

NEW CARLISLE TOWN COUNCIL – GENERAL MEETING
124 E. MICHIGAN STREET, NEW CARLISLE INDIANA
FEBRUARY 12, 2008, 7:00 P.M.

President Carolyn Higgins called the meeting to order with Vice President Colpitts, Council Member Mell, Council Member Groves, Council Member Gelow and the Clerk-Treasurer present. Also in attendance were Roger Nawrot, Bill Herrbach, Larry Brown, Pat Cummings, Kenny Davis, Candie Drake, Jason Quirk, Doug Glon, Stephen Vojtko, Drew Adams, Jim Ford, Kim Sensow, Jeff Jurczak, Bob Middlebrook, Jan Keen, and Chris Covert.

Minutes

Council Member Mell moved to accept the January 22, 2008 minutes as written. Motion seconded by Council Member Groves and passed unanimously.

Employee Reports

Pat Cummings:

- Acquisition of new electric territory is nearly complete. The agreement for the Utility Regulatory Committee that was previously approved was presented for Council signatures.
- Met with NPUSC regarding their sewer plans. There were a few items of concern that they are currently addressing. Asked for Council approval with addendums approved by Roger.

Vice President Colpitts moved to approve the NPUSC sewer plans providing they meet the required specifications and are approved by Engineer Roger Nawrot. Seconded by Council Member Mell the motion passed unanimously.

Ken Davis:

No Report

Marshal Larry Brown:

- Has prepared the waivers necessary for the internship program and has given them to Attorney Bill Herrbach for review.
- Distributed Department of Labor Standards for salaries of public employees previously requested by the Council.

Bob Middlebrook:

- No Report

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Engineer Roger Nawrot:

- No Report

Attorney Bill Herrbach:

- Asked for Council comment regarding the P.U.D. ordinance presented at the last meeting.

Council Member Mell stated he was not in favor of this ordinance. Council Member Groves asked the original intention of the ordinance. Roger explained that it is necessary to protect the town and that it could be made as restrictive as desired. He cited LaFayette Falls with condos, villas and freestanding homes as an example. Eddy Street Commons was given as another example.

P.U.D. ordinance was tabled for further investigation by the Council and will be readdressed at the February 26th meeting.

Old Business

- 2008 Ambulance Contract: Has been signed by Hudson and Olive Townships and was presented for Council signatures.

Vice President Colpitts moved to accept the 2008 Ambulance Contract as written. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

- 2008 Fire Contract: Has been signed by Olive Township with percentages agreed to at the Intergovernmental Meeting and is currently being reviewed by the Hudson Township Attorney. Tabled until the February 26th meeting.
- Comprehensive Plan: Council Member Groves has formed a committee to begin prioritizing goals to implement the Master Plan. Council Member Groves will chair the committee with the following members: Bob Palm, Tracy Grimm, John Gelow, Mary Ann Swope and Jim Moffitt. President Higgins asked that meeting times be posted to allow for community input.

New Business

- Employee Insurance Surveys: President Higgins reports 15 surveys were returned on time and three were returned late. Copies of the results were distributed to all council members and will be made available for employee review as well. The committee will hear presentations from three insurance companies soon.
- Jeff Jurczak of New Prairie Little League: Presented revised copies of a proposed concession stand/restroom/storage facility. NPLL would demolish the existing structure and build an ADA compliant structure that would be maintained and taken care of solely by NPLL. He stated that they would like to begin

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fundraising but need to know if the Town will allow them to build on the same site as the current structure.

Vice President Colpitts asked Bill and Roger if it would be acceptable to agree to this in concept prior to having approved building or site plans. Bill stated that we could prepare a lease agreement with NPLL now. President Higgins asked if the restrooms would be made available during Home Town days. Pat replied that they could be left open and the Little League involved.

Vice President Colpitts moved that the Town have Bill draft a lease agreement between the Town and NPLL, for 25 years, \$1.00 lease payment per year, with the provision that it continue to be used by NPLL. The cost of the required legal description is to be divided equally by NPLL and the Town, for an amount not to exceed a total cost of \$1,000. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and unanimously passed.

