

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

January 21, 2020
MEETING MINUTES

Town Council President John Perrin opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with the pledge to the American flag. Council members present were Mike Rogier, Scott Alspach, John Schilawski and John Perrin. Also present were Attorney Lee Robbins and Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach. Councilman Perrin offered the opening prayer. Councilman Frank Vaughn was absent.

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the January 7th meeting and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval for January 21st. Councilman Alspach moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

G. Alford, 829 Westview wants to praise new employee Bob Downey. He has helped with a couple of compliance issues and been very easy to work with. She thinks he and the new position are a great asset to our town.

OLD BUSINESS

SBOA Audit

President Perrin states that an auditor with the State Board of Accounts has just finished up a two-year audit for 2017 and 2018. The exit conference will be Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. The auditor stated that no issues were found. Perrin thanks Clerk-Treasurer Alspach and the office staff for a job well done.

Storm Water Project Requests

Emily Nelson with Wessler Engineers states that they are 90% complete with the design phase. They still need to work on obtaining an easement, getting the final archeological report and resolving a potential wetland question with the SRF. They should have the draft submittal of the Asset Management Plan ready next week.

Fence Removal

There are 3-4 properties that have installed their fences in the easement where the storm water drainage needs to be addressed. There is also a section of the drainage swale that needs to be cleared of brush, trees and an old farm type fence. Total cost to remove fences and trees/brush to rehabilitate the easement is \$9,200. If the council relocates and installs new fences for the 3 properties who currently have their fences within the easement (11 Woodridge Ct., 260 Bittersweet Dr. and 4 Bittersweet Ct.) it could cost an additional \$13,200. Council does not want to allow any fences, landscaping or structures to be put in the easement. We will be planting flowering grasses in the easement. Council directs Ms. Nelson to see if the cost of these items would be covered within the SRF project costs.

Operation Pullover Grant

Police Chief Rynerson apologizes to the council for the way this grant has been handled. Rynerson supports Operation Pullover but it was not proposed until after the 2020 budget had been submitted. He is suspending the program for 2020 and will budget funds in the 2021 budget to meet the requirements of the grant so that our department can participate in 2021.

Rename Tot Park

Council discusses a contest to rename the park. PW Supt. McCauslin states he is working on a 5-year plan for parks.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Cancellation

The May 19th Town Council is cancelled due to the circus performances that evening.

Throw Bags

Councilman Rogier recommends purchasing “throw bags” for every vehicle. These are used for water rescues and Rogier has offered to train the employees on the use of the new equipment. Council approves ordering enough for each department, approximately 22-25. Councilman Alspach moved to make this purchase and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 4 affirmative.** These will be paid for with Rainy Day funds. Councilman Rogier is looking for the life preserver rings that could be mounted to poles and placed at the Proctor Park and the Country Gate ponds that we maintain.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2020-01

Attorney Robbins presents the revised ordinance revising our current EPN ordinance on first reading and explains the changes. Councilman Alspach moves to approve the ordinance on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 4 affirmative.** This will be placed on the February 4th agenda for final approval.

Ordinance 2020-02

Attorney Robbins presents the ordinance to adopt and incorporate the State Building Codes and Regulations into the New Whiteland Town Code. Councilman Schilawski moves to adopt Ordinance 2020-02 and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 4 affirmative.** Councilman Rogier moves to suspend the rules and consider the ordinance for final approval. Councilman Alspach seconds the motion. **Vote 4 affirmative.** President Perrin reads the ordinance in title only on final reading. Motion to approve by Councilman Alspach with second by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Attorney Robbins leaves at 5:55 p.m.

Proposed Christmas Light Display

President Perrin introduces Scott Lowe, 46 Hollybrook. Mr. Lowe is proposing allowing the residents to set up a drive-thru light display in East Park during the month of December. Mr. Lowe has had several people say they would donate time, labor and materials. Council directs Lowe to put together a small committee and come back with more information. They

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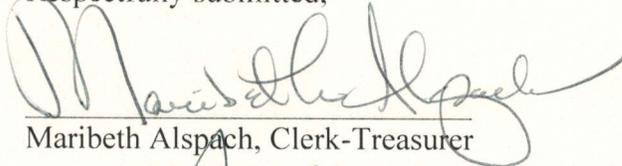
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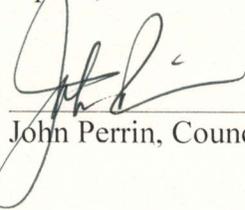
also tell him to work closely with Superintendents McCauslin and Gillock as they prepare their proposed design. PW Supt. McCauslin is unsure if we have adequate electrical in the area depending on the design. Council is in favor of the plan moving forward if it works logistically.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:


John Perrin, Council President