

**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL  
DECEMBER 4, 2024  
MEETING MINUTES**

Town Council President John Perrin opened the meeting at 5:00p.m. with the pledge to the American flag. Council members present were John Perrin, John Purdie, Dennis Combs and Chad Waltz. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss and Attorney Lee Robbins. Councilman Schilawski was absent. Councilman Purdie offered the opening prayer.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Purdie moves to approve the minutes of the November 6<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents copies of the December 4, 2024 Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Purdie moves to approve and ratify the December 4, 2024 Fund Report and Docket and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Council President Perrin opens the Public Hearing at 5:06pm. Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss explains that the additional appropriation is to obligate any remaining American Rescue Plan Funds per the requirements of the State Board of Accounts. Being no other questions or comments the hearing is closed at 5:08pm. Attorney Robbins has noticed the newspaper of tonight's public hearing and Resolution 2024-09 will be introduced tonight under Legislative Business.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Property & Liability Insurance**

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock shares that he received a quote from Mayfield Insurance which has been sent to Council's email in advance of the meeting. There was an introductory meeting with Gibson Insurance. They plan to attend the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting and do a presentation. Councilman Purdie suggests we have each insurance company attend the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting so Council can hear what they each have to offer.

**ARPA Funds**

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin refers to the motion made at the previous meeting regarding the ARPA funds. That motion was a decision by Council to use any remaining ARPA funds for the purpose of road projects, specifically Tracy Road, if possible, in conjunction with CCMG. Since that meeting, we have been made aware that that decision does not meet the guidelines for obligating the remaining funds. Obligations are required to have specific contracts in place by the end of this year. Kellie Robertson with GRW, who has handled the ARPA reporting for the Town, is here to answer any questions. Ms. Robertson shares that whatever projects or items are chosen by Council to purchase need bids and contracts attached to a purchase order with specific amounts. The funds cannot be held simply for a designated purpose. Council could also choose to spend the ARPA funds by making purchases of items for the Town. PW Supt. McCauslin states that we might need to schedule a special meeting before the end of the year for Council to make further decisions regarding the ARPA funds. Attorney Robbins asks about what debt the Town has in order to consider retiring an existing debt with the funds. There are 2: the SRF loan for the wastewater plant and the Fire Truck. Attorney Robbins reminds Council that they are not constrained to use the money on roads. He states that we can always do an additional appropriation next year in order to have the funds PW Supt. McCauslin will need for the CCMG road project if he needs more than what was already assigned to the 2025 budget. He further shares that Council can choose to buy items with the funds. Councilman Purdie notes that they approved the purchase of a police car for next year and asks if we could use the ARPA

funds to go ahead and make that purchase. He wonders about any additional capital purchases the Town needs to make. PW Supt McCauslin had been looking into the purchase of a brine maker and attachment which would be a better more cost-effective way to pre-treat roads prior to inclement weather. Attorney Robbins stresses that it would be simpler for Council to find stuff to purchase, items, rather than projects. Due to the deadline of needing specific contracts by the end of the year, it seems difficult if not impossible to obligate the remaining funds with projects at this time. Councilman Purdie asks if it would make sense to schedule a special meeting two weeks from tonight and give department heads time to collect quotes for items to consider. Council President Perrin agrees and notes that if we're able to use some of the money to retire one of the debts that would save on interest costs. He states that we will plan on having a Special Meeting on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm to discuss the options further.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### BZA Appointment

Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss shares that Mike Ryle submitted a letter indicating his interest in serving another term on the Board of Zoning Appeals. The letter was included in their meeting packets. Councilman Waltz moves to re-appoint Mike Ryle to the BZA and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

#### January Meeting Date

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss shares that she looked at the calendar for next year and all of the meeting dates which occur on the first Wednesday of each month. She noted that the first Wednesday of the month in January occurs on a holiday, New Year's Day, and asks if Council would like to officially move that meeting date to Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> instead. Council agrees.

#### Code Enforcement

Councilman Purdie states that he attended the recent Plan Commission meeting. After the meeting one of the members approached Councilman Purdie about code violations within the Town. He asks if our Code Enforcement Officer should be driving around looking for potential violations or if the Town waits to receive calls of complaints? Council President Perrin says there are various applications. Our Code Enforcement Officer should be glancing around at the Town. However, anyone, including Council members, can contact him to let him know of a violation that they see.