- Emergency Preparedness: Resident Steve Vojtko expressed concerns about interdepartmental communication during the recent power outage. He was unable to reach the Marshal's Department and no one was in the Clerk's Office.

President Higgins stated that this was the longest power outage that she can remember and feels that basically people must use common sense in this type of situation.

Vice President Colpitts stated that the 911 system was in place for any emergencies and that businesses, home owners and the schools must have a plan of action as well.

Sue explained that there was no electric in the Town Hall and emergency lights were not working so decided that it would be a safety issue to open the building until power was restored.

Larry distributed brochures on emergency preparedness and suggested that Ready.gov be advertised for public information.

- Electric Department: Steve Vojtko stated that last October he had asked Pat about the cost-effectiveness of the Town having its own electric department. Pat replied that he has not had time to do this study.

Vice President Colpitts stated that he recalled this issue and that at the time it was decided that we purchase our electric from a co-op to help with electric rates. He stated that we have an excellent team who handles our power very well and quickly which is a tremendous benefit to the Town.

Pat stated that he would do a study to show the cost effectiveness of the Town continuing with an electric department. President Higgins asked the other Council Members if they felt this was something that Pat should be spending time working on with each responding no. Pat will not do the study.

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Council Reports:

John Gelow: No Report

Ron Colpitts:

- The January 26th Intergovernmental Meeting went well. Both contracts were agreed upon.
- Feels we need to be pro-active about fire territories and has asked Bill Gumm to look into them. He stated that basically with a fire territory the Fire Department would become its own governing body.

Bill Gumm reports that he has formed a committee to look into this but has concerns that there are, at times, ulterior reasons. He asks that there be no discussion about this held outside the committee meeting.

Carolyn Higgins:

- Has asked Larry Brown to chair a codification committee as much editing will be necessary during the initial 60-day review period.
- Asks that all members of the Council be given and review financial reports so that everyone is informed. She sites the confusion with the fire department budget that was presented prior to the budget adoption last fall and what was actually appropriated for 2008 as an example of what should not happen.

Bill Gumm asked for the opportunity to meet with Council Member Colpitts and Sue to go over the fire department budget.

Jack Mell: No Report

Dana Groves:

- Recently met with the Park Board for the first time since her appointment and reports that new Memorial Park playground equipment has been ordered. They will be interviewing for a director of the summer parks program soon and will need to find a replacement for John Gelow as he has resigned his appointment to the Park Board.

Public Comment

Larry Brown: As a resident, he asked that the Council consider allowing public opinion/input prior to voting on an ordinance or resolution. President Higgins stated that she will continue to follow Robert's Rules of Order but will follow this procedure effective next meeting.

Bill Gumm: Apologized for not being here during employee reports.

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Reports grass rig is here and asked if President Higgins and Vice President Colpitts would be available to meet at the fire station for a photo on Saturday at 10:00 am. Both will attend.

Expressed concern that the 2008 Contract has not been signed. This was discussed and contracts for 2009 will be prepared and signed in November.

Tim Kaminski: Would like to see 654-8050 removed from the emergency call list as he does not feel that his employees are qualified to handle calls for oxygen, etc. Pat reported procedures are already in place. Following discussion, the Council felt that this could be solved simply and perhaps put in the paper. Larry and Pat will discuss options.

Prescription eyewear for safety was discussed. Council Member Mell stated he feels that this should be paid for by the Town. President Higgins stated this should be handled the same as safety shoes. Tim was asked to look into this and report back to the Council.

Drew Adams: Was present to ask for some resolution to the drainage problem on East Michigan Street. Pat stated that we could possibly tie into the existing drain. He will see that it is taken care of.

Vice President Colpitts moved to pay all bills as presented. Seconded by Council Member Mell, passed unanimously.

Council Member Mell moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Council Member Groves and the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer