

**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
OCTOBER 6, 2021
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 Perrin, John Schilawski, Chad Waltz, Dennis Combs and Scott Alspach. Also present were Attorney Lee Robbins and Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach. Councilman Alspach offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Councilman Alspach moves to approve the minutes of the September 1st meeting and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the September 9th budget workshop meeting and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS

R. Herring, 177 Hilltop Farms Blvd. is asking to be removed from cash only basis. The check that was returned was because his account had been compromised. Mr. Herring has documentation from the bank. Council agrees to remove cash only status.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for October 6th for approval. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCILMAN

Council President Perrin introduces Dennis Combs our newest councilman who is representing Ward IV.

2022 BUDGET FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach asks if there are any questions on the budgets that have been submitted by the various department heads and approved on first reading September 1st. Revisions made at the budget workshop have been made. Being no questions from the council or the public Councilman Waltz moves to approve the 2022 budget on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

OLD BUSINESS

PILOT Program

Attorney Robbins explains that when the town funded the storm water project instead of financing the project through the State Revolving Fund to delay raising residential rates due to the pandemic, they agreed to set up a PILOT Program to repay those funds within a year. Since the town is tax exempt, we do not collect taxes on the property or assets at the utility plant. Indiana Code allows us to collect money from the utility as a Payment In Lieu of Taxes. Attorney Robbins will reach out to financial consultant Steve Brock and have him prepare a calculation of the payment amount based on the Asset Management Plans done by Midwestern and Wessler Engineers in 2020. He will ask Mr. Brock to have rate increase options ready for the November 3rd meeting.

Playground Equipment Proposal

PW Supt. McCauslin states there is only one (1) vendor that carries the equipment so we will not need to do an RFP. McCauslin did reach out to two (2) other vendors to try and get proposals. The total cost of the project is \$268,554.42 broken into two (2) phases.

McCauslin is asking that we proceed with the purchase of the playground equipment at a cost of \$162,378.42 with money available in this year's budget (CCD, Rainy Day and Parks) and delay the purchase of the fall barrier until 2022. Money has been budgeted for the complete project in 2022. We can repay CCD and Rainy Day with the Parks money in 2022.

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve Supt McCauslin's proposals and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

NEW BUSINESS

CD Renewal

Our CD at First Financial matures October 11th. After checking rates with multiple banks, Clerk-Treasurer Alspach recommends reinvesting \$750,000.00 at Citizen's Bank for 24 months at a 0.40 interest rate. Should the interest rates improve during the term of the CD, Citizens has agreed to let us re-invest with no penalty. Councilman Alspach moves to approve and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Part-Time Consultant Position

President Perrin would like to offer Maribeth Alspach a part-time consultant position to assist in the transition when she leaves office. Perrin would like to offer her \$27.50 per hour. Councilman Waltz moves to approve and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

ARP (American Rescue Plan) Request

Utility Supt. Gillock states we will need to adopt a resolution before we can proceed.

Attorney Robbins states we did pass a resolution to accept the funds. We will need to adopt a plan that details any project that we are planning to use the money for. Supt. Gillock will need to provide Attorney Robbins with a description of the proposed project so that a plan can be drafted for approval. Robbins reminds the council that we have 4-5 years to spend the money so there is no reason to rush to spend it.

President Perrin asks about plant capacity after two years of I & I repairs. Supt. Gillock states that we are at 64% capacity per IDEM.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2101-05

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the transfer ordinance and explains. Councilman Waltz moves to adopt Ordinance 2101-05 and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Schilawski moves to suspend the rules and consider the ordinance on final reading. Councilman Waltz seconds the motion. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

President Perrin reads the ordinance in title only on final reading. Councilman Alspach moves to adopt Ordinance 2101-05 and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Town Council
Page Three
October 6, 2021

Ordinance 2101-06

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach reads the and explains the 2022 salary ordinance. Councilman Waltz moves to adopt Ordinance 2101-06 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.** This item will be placed on the November 3rd agenda.

Utility Transfer Memo

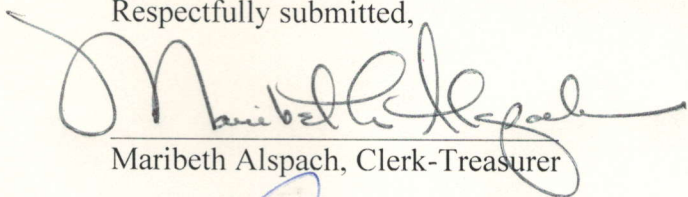
Clerk-Treasurer presents the transfer memo and explains. Motion to approve the transfers by Councilman Schilawski and seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

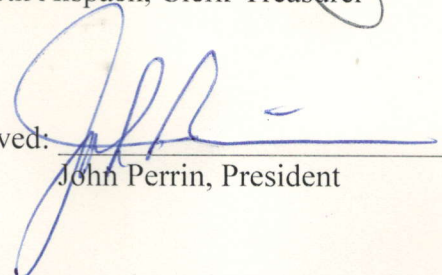
None.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, President