#### Technical Difficulties During Meeting

Public Works Superintendent McCauslin wants to state on record that we are having technical difficulties with the meeting room computer and camera that provide a livestream to our YouTube channel. People who are watching the meeting live are reporting that they cannot see anything. They can only hear the audio. PW Supt. McCauslin has already contacted our IT provider who will fix the issue tomorrow.

#### Annual Certifications

Attorney Lee Robbins shares that he sent an email to all Council members with their annual certifications which need to be signed and returned by the end of the year. They can bring their signed copies to the Special Meeting scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Resolution 2024-09

Additional Appropriation, American Rescue Plan Account Fund

The additional appropriation was introduced during tonight's public hearing. Councilman Combs moves to approve Resolution 2024-09 and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2024-08

Annexation Ordinance

Attorney Lee Robbins presents the Annexation Ordinance for final reading. The purpose of Ordinance 2024-08 is to annex into the Town of New Whiteland 160 acres at the northwest intersection of Sawmill and Whiteland Road. This is also the location of the proposed development. A public hearing for the Annexation was held on September 4<sup>th</sup> and a Fiscal Plan was adopted on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Combs moves to pass Ordinance 2024-08 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 3 affirmative & 1 dissenting**

Ordinance 2024-09

Pleasant Creek PUD Ordinance

Attorney Lee Robbins presents the Pleasant Creek PUD Ordinance for final reading. He shares that the Plan Commission considered this ordinance at a public hearing on November 21<sup>st</sup>. The Plan Commission members voted by majority to approve the proposed PUD ordinance and to send Council a favorable recommendation. Mark Gradison with Gradison Land Development is here to address the issue of rentals and to answer any questions. The following items were noted:

- There will be a vinyl fence surrounding the wastewater treatment plant
- A traffic study will be completed next week and developers will do the road improvements the study deems necessary.
- No company shall own more than 2 homes in the neighborhood including affiliates.
- A maximum of 10% of homes in an area can be leased at a time.
- The \$75,000 set aside for trails will either be backed by a bond or put in an interest-bearing escrow account with a letter of credit.

Councilman Perrin moves to pass Ordinance 2024-09 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 3 affirmative & 1 dissenting**

Ordinance 2024-10

2025 Salary Ordinance

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents the 2025 Salary Ordinance for final reading. Councilman Purdie moves to pass Ordinance 2024-10 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2024-11

Transfer Ordinance

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents the transfer ordinance and explains. Councilman Purdie moves to approve Ordinance 2024-11 and is seconded by Councilman Combs. Ordinance 2024-11 is passed with unanimous consent and unanimous vote of all four (4) members of the Town Council present.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

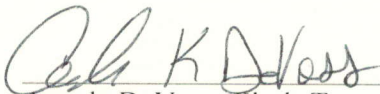
Bob Matthews, 1052 Hilltop Commons, states he is the president of the HOA for Hilltop Commons. He takes part in the Wreaths Across America program which is a nonprofit that honors fallen heroes by sponsoring wreaths. He would like to place 3 wreaths at Proctor Park and asks permission to do so. Council approves.

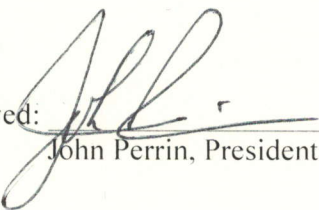
Bob Matthews, 1052 Hilltop Commons, asks regarding the PUD Ordinance adopted tonight and the development plans if there will be an entrance in the Break-O-Day subdivision. The developer shares that there will be an entrance. Mr. Matthews is concerned about the increase in traffic.

Amanda Srichareon, 49 Grassy Dr., is a resident of Break-O-Day. She expresses concerns about the entrance from Break-O-Day into the new development. She asks if there is anything that can be done to stop the entrance. It was her understanding that there were 2 entrances planned into the new subdivision. Council shares that 1 of those entrances is an emergency entrance only. Council President Perrin states that the stub-out in the Break-O-Day addition was put there for a reason and that was to connect to another development in the future. He had considered that issue but wonders if the entrance would actually cause more traffic for the new development using the path as an alternate way to access the neighborhood as there is currently only one access route.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43pm by Council President John Perrin.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Angela DeVoss, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:   
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John Perrin, President