

TOWN COUNCIL – GENERAL MEETING
124 E. MICHIGAN STREET, NEW CARLISLE, INDIANA
APRIL 22, 2008, 7:00 P.M..

President Higgins called the meeting to order with Vice-President Colpitts, Council Member Mell, Council Member Groves, Council Member Gelow and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Also in attendance were Roger Nawrot, Bill Herrbach, Larry Brown, Pat Cummings Bob Middlebrook, Mary Ann Swope, Jamie Middlebrook, Augie Mauer, Chris Antonucci, Jason Quirk, Keith Dennis, Candie Drake, Kenny Davis, Theresa Barnes and Steve Vojtko.

Minutes

Council Member Mell moved to accept the minutes of the April 8, 2008 General Meeting and April 15, 2008 Public Hearing as written. Seconded by Council Member Gelow and passed unanimously.

Employee Reports

Larry Brown:

- Provided detailed quotes for the two proposed replacement squad cars previously discussed. The funds for the lease agreements are budgeted. One car being cycled out will be kept as a spare with the other being recycled for Town use.

Vice President Colpitts moved that two Dodge Charges be leased from LaPorte Chrysler. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and unanimously passed.

- Currently has two officers at bicyclist class. They will be out patrolling on Thursday following completion of the required course.
- Officer Thompson has been at the elementary school all year working with the children.

Council Member Gelow questioned the new radar unit not being used. Larry explained that the unit has a factory defect and the replacement is expected this week.

Pat Cummings:

- The flagpole is ready to be moved from the electric building and Gary Lawson will install it in front of the Town Hall at a cost of \$976.

Council Member Mell moved to pay Gary Lawson \$976 to install the flagpole in front of Town Hall. Seconded by Vice President Colpitts and unanimously passed.

Vice President Colpitts moved to donate the current flagpole to Historic New Carlisle for placement at the Old Republic. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed. Council Member Groves abstained.

- Approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 of scrap was stolen from the electric yard Saturday night. Pat suggested that Jason look into securing the scrap.

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- Currently looking at upgrade of the 5-Star lift station that must be completed by August 1st.
- Estimates that ½ of all homes in Town have sump pumps. Because of the significant increase in sewer treatment costs, recommends an ordinance prohibiting draining sump pumps into the sewer system. A letter will be delivered to each residence and published in the NC News. Bill Herrbach will prepare the ordinance.

Roger suggested that downspouts be added to this ordinance as well. He further suggests that Bob Middlebrook check sump pumps while doing building department inspections.

Resident Theresa Barnes asked if the removal of the storm drain several years ago is causing the water problem on Marvel Lane. Augie asked to clarify that the storm drain was not removed but that the one that comes back to the viaduct is blocked. The drain from the viaduct to the Niespodziany Ditch remains in place.

- Met with the Steering Committee recently. Will be bringing recommendations to the Council soon.

Bill Herrbach:

- Working on legal review of the code book. Will be recommending changes as a committee to be adopted in full with one ordinance.
- Will prepare Park Ordinance for 1st reading at the next meeting.

Roger Nawrot:

- MACOG is currently counting traffic on East U.S. 20.
- Reports that the Indiana DNR officially approved the Park Master Plan.

New Business:

- New Prairie United School Corporation Sewer Contract – Bill has reviewed and given his approval of the contract. Pat reports that they reached an impasse regarding a permanent generator for the lift station. Roger estimates a cost of \$30,000 for the generator.

Keith Dennis, NPUSC representative, offered to split the cost of this generator with the Town.

Council Member Mell moved that the Town provide \$14,000 toward the cost of this generator with the remainder to be paid by NPUSC. Council Member Gelow seconded, motion approved unanimously.

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The generator is to be stored at the Michigan Street garage.

- Easements obtained by NPUSC were presented for approved. The school will have the easements recorded and provide copies to the Town.

Council Member Gelow moved to accept the easements as presented. Seconded by Council Member Groves, motion approved unanimously.

- The American Legion Auxiliary Annual Poppy Days will be held May 24th.

Council Member Mell moved to waive the Itinerant Merchant permit fee for the Auxiliary. Seconded by Vice President Colpitts, motion approved unanimously.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

- Ordinance #1195, an ordinance amending the Town zoning ordinance to add planned unit developments, was read by President Higgins for the first reading.
- Pat distributed copies of the revised park ordinance to the Council. He asks that any changes or recommendations be made prior to the next meeting.

Council Reports:

Council Member Groves:

- Met with the Cemetery Board for the first time. The Board is interested in pursuing the property currently for sale on County Line Road for cemetery expansion. She would like to obtain an appraisal of the 11.5 acres.

Pat would like to look at the property with Dana to see if use as a cemetery is feasible. Larry reports that approximately one half of the existing property is unusable.

Roger reminded everyone that the cost of plotting, streets and lighting must be considered along with the cost of obtaining land for expansion.

Sue stated that funding options would have to be evaluated very closely. A review of the budget shows that property tax money is now used for cemetery expenses when in the past there was no tax money used.

President Higgins stated that she is not sure that tax monies should be used for the purchase of cemetery land. Pat stated that we have always used tax money to support the cemetery. Sue replied that she doesn't believe tax money was used prior to 1996.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Steve Vojtko: Thought that money for cemetery land was set aside for several years in a sinking fund.
- Requests that ditch be cleaned out on Zigler Street as it has not been cleaned out in years and a rat of some type is going into the culvert. Augie reports that there is fiber optic that lies in the bottom of that ditch but they will get the ditch cleaned.
- Inquired about street project being completed on Marvel Lane and asked if topsoil will be placed on the islands prior to grass being planted. Pat reports that Marvel Lane is not complete as no punch list has been done to date.

Council Member Gelow moved to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Council Member Mell, motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Mell moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice President Colpitts the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer