

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, August 14, 2023

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

Guests: Chris Limiac, Amanda Parker, Charlie and Trisha Hilderbrand, and by Joe Kline (virtual)

James Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Additions to the agenda include concerns brought by guests Amanda, Charlie and Trisha, and a public hearing on additional appropriation which was advertised 8/3/2023 in the Journal and Courier.

Public Hearing, Ordinance 2023-629 Additional Appropriations

Georgia Jones read the funds and amounts requested to be appropriated as advertised.

Fund 4401 Cum Capital Improvement, object 430 Improvements	\$10,400.00
Fund 2235 Casino/Riverboat, object 242	\$64,900.00
Fund 2202 Local Road & Street object 430 Improvements	\$22,000.00
Fund 2203 MVH Restricted object 420 Improvements	\$22,000.00

Charlie Hilderbrand asked if the funds appropriated to pay the final construction invoices for Tomahawk Lane means the project is complete. The complaint he submitted to Milestone Contractors was not accepted by their personnel and he asked the town to be involved in his dispute. The claim is for damage to his driveway during sidewalk construction. Steve Hahn, James Miller, a representative from Butler Fairman and Seufert will work with Charlie and Milestone to discuss what can be done. The retainage will be held until the meeting is resolved.

Hearing no other comments on the ordinance, the hearing was closed. Greg Jones moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-629 Additional Appropriations as read. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous vote of members present. Mary Jo Totten may not vote today due to virtual attendance.

Minutes

Matt Coppock moved to accept the minutes of July 10, with second of Steve Hahn. Motion carried with unanimous vote of members present. The minutes of July 17 work session were tabled, to reformat exhibit items and add them as numbered pages within the minutes document.

Guest Comment

Amanda Parker explained to the council how she felt about a series of recent events in her neighborhood and her perception of resident favoritism by the police department. Charlie and Trisha Hilderbrand echoed and expanded on Amanda's information. Trisha described her personal encounter with a dog in the street, suffering minor injury when the dog jumped on her. She had reported the incident in person at town hall, and a message was placed on the police mailbox for the next deputy on duty. She was not interviewed about the encounter at that time and is dissatisfied with the responsiveness of the police department.

Jerry Burk responded to concerns of Trisha, Amanda and Charlie and told the group he had updated department policy to require a police report any time a dog is observed loose in a neighborhood and not restrained by a fence or leash.

Ordinance violation notices and penalties may be given to pet owners at any time an animal is observed unrestrained, however the reports will track incidents over time and note patterns of behavior.

Attorney

The town may need to be proactive to help local businesses with Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) compliance. The Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission documentation for outdoor serving areas was distributed to the council by email and Eric Burns supplied draft documents from other units. He left the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Contracted Services

Information from GM Development indicates work will begin this week on the Hawks Nest lift station replacement.

Chris Limiac asked if the council had any questions about the task order developed to address potential sewer main routes from Woods Edge to the sewer plant. The order would identify opportunities for tie-on points to accommodate additional flow modification, and update the current Master Plan. The council is not ready to sign the task order at this time.

The developer for QuikTrip property requested a virtual meeting to talk about INDOT response to their traffic study for a signal on SR 43 at Northgate.

Clerk-Treasurer

The register of claims in the amount \$ 391,839.12 was reviewed. The first full loan payment for Hawks Nest \$49880.50 is included in this total, also a truck purchase \$30695.00, inspection fees for Tomahawk Lane \$52,122.50, retainage for Tomahawk Lane \$92,239.60 and expenses for the Woods Edge emergency repairs \$58,296.25. Greg Jones moved to approve the claims, with second of Matt Coppock. Motion carried with unanimous vote. A single claim for interfund loan \$130,000 from Economic Development to Sewage Operating was presented separately. Matt Coppock moved to approve this claim, with second of Steve Hahn. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

The clerk has initiated a change of telephone service from Brightspeed to VoIP technology with Mulberry Telephone (Mintel). The change will save enough fees in this calendar year to pay for new phones and router expense. Matt Coppock moved to approve the equipment purchase not to exceed \$800.00. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous vote.

Police

Jerry Burk clarified some comments regarding calls about nuisance dogs loose in neighborhoods. The new report requirements will be implemented immediately.

Utilities and Street Department

Ron Holladay needs to locate a different source for a snowplow for the new truck. The current vendor made a mistake and actually can't provide the type of Western brand plow Ron wanted. He will look for other options, perhaps Phoenix. He will arrange to have Ziebart undercoat for that truck.

The crosswalk paint still has not been delivered, so street painting is on hold. The striping machine is ready as soon as the product is available.

Diffusers on the aeration tanks will be replaced in September.

Area Plan – no report

Committees

Redevelopment Commission -

Transportation – Greg Jones moved to approve a quote package for Winans Street sidewalk from SR 255 to Tipton. Quotes would be due Sept 11 for consideration. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous vote.

Strategic Planning – The council will meet in Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 17 at town hall to consider a real estate purchase.

Guest Comment

Joe Kline asked if his plan to replace his sidewalk at 104 Main Street would be approved. He will meet with Ron Holladay to inspect the project.

Due to the late hour, the remaining agenda items will be discussed at a public work session held immediately following the Exec meeting on August 17.

Motion to adjourn 8: 07 p.m. by Steve Hahn with second of Matt Coppock.



Georgia Jones, Clerk/Treasurer



James Miller, Council President

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance
Battle Ground Town Council

Date: July 10, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present

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

Also Present in Person: Ron Holladay, Georgia Jones, Jerry Burk

Also Present virtually:

Guest Present in Person: Dave Buck, Colin Sullivan, Bill Jones

Guest Present virtually:

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

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Georgia Jones". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Georgia Jones, Clerk-Treasurer, Financial Clerk