**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**February 21, 2017**

**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, Frank Vaughn, Mike Rogier and Scott Alspach. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach and Attorney Lee Robbins. Councilman Alspach offered the opening prayer.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the February 7th meeting and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Alspach moves to approve the minutes of the February 13th special meeting and is seconded by Councilman Vaughn. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

**HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS**

T. Taylor, 710 Sweetbriar is requesting an adjustment due to a leaking faucet. A bill for the repairs is presented. Council approves a credit in the amount of $130.80.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the February 21st Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Vaughn. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Storywalk

Tiffany Wilson, Branch Manager of the Clark Pleasant Branch of the Johnson County Library announces that they have received funding approval for the proposed Storywalk at Country Gate Park. She adds that this will be a joint project with an Eagle Scout and hopefully a local Rotary Club. She notes there will be 18 – 20 stops throughout the park where parents will stop with their children and read a couple of pages from the selected book or do an activity. She notes that Storywalks have already been installed in both Greenwood and Franklin and are being planned for Trafalgar and Edinburgh. President Perrin asks Ms. Wilson to provide a materials list for the project and she agrees to bring one to the next meeting.

COPGEARS Invoice

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states that the 2017 Dodge Charger has had all of the new equipment installed and that the 2017 Ford Taurus is being finished now. She asks for approval to pay the invoices out of the Rainy Day Fund as previously discussed. Council approves.

I & I / Wastewater Project Funding

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the requested engineering quotes that were provided by Midwestern Engineers and asks that any decision be tabled until all data used in the I & I Study can be verified. President Perrin states that he was just notified by the PW Supt. that the effluent meter may be reading incorrectly again. Perrin suggests looking for an outside consultant that could assess the plant, our equipment, operations, practices, etc. PW Supt. Johnson states that he has been manually checking the effluent meter reading the last 7 days

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and it is running 286,000 gal / minute higher that the manual calculation which equates to a false reading of 10,000,000 gal / month. Councilman Vaughn states he believes we need to have the plant checked out from A – Z and identify any repairs or replacements that need to be made as well as establish a written maintenance program along with a replacement schedule for budgeting. He also feels that all sewer infrastructure must be filmed with a camera system and any needed repairs identified and repaired before bidding a contract for lining the lines and starting this project.

He recommends addressing the physical plant repairs first, then filming the lines and then bidding the lining of the sewer mains if funding is available.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2017-02

This item is tabled for the March 7th meeting. Attorney Robbins will email council a comparison from the original ordinance and the one being presented tonight.

Resolution 2017-01

Attorney Robbins introduces the resolution that amends Resolution 2013-9 requiring owners of abutting property to construct or repair sidewalks. Robbins notes that this resolution first passed in 2013 was an adoption of state statute. Tonight’s resolution merely transfers the authority originally given to a Town Manager to the Town Council or their designated agent. Councilman Rogier moves to adopt Resolution 2017-01 and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative**. Attorney Robbins will prepare a corrective order for the sidewalk on Warwick for the March 7th meeting.

One Stop Auto Repair

Attorney Robbins reports that the property has made significant progress in cleaning up the property. Council President Perrin states that he was on the property earlier today and that they are moving cars in and out. The tenant is asking for patience and states they will be completely moved out within 6 months. This will be addressed at the Plan Commission meeting as it is a zoning violation.

Attorney Robbins and Councilman Schilawski leave at 5:45 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mandatory Training

Councilman Alspach recommends requiring all employees to have a certain number of hours of mandatory training each year. Alspach notes that the Police and Fire Departments are required to do this already and believes we should have a similar policy for all other departments. Council suggests starting with a minimum of 16 hours per year. They will specify some areas of required training and the department head can add to that to reach or exceed the minimum hours required. Council directs Clerk-Treasurer Alspach to notify Attorney Robbins that this will need to be added to the Employee Handbook.

Sick Leave

PW Supt Johnson states that one of his employees had a stepfather in the hospital last week for 4 days. The employee had to be off work to care for his mother who is blind and needs

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insulin and had to be driven to the hospital to visit her husband. Johnson says he has paperwork from the hospital and asks if he can use sick leave. Councilman Vaughn states council has no choice due to FMLA. Council approves request.

National Night Out

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach reports that the first planning meeting was held – lots of good ideas being investigated. A proposed schedule will be presented in March.

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach introduces Dennis Montgomery to the council. Mr. Montgomery is one of two new appointees to the Plan Commission. Council welcomes him and thanks him for his willingness to serve.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

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

John Perrin, Council President