

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

October 15, 2019

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 John Schilawski, Scott Alspach, Mike Rogier and John Perrin. Also present was 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 October 1st meeting and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS

D. Bauman, 737 Hickory Pine is requesting a credit due to a leaking toilet. A copy of the repair receipt is presented. A one-month adjustment is \$254.99 and the council is asked to approve a second month credit if the next month's bill is higher than normal. Council approves.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval for October 15th. Councilman Rogier moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

2020 BUDGET HEARING

Council President Perrin opens the Public Hearing at 5:03 p.m. President Perrin states that the budget was approved on first reading at the last meeting. Perrin asks if there are any questions or proposed changes. There are none from the council or the public. Being no other questions or comments the hearing is closed at 5:05 p.m. Councilman Schilawski moves to adopt the proposed 2020 budget on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Trash Bid Update

Attorney Robbins has reviewed the bids and found Best Way to be the low bidder. Attorney Robbins will send the contract to Best Way for signatures. He will also notice a public hearing for our next meeting, November 5th to adopt the new rates. After some discussion it is determined that a \$0.50 administration fee will be added to the per household rates to cover the cost of billing and collecting payments for Best Way. The administration fee of \$0.25 has been held for over 8 years and the costs for postage, printing and processing the bills and employee costs have all risen significantly in that time.

Option #1 Includes Recycling once a month

Year 1 (2020)	\$ 13.71	+	\$0.50	=	\$14.21
Year 2 (2021)	\$ 14.09	+	\$0.50	=	\$14.59
Year 3 (2022)	\$ 14.48	+	\$0.50	=	\$14.98
Year 4 (2023)	\$ 14.88	+	\$0.50	=	\$15.38

Certificates of Deposit

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach reports that the CD for \$1,000,000 currently was invested at Citizen Bank at 2.25% interest for 24-months. The CD for \$900,000 was cashed out and \$750,000 was reinvested at First Financial Bank for 24 months at 2.0% interest.

1114 Ashland

Attorney Robbins was finally able to speak to a representative at Di-Tech on the 2nd mortgage that is on this piece of property. While the Hines' are not legally responsible to repay the second mortgage because of their bankruptcy, the mortgage is still attached to the property. In order to get it released and clear the title Di-Tech has offered a reduced settlement of \$16,000 which is less than what is currently owed. Di-Tech has given us a deadline of October 31st to agree to the settlement. Robbins adds that there are approximately \$3,700 worth of other liens that we would also have to clear / pay. Our contract with the Hines has expired, because of the lack of response from DiTech, and needs to be revised. Council authorizes Attorney Robbins to approach the Hines' with a revised offer wherein we would pay Di-Tech \$16,000 and settle the other debts and make a small payment to the Hines. Councilman Rogier moves to authorize Attorney Robbins to renegotiate with the Hines to spend no more than \$25,000 total to acquire the property. Councilman Schilawski seconds the motion and adds we are only willing to do so to make Tot Park more accessible. **Vote 4 affirmative.** Attorney Robbins will contact the Hines and see if he can renegotiate a deal.

Police Car

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach asks the Council if she can let Police Chief Rynerson order the new police car now that the 2020 budget has been adopted. Council approves.

NEW BUSINESS

SRF Claim / Payment Request

Kellie Robertson with Midwestern Engineers presents Claim # 22 from Mitchell & Stark for approval. Claim is in the amount of \$187,738.24. Council approves.

Mark Sullivan with Midwestern states that \$1,600,000 or the contract amount of \$1,640,000 has been paid. He presents the Substantial Completion Certificate for approval. Clerk-Treasurer Alspach asks if Utility Supt. Gillock has approved the Substantial Completion Certificate and Sullivan states he got Supt. Gillock's approval by phone. Sullivan states this will allow Mitchell & Stark to activate the one-year warranties on the new equipment. Sullivan adds that the Change Order was approved and work should be completed by the next council meeting. Motion by Councilman Rogier to approve the Substantial Completion Certificate. Councilman Alspach seconds the motion. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2019-12

Attorney Robbins reads and explains this ordinance that reflects the changes to our current Zoning Ordinance recommended by the Plan Commission. It addresses permitted uses that were missing including schools, repair of recreational vehicles and garage sales. This ordinance allows no more than one (1) garage sale per month at any residence. Garage sales may last no more than 4 days, hours restricted to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and garage sales cannot be held in consecutive weeks. Signage must clearly identify the dates and address of the garage

sale. There is some discussion on whether garage sales should be limited to 3 days rather than 4 but no changes are made. Councilman Rogier moves to approve Ordinance 2019-12 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 4 affirmative.** This item will be placed on the November 5th agenda.

Resolution 2019-7

Attorney Robbins presents the Resolution amending the Employee Manual to allow police officers one (1) to three (3) twelve (12) hour days for bereavement leave depending on the circumstances. Civilian employees remain at one (1) to three (3) eight (8) hour days. Councilman Rogier moves to approve Resolution 2019-7 and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Transfer Memo – Wastewater

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents and explains the transfer memorandum. Motion to approve by Councilman Alspach with a second by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: _____
John Perrin, Council President