

TOWN COUNCIL – GENERAL MEETING
124 EAST MICHIGAN STREET, NEW CARLISLE, INDIANA
SEPTEMBER 23, 2008, 7:00 P.M.

President Higgins called the meeting to order with Vice President Colpitts, Council Member Mell, Council Member Gelow, Council Member Groves and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Also in attendance were Roger Nawrot, Bill Herrbach, Ken Davis, Chris Covert, Jason Quirk, Mary Ann Swope, Tim Kaminski, Augie Mauer, Pat Cummings, Mark Woodcox, Jim Ford, Brian Thompson, Craig Langhoffer, Bill Gumm and Joseph Malan.

Council Member Gelow moved to accept the minutes of the August 26th and September 9th meetings as presented. Seconded by Council Member Groves, passed. Vice President Colpitts abstained.

Employee Reports

Chris Covert:

- Has advertised for the vacancy in the department and has made a tentative selection. Asked for Council approval to hire Shayne Landry, a current part-time officer, as a probationary officer. He would remain on probationary status for a period of one year.

Vice President Colpitts moved to accept Marshal Covert's recommendation to hire Shayne Landry as a probationary officer. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

- Has appointed Emerick Szalay who has been a reserve with two other departments to head the Reserve Program.

President Higgins expressed concern regarding the liability of a reserve department. Chris reports that the reserve program was approved in the new SOP to supplement our officers. Reserves would have the same powers as an officer but the NCMD SOP states that there would be no arrest power unless with another officer.

President Higgins asked why he is no longer with the other departments. Chris stated that it was because of turnover in those other departments.

Council Member Groves moved to approve the appointment of Emerick Szalay as reserve officer. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell, passed unanimously.

Ken Davis:

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- Met with our Ambulance Billing Services consultant and representatives of Hamilton Grove recently. Reports that the recommendation from our consultant is to move forward with this. He will be putting together more information for the Council regarding scheduling, costs and revenue. It was estimated that if an outside agency were to take this project the NCAA revenue would be reduced by approximately 40%. Ken reports that the consultant was optimistic that this would be self-supporting.

Bill Gumm

- Reports that the Town siren is up and fully functioning. He is currently researching protocol for the use of the siren for tornadoes and would like to create a written policy for the department.

Tim Kaminski

- Introduced new Water Treatment Plant Employee Eric Doms.

Pat Cummings

- Reported that work on the storm drains has been completed by the people we hired but the Town still needs to install the yard drains.
- The Steering Committee will meet again on Thursday, September 25th. Area Plan Director John Byorni will attend.
- Need to set up another meeting to finish the codification review. Bill Herrbach will coordinate a meeting date with Pat, Dana and Ron.
- Following 12" of rain he looked at issues and has met with the drainage board. They are willing to work with us and the state.
- Distributed a letter on pumping into the sanitary sewer which is prohibited by ordinance. These letters were distributed to Town residents earlier. Reports he spoke with Bill about offering assistance to help residents disconnect. Bill feels this is the only way to assure this is done correctly. Augie estimates that this involves approximately 30 residences.

Bill Gumm suggested that some of these residents contact FEMA. He has clients who have contacted FEMA and they are working very hard to assist residents in non-flood plain areas.

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Pat estimated that the cost to disconnect each home would be no more than \$100.00. Vice President Colpitts asked if this estimate includes labor as well and asked what materials are included in the estimate. Pat feels that it will only take some PVC and approximately 30 minutes per house.

Bill Herrbach suggested that letters be sent to see how many homeowners would be cooperative and that FEMA information be included with the letters. He also suggested that a waiver for release of liability be signed before any work is done. Pat is to distribute letters. Vice President Colpitts asked that clarification be made that sanitary sump pumps are allowed but the pumping of ground water into the sanitary sewer is prohibited.

Following much discussion it was decided that Pat would get information and numbers together and contact President Higgins or Vice President Colpitts in her absence, to expedite a special meeting.

Roger Nawrot:

- Set up a meeting with Mike McPhillips of the LaPorte District for October 3rd. They will be meeting at the Town Hall to discuss the viaduct and East Michigan Street flooding problems. County Surveyor and Drainage Board Member John McNamara will also be in attendance. All Council Members asked to be notified when a time for the meeting is set.
- TEA Grant is scheduled to be awarded on October 29th with the announcement made by November 1st.
- Bid openings for the Walnut Road water main extension are scheduled to be open on October 14th. This is being paid for by TIF monies and become our line. This could be used for industry on either side of Walnut Road.

New Business:

- Bucket Truck Repairs

Jason reports that the repairs will be to catch up with eight years of usage. Repairs will include brakes and fiberglass repair to damage at an approximate cost not to exceed \$4795.70. Repairs would be done by Great Lakes International and take the truck out of service for 2-3 days.

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Council Member Groves moved to allow Jason to spend not more than \$4795.70 for repairs to the bucket truck. Seconded by Council Member Mell the motion passed unanimously.

- Refuse Charges and Costs

Sue distributed information on the current cost per home for refuse removal. The average cost per household for the last five months, including salaries and postage, was \$11.87 while the charge to each customer remains at \$8.00. The current contract with Able Disposal expires on March 31, 2009 but could be advertised and re-bid now before making any decisions regarding rate increases. It was decided to advertise for bids for a two year contract with an option for a third year.

Council Reports:

President Higgins:

- Stated that we approved the 2009 Budget tonight but need to meet periodically to discuss budget issues throughout the year.

Vice President Colpitts:

- Would like to have the fire and ambulance contracts complete no later than December 31st. Ken Davis stated that he will have the Ambulance contract ready by the scheduled November 17th Ambulance Intergovernmental Meeting.

It was decided to meet with the Fire Department following the ambulance meeting.

Council Member Groves

- The Park Board has recommend that Donna Vermillion be appointed to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of John Gelow.

Vice President Colpitts moved that Donna Vermillion be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Park Board. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

- Reminded everyone that the Lincoln Highway Kiosk dedication will be on Saturday, October 11th and 2:00 p.m. with an open house at the Old Republic to follow.

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Public Comments:

- Craig Langhoffer of Edward Jones was in attendance to introduce himself to the community and invite everyone to an Open House on Thursday from 3-7 p.m.

Vice President Colpitts moved to pay all bills as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Groves and passed unanimously.

Council Member Mell moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Colpitts seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer