**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**November 17, 2015**

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

**MINUTES**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the November 3rd meeting and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

**HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS**

None.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for ratification and/or approval. Councilman Rogier moves to approve and ratify both and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

401 Mooreland Drive

Attorney Robbins has had further discussions with Mike Huter and was referred to Chris Badger with Badger Engineering who has a lot of experience with flood plain and drainage issue projects. After further research we need to address only that corner of the building that is exposed to water in a flood event. Mr. Badger was the former City Engineer at Carmel and has worked with the FEMA Regional Manager on similar flood plain issues in the past. In the discussion with Attorney Robbins, Mr. Badger stated he would be willing to come down to assess the building and identify the problem area and prepare a shortlist of options on how to address and correct the problem. His hourly rate is around $139 / hour and he has agreed to a Not-to-exceed fee of $300.00 for the initial work.

Lee has spoken with the attorney for Habitat for Humanity and asked, if the Assembly Hall room were removed, would they still be interested in the building. They would not, they want to preserve as much of that area as possible. Councilman Rogier moves to authorize Badger Engineering to do the initial analysis and present possible options for solutions for a Not-to-exceed amount of $300.00 and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

300 Tracy Road

Attorney Robbins has spoken with the realtor. A “Call for Offers” went out with offers due on November 13th. No offers were received. Council approves sending out a second request.

2015 Street Overlay

Town Manager Spencer states all work has been completed.

Public Work Storage Building

Public Works Supt. Johnson states the building will be finished by the end of the week. He is requesting another Change Order to add Snow Bars to the roof to keep the accumulated ice

and snow from pulling off the gutters at a cost of $1,043.00. Councilman Schilawski asks if the work could be done in house at a lesser expense. Johnson says we do not have the materials or the expertise. Councilman Rogier moves to approve the Change Order and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Councilman Rogier asks about schedule for demolition of the old street garage. Public Works Supt. Johnson states all utilities have been disconnected. Demo is scheduled for December or January and should not take more than 30 days. Demo is for the building only, not the fencing.

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Police Car

Town Marshal Stephenson reports the new car is at Waymire’s for the equipment to be installed. Repairs to Officer Polley’s car should be finished this week.

Republic Waste Removal

Town Manager Spencer states that a draft copy of the trifold flier Republic plans to send out mid- December is in tonight’s packet. Spencer asks that council review and notify him of any changes or corrections. Republic will be mailing out postcards the week of December 7th and the trifold will go out when the new totes are delivered.

Spencer states Rumpke will pick up their recycling totes on the first pick up in December (December 2nd, 3rd and 4th) and will pick up the trash totes the last pick up of December (12/26, 12/30 and 12/31). Republic plans to deliver the new totes the week of December 14th. They are trying to get the recycle totes a week earlier and deliver them the week of December 7th.

Employee Christmas Party

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states the invitations were mailed and 13 employees / elected officials have sent in their RSVP cards. She has reached out to approximately 40 businesses requesting door prizes. Councilman Perrin has secured a Santa suit and Marshal Stephenson and his wife will be taking family photos during the event. RSVPs must be received no later than November 30th.

Public Access Counselor Complaint

Attorney Robbins states that Laurie Morrison filed two (2) complaints with the Public Access Counselor. Attorney Robbins has responded to both on the Town’s behalf with supporting documentation to show that the complaints are unfounded. Attorney Robbins will advise the Council when he receives a response from the Public Access Counselor’s office.

Squad 11

Fire Chief Wilson states that Greene’s Auto Repair diagnosed an electrical problem and has ordered the necessary parts. The vehicle should be back in service within the next two (2) weeks. Wilson adds that all of the firefighters have been trained on the new SCBA equipment and the old equipment has been traded in. Owens Communications is updating the fire department’s automated dispatching system. The Bargersville Fire Department oversees the Life Alert Program in Johnson County. We have one child in town that is in their system and he was unaccounted for almost 4 hours last Friday night. Multiple agencies assisted with locating him. Bargersville has loaned New Whiteland one of the tracking devices to use if necessary in the future. Wilson states the tracking device costs around $1,500.00 and other agencies have purchased them with either grant money or with donated funds.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states that she and Town Managers Spencer and Gabehart met with representatives of ARA (Administrative Resources Association) to discuss grant opportunities. Each councilmember has been given a copy of the materials that were shared in that meeting. Cities and Towns must apply to be accepted into this association and the annual fee is $3,000.00. The Town of Whiteland is considering applying and we would like our council to consider it as well. One program that was very appealing to us was a 90/10 matching grant for repairs to homes of the elderly or financially challenged to allow them to stay in their homes. This item will be placed on the December 1st agenda.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2015-11

Attorney Robbins explains the trash and recycling rate ordinance on final reading. Robbins states that the ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading on November 3rd. A Notice of Public Hearing was published and posted for tonight’s meeting. Robbins summarizes the ordinance and

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breaks out the monthly fee per dwelling for each of the four years of the contract. Vice President Alspach opens the public hearing at 5:55 p.m. and asks if there are any questions or comments. Andrew Moorman, 642 Saraina, asks if it would be possible to go to a bi-monthly pickup for both trash and recyclables. He states they generate much more recyclables than trash and could use a second recycling pick up. Attorney Robbins explains that the contract was let in September and the schedule cannot be changed now. He adds that Mr. Moorman may want to participate in discussions when the contract is renegotiated in the future. Councilman Alspach states that Mr. Moorman can contact the hauler for a second tote. Being no other comments, the Public Hearing is closed at 6:00 p.m. Motion to approve Ordinance 2015-11 on final reading by Councilman Schilawski with second by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2015-12

Clerk Treasurer Alspach presents and explains the 2016 salary ordinance on final reading. Motion to approve by Councilman Rogier with second by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2015-13

Clerk Treasurer Alspach presents and explains the transfer ordinance on first reading. Motion to approve by Councilman Rogier with second by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.** This item will be placed on the December 1st agenda.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

John Perrin, Council President