. FEDER: I didn't say you did a bad job
22 scheduling, and I never thought you were a bad chief.
23 I always said I thought you did good. If I had
24 problems, I brought it right up in front of everybody.

1 I didn't care.

2 MR. SIMBURGER: Yeah, even if they were
3 lies sometimes, John.

4 MR. FEDER: They weren't lies. But --

5 MR. SIMBURGER: I told you -- you said I
6 wanted to hire Brad because he's my best friend. And I
7 told you I had never drank a beer with Brad except at
8 his wedding reception. He has never been to my house
9 except to drop a dog off. I had never been in the
10 house they're currently living in. I was in their
11 previous house briefly once. That sound like somebody,
12 a best friend? Well, if you said it --

13 MR. FEDER: If I had a problem with the
14 situation, I told you. We got it ironed out.

15 MR. SIMBURGER: No, we didn't. We --
16 voting them down. That's what iron -- that's the
17 control thing again.

18 MR. FEDER: So I was one of six people.

19 WOMAN: Well, Arlene -- Arlene actually
20 spoke to Brad after the first original no down here at
21 Mike's Drive-In when that all happened and apologized
22 profusely because she had changed her vote from a no to
23 a yes. And then it didn't get reported or something
24 happened. But then you guys re-voted and Arlene never

1 showed up, and she said she was going to vote for Brad.

2 Don't get me wrong, I'm very thankful with where
3 my husband's at in life, and he's in a much better
4 department.

5 MAN: Yeah. Isn't it odd that he's not
6 good enough to work here, but he can work for a -- it's
7 very difficult to get on in Mascoutah.

8 MAN: It's a very prestigious department.

9 MAN: But yet he's good enough for them,
10 but not good enough for us.

11 WOMAN: You know, my husband cared --
12 cares an awful lot about this town. So much so that he
13 was a volunteer firefighter up until he started in
14 Mascoutah, and then he stopped that because he can't
15 get hurt on a fire call because we depend on his
16 income. And he cares an awful lot about Leo because
17 Leo has offered so much support towards him. And he
18 cared a lot about Lydia too.

19 The night we found out, it ate Brad up. He
20 wanted to call Leo right then and there, but we didn't
21 know where we were at that point.

22 You have an awfully good police chief who cares
23 an awful lot about his officers no matter what their
24 discretions are. And you guys fucked him.

1 (Inaudible.)

2 MAN: Sure am. There's nothing more to
3 say.

4 MAN: Okay.

5 MAN: I'm ready.

6 MAN: Do you want to stay here?

7 MAN: Bills -- call it.

8 WOMAN: Yes.

9 MAN: Can we just pay the bills and then
10 call it?

11 WOMAN: I'm going to make a motion to pay
12 the bills and then adjourn.

13 MAN: Yeah. I'll entertain a motion to
14 adjourn. There's been a motion to adjourn after we
15 approve the -- yeah.

16 MAN: We'll approve -- we'll approve the
17 bills and we'll approve the transfer.

18 MAN: Okay. And then make the motion.
19 That's fine.

20 MAN: Finance money went through the bills
21 and found them to be in order. And I make a motion
22 that we pay the bills as presented.

23 MAN: Did you have a question on that one?

24 MAN: We have got an --

1 WOMAN: I'll --

2 MAN: Is there a second? Okay. Motion
3 made and seconded to approve the -- approve the bills
4 from the Finance and Audit Committee. All those in
5 favor signify by saying aye.

6 (Multiple people say aye.)

7 MAN: Opposed? Same sign.

8 MAN: I'll make a motion that we approve
9 the transfers that are listed in the packet here.

10 WOMAN: I second it.

11 MAN: Okay. Motion made and seconded to
12 approve the transfers. That was Item 6.2.1. All of
13 those in favor signify as say aye.

14 (Multiple people say aye.)

15 MAN: Oppose, same sign.

16 MAN: Can we vote on Christmas --

17 MAN: What item is that?

18 MAN: Five one.

19 MAN: I'd entertain a motion to approve
20 the purchase of the portable trash pump. Item 5.5.

21 MAN: Motion made.

22 MAN: Motion made? Get the second?

23 WOMAN: Yes.

24 MAN: All those in favor, signify by

1 saying aye.

2 (Multiple people say aye.)

3 MAN: Opposed, same signs. Motion

4 carries.

5 MAN: I make a motion that we adjourn.

6 MAN: Motion made to adjourn. Is there a

7 second?

8 WOMAN: Second:

9 MAN: All those in favor, signify by

10 saying aye.

11 (Multiple people say aye.)

12 MAN: Opposed, same sign. Motion carried.

13 Meeting's adjourned.

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