

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, May 8, 2023

Attending: Council President James Miller, Councilors Matt Coppock, Steve Hahn, Greg Jones, Mary Jo Totten. Also attending: Attorney Eric Burns, Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Town Marshal Jerry Burk, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones (virtual) s.

Guests: Steve Easter, Bill Jones, Dave Buck, Colin Sullivan, Joe Kline, Manvir Bane, Robby Snodgrass

Mary Jo Totten called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. One addition to the agenda to hear the owner of a proposed convenience store at 101 North Street.

New Convenience Store

Manvir Banes introduced his store concept and the intended product lines. Operating hours will be 7 AM to 8 PM. He requested approval for a rack of propane exchange tanks, ice machine and rack of firewood on the sidewalk at his property. The council is aware that minimum distances for ADA compliance need to be maintained. It was mentioned that there is no parking for part of the day in the spaces nearest the stop sign due to the turning radius necessary for a school bus. Parking will be addressed at a separate meeting. There may be a need to post 1 hour parking on North Street to accommodate all the businesses.

Bid Opening

Bids for a multi-year waste and recycle contract were due at 6:00 PM. Only one bid was received and Council agreed it would be in their best interest to delay bid opening and extend the submission date. James Miller moved to delay bid opening until 6:00 PM on June 12, 2023 at Town Hall. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous vote. The bid packet received was dated, but not opened.

Minutes

James Miller moved to accept the minutes of April 10, with second of Matt Coppock. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Attorney

The utility easement encroachment with Carrie Costello at 6329 Munsee Drive has been submitted to the court for a decision. A settlement agreement was provided to the property owner and counsel. The agreement utilizes a concession from the gas line company that would make it possible for trucks to access the lift station area as intended without moving items that are encroaching the town's easement. There was discussion of a gate across the easement lane to limit access to authorized utility vehicles.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) sent a letter to the town stating that corrective action is needed at the site of a damaged drain pipe near the Prophets Rock lift station. The pipe is part of storm water management on Lookout Drive. Additional information about the watershed in that area and responsibility for the underground pipe is needed. The damaged outfall area was augmented years ago by the Sewage Department to protect a sewer main that was uncovered by the erosion resulting from the malfunctioning drainage pipe.

Contracted Services

1. BFS presented supplemental agreement #5, for the boundary survey completed at Lot 169 in Shawnee Ridge to verify a utility easement.
2. Supplemental Agreements #2 and 6 were presented for re-assignment of inspection fees on Tomahawk Lane and Hawks Nest. These supplements verify actions already taken to finalize Tomahawk Lane CCMG and utility projects.

The agreements were taken under advisement.

Clerk-Treasurer

The register of claims in the amount \$106,790.08 was reviewed. Greg Jones moved to approve the claims, with second of James Miller. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

The final report for the ARPA Covid distribution was submitted. A settlement involving Monsanto resulted in a distribution to the town, for testing run-off (storm water) and any remediation needed. The funds will be deposited in the Sewage Maintenance Reserve fund. The Council has the option to plan for use of this distribution.

The extension of time to receive bids for waste collection requires that bidders be advised of the new date but re-advertising is not necessary.

Police

Trees and shrubs that overgrow sidewalks need to be cut back to allow pedestrians to pass easily. A location on Bittersweet was cited as a current problem.

Prophets Rock Road is an issue, now that Ninth Street Road is closed. Cars travel too fast and the intersection at CR 600N has a lot more traffic than usual, and the intersection is hidden from northbound traffic. Greg Jones asked for a "dangerous intersection sign" for northbound lane. Ron Holladay indicated the county agrees to install additional signs, if Battle Ground purchases them.

Council previously approved a flashing lighted sign for the hill. Discussion at this time, whether that sign could be a "stop ahead" and put it at the top of the hill. Other suggestions were considered.

Utilities and Street Department

Ron Holladay has an estimate of \$18,900 for the shoulder repair on Prophets Rock Road, at CR 600 intersection.

Treatment plant aeration tanks will be cleaned in May or June. There were 500 diffusers replaced this year, and 250 are planned for 2024. Annual maintenance of clarifiers will start in June.

The council received a letter asking if the town would accept a fee from non-residents to use the compost area. This service is already offered by Best-Way at the 9th street trash transfer facility. The council declined to approve this request.

Joe Kline asked what can be done to correct the new storm structure at his driveway, which is too high and diverts half of the runoff to the neighbor. Ron Holladay will communicate this to the contractor.

Area Plan did not meet this month, no report

Committees

Communication – Georgia Jones reported on a survey tool available to the town that uses mapping to collect and communicate information about the community. Access is available for no cost from the County Assessor.

Transportation – no report

Strategic Planning – Land use committee working on mission and vision, and goals statements

Citizen Advisory Groups – no report

Old Business

Culture of Battle Ground – James Miller talked about an organization that promotes non-profits, and that it would be beneficial to collaborate with this group to market Battle Ground.

Land Use Plan - The study committee is working on a mission and vision statement for the town. Time is taken to carefully craft the wording to convey ideas.

Solar Energy – Greg Jones and James Miller met with the Solential company to develop an option for solar panels on land at the Waste Treatment plant, to generate power for the utilities. Planning to finance the project is the next step.

Tornado siren – A request for an additional siren for Shawnee Ridge was received. This will be reviewed with Tippecanoe Emergency Management.

Town Hall site – Maps of potential locations were distributed. Appraisals have been ordered. Questions about curb cuts and access to the state road will be investigated. An executive session is scheduled May 15 to discuss options in detail. The Tippecanoe County Park Board is open to the idea of sharing land for a parking lot, but not selling any land to the town. Greg Jones moved to approve a budget allocation up to \$1500 for appraisals, with second of Matt Coppock. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

New Business

The Shawnee Ridge HOA requests a sign on Munsee Drive to help members find the lane to the park area. Steven Easter described what is desired, and it appears to be consistent with town street signs. Ron Holladay will call in the Indiana Underground request for utility locates in the easement when it is time to install the signs.

Guest Comment

Motion to adjourn 7:57 p.m. by James Miller with second of Steve Hahn.


Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer


James Miller, Council President

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance
Battle Ground Town Council

Date: May 8, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present in Person: James Miller, Steve Hahn, Mary Jo Totten, Greg Jones, Matt Coppock

Member Present Virtually on screen: None

Members Absent: None

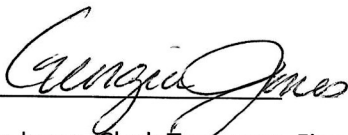
Also Present in Person: Ron Holladay, Jerry Burk

Guest Present in Person: Bill Jones, Dave Buck, Colin Sullivan, Steve Easter, Manvir Banes, Robby Snodgrass

Present virtually: Georgia Jones, Joe Kline

Electronic Means of Communication Used For Members and Public: Zoom.us

Attest:



Georgia Jones, Clerk-Treasurer, Financial Clerk