

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, March 14, 2022

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

Guests: Dave Buck, Colin Sullivan, Kevin Riley

Guests attending virtually: Colin Dale, Wes Meyers

James Miller called to order at 6:00 p.m. Mary Jo Totten moved to open a public hearing, with second of Steve Hahn. Motion carried with unanimous agreement. The hearing is to receive public comment on a petition to vacate an easement on Northgate Court, which is for both utilities and access. Kevin Riley presented information to the council regarding the new easement and discussion included the arrangements made to relocate access for adjacent properties. There is a need to retain utility easement in the current location. Kevin affirmed the hearing was published as required and provided proof of publication. The petitioner requested both readings be on this date. After all comments were heard, Mary Jo Totten moved to close the hearing, with second of Matt Coppock. Motion carried with unanimous consent.

The council deliberated on the information presented. The council is in agreement with the petition and requested additional information that the adjacent properties and the Conservancy District are also in agreement. The ordinance to vacate would not be recorded until all parties have indicated their approval of the plan.

Mary Jo Totten **moved** to adopt Ordinance 2022-605 an Ordinance to Vacate Easements in Battle Ground, on Northgate Court. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mary Jo Totten **moved** to suspend the rules and hear Ordinance 2022-605 on second reading. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous consent.

Motion by Mary Jo Totten to adopt on second reading, Ordinance 2022-605 Ordinance to Vacate Easements in Battle Ground, on Northgate Court. Second of Matt Coppock. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Jim Miller continued the regular meeting with additions to the agenda. There were two for consideration, the proposed Farmers Market and recognition of community service.

Abby Carlyle provided information about the proposed monthly Farmer's Market at the United Methodist church parking lot on South Railroad Street. The dates are ready to advertise and she is looking for information relative to food vendors at sponsored events. The town marshal will be asked to work with the church regarding parking and traffic flow.

Greg Jones suggested the council look at ways to recognized the community service of Randal Ticen. This will be added to the April agenda.

Approval of Minutes - There was a question regarding content of the February minutes, and approval is deferred to April.

Clerk-Treasurer

Motion by Mary Jo Totten to approve the Register of Claims, February 15 to March 14 in the amount \$87,460.26. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with unanimous vote.

As agreed last June, Kim Ross has signature authority for Fountain Trust transactions and council action is needed to formally remove Beth Whitus from the signature list. Mary Jo Totten **moved** to remove Beth Whitus from the list of authorized signers. Second of Matt Coppock, motion carried with unanimous vote.

The new site will be ready March 15. The annual fee for Town Web, the prior host, will be pro-rated for 2.5 months of service and discontinued.

Attorney

1. Tree Ordinance, deferred to April
2. Financing for Tomahawk Lane. There is general agreement that the water line under Tomahawk Lane should be replaced during the stormwater and road construction project this summer. The Conservancy is not in a position at this time to provide any funding for this. If the engineering plan is limited to just replacement of the line, the cost could be covered with the recent award of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.
3. The ordinance to petition the Conservancy District for commercial area is deferred for corrections.

Following deliberation, Mary Jo Totten **moved** to approve spending up to \$225,000 of the American Rescue Plan grant for water line replacement on Tomahawk Lane. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried by roll call vote with 4 Aye and one abstain. Matt Coppock abstains due to potential conflict of interest.

Police – the monthly report indicates police calls have increased during February.

Utilities and Street Department

Ron Holladay notified the council of annual cleaning and camera work in the sewer mains of the Harrisonville section of historic Battle Ground, March 21-25. The Hawks Nest lift alarm did not function and Ron believes the change to 5g network might be a factor. The pumps were coming on every 5 minutes during parts of the February snow and rain events. The salt contract for 2023 is due March 27. Ron would like to have the salt barn reconfigured, rather than try to build at a new site. The barn needs to be taller and longer to allow each load to be dropped inside the barn as it is delivered. The replacement unit for the Main Lift Station should be delivered April 15.

Redevelopment Commission – no report this month

Area Plan – No report this month

Committees

Transportation – Greg Jones is working with Tippecanoe County for resources to complete a sidewalk installation from the schools to the Battlefield Park.

Contract Services

Utilities North of CR600N - Dave Buck is working with a developer who would like to build on the northeast corner. There is a question of access allowed by the state highway, so utility issues may be

moot. Dave will share sections of the Wastewater Master Plan to give the company an idea of the options previously considered.

CCMG 2022-1 application submitted, waiting for decision.

Hawks Nest Lift – a budget was submitted by GM Development. There is contingency built in that makes the project totals higher than previously thought, however due to current market and finance conditions it is appropriate to plan for potential higher costs. Mary Jo Totten **moved** to accept this initial budget for the public-private partnership that finances Main Street, the Main Lift station replacement, Tomahawk Lane and Hawk's Nest project in one bundle. Second of Steve Hahn, motion carried with roll call vote 4 Aye and one abstain. Matt Coppock abstained due to potential conflict of interest.

Old Business

Rate Study - The rate study committee will meet in March and provide a recommendation prior to the April meeting.

Tomahawk Lane – Thursday April 1 is the date for a community meeting to share details of the project as it gets underway. Charles Hilderbrand and Deb Sheets have agreed to serve as community liaisons.

Grants – Tippecanoe County staff will collaborate with the town to seek grants that would support needed projects. BJ Moyars will be researching safety and security grants.

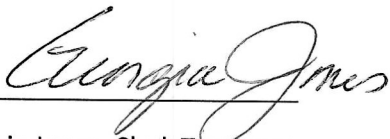
New Business

Spring Cleanup – Jerry Burk announced Spring Clean-up Day on April 23, with a rain date April 30. The police department will help collect limbs and branches from the curb. This will be on the April utility bill.

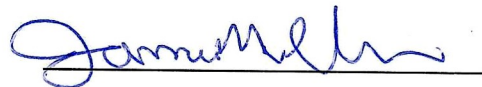
Jim Miller asked the council if there is interest to provide support for the 50th Fiddler's Gathering. This will be discussed further at the April meeting.

There was discussion of the issues caused by trees planted in the utility right of way, such as the new plantings in Shawnee Ridge. This will be addressed in the tree ordinance as it is developed.

Motion to adjourn 8:01 p.m. by Greg Jones with second of Matt Coppock.



Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer



James Miller, Council President

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance

Date: March 14, 2022

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present in person: Council President James Miller, Councilors Steve Hahn, Matt Coppock, Mary Jo Totten, and Greg Jones

Also Present: Attorney Eric Burns, Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Georgia Jones (Financial Clerk)

Guest Present in Person: Dave Buck, Colin Sullivan, and Kevin Riley

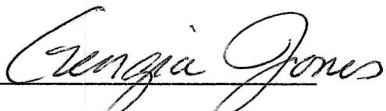
Members Present Virtually:

Guest Present virtually: Colin Dale and Wes Meyers

Absent: Jerry Burk

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

Attest:



Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer