

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, August 14, 2014

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Colpitts called the meeting to order with Vice President Higgins, Council Member Vojtko, Council Member Carter and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Council Member Gelow was absent. Also in attendance were John Mrozinski, Mary Ann Swope, Tonya McKee, Jill Doll, Jason Quirk, Tim Conley, Kim Conley, Pete Conley, Sean Conley, Clifford Peterson and Jack Mell.

A moment of silence in honor of Jamie Middlebrook was observed

Introduction of New Town Manager

President Colpitts introduced new town manager, Tim Conley.

Minutes

Council Member Vojtko moved to accept the minutes of the July 22, 2014 General Meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice President Higgins and passed 4-0.

Visitor Comments

Mary Ann Swope

Mary Ann inquired about the shredder company on Smilax Road and closing of the business. She said it appears that they have closed and have left quite a mess. She would like to know who would be responsible to assure that it is cleaned up as she is concerned about safety.

Chuck stated that, because this property is not in the town limits, it would fall under the St. Joseph County Health Department.

Employee Reports

Water Treatment Plant Director Tim Kaminski

Painting the clear wells will begin next week and they have begun draining the wells at this time.

State testing was done this month which completes testing for this year.

Electric Superintendent Jason Quirk

Kachur Tree is working on tree clearing and removal.

Attorney Chuck Leone

Worked on employment issues including completion of the employment contract.

Working on bidding and acquisition of the new fire truck through a purchasing cooperative. These are being looked at closely at this time. They want to ensure that if we are to “piggy-back” onto another entity to obtain better pricing that this is done per state statute.

Engineer Jared Huss

Jared was unable to attend tonight’s meeting but sent the following update:

Sidewalk project continues on schedule.

Immediate concerns are several areas with drainage issues

Plans are to work with Reith Riley on the N. Bray Street drainage issue.

ADA door issues at the town hall will have two quotes and also architect review and recommendation.

New Business

March for Climate Change Special Event Permit

This group of approximately 15 people is marching from LA to Washington DC. They are requesting a variance to allow them to spend the night at Bourissa Hills Park. They will not require any facilities.

Council Member Vojtko moved to allow an overnight camp at Bourissa Hills Park for the Great March for Climate Action group on Thursday, September 11, 2014. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carter and passed 4-0.

Council Reports

Council Member Carter

He and Bob Middlebrook recently attended the IACT Abandoned Property Seminar in Indy that was quite interesting and brought everyone up to date on new law changes and ideas to deal with blighted areas.

Council Member Carter thanked everyone that was involved in the ceremony to honor Jamie Middlebrook. He felt that some of the outside police agencies were very impressed by the town and its citizens opening their heart.

Vice President Higgins

Vice President Higgins thanked John and the town employees who worked so hard to make the cemetery so beautiful for the ceremony.

She and President Colpitts met with a representative from Tejas Tubular recently. They spoke about the map hanging in the Council Room and have come to an agreement with Marcy Kauffman on restoration.

Attorney Chuck Leone is working on cemetery ownership, rules and regulations at the request of the Cemetery Board.

Council Member Vojtko

Council Member Vojtko expressed his gratitude and appreciation for Jamie Middlebrook and all that he did for our community through the ambulance and fire departments. The entire community pulled together to help their family and each other and showed the character of the town.

There is an Area Plan meeting next week but nothing involving New Carlisle

The first Concert in the Park was rescheduled to September 1st.

Council Member Vojtko would like the council to review emergency procedures within the town and see what worked and what didn't and review changes may need to be made.

President Colpitts concurs as there must be a way to disseminate information to everyone and feels this needs to be made a part of our own internal plan.

Vice President Higgins stated that she distinctly remembers directing an employee to prepare an emergency plan two years ago.

Council Member Vojtko acknowledged the Clerk's Office for assisting with the services for Jamie.

President Colpitts

Attorney Chuck Leone has recommended that we acknowledge the town manager contract with changes.

Vice President Higgins moved that the contract be ratified with the changes made. The motion was seconded by Council Member Vojtko and passed 4-0.

Unfortunately three large trees in the tree lawn at Memorial Park had to be removed as they were encroaching on the sidewalk with two of them dying. President Colpitts announced that Jill applied through IACT for trees and the Town was selected to receive three trees that will replace those trees removed for the sidewalk project.

A letter received from Sen. Arnold expressing his condolences on the loss of Jamie Middlebrook was read.

Announced that Tim Conley will begin work on Monday, August 18th and that there will be cookies and punch following the meeting tonight to welcome him.

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Bills to be Paid

Vice President Higgins moved to pay all bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carter and passed 4-0.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Council Member Carter and second by Council Member Vojtko the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 PM.

Ronald Colpitts, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer