

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
MARCH 5, 2025
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 Schilawski, John Purdie, Dennis Combs, and Chad Waltz. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Angela DeVoss and Attorney Lee Robbins. Councilman Purdie offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents copies of the March 5, 2025 Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Purdie moves to approve and ratify the March 5, 2025 Fund Report and Docket and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

OLD BUSINESS

First Responders Memorial Project

Maribeth Alspach, Chairperson of the Proctor Park Committee, gives Council an update to the First Responders Project. She shares a timeline of the project, a report of funds received as well as expenses for the project, which was completed under budget. Mrs. Alspach also shares an invoice from UpLift Johnson County in the amount of \$8,089.00. UpLift currently has a balance of \$19,000.00 in donations for this project in their holding account. They need to retain \$5,000.00 for the Community Celebration. Mrs. Alspach asks if UpLift should retain the invoice amount (\$8,089) out of the final transfer and make a check out to the Town for \$5,911. Or, would the Town prefer that UpLift pay the \$14,000.00 and have the Town make a check out to UpLift for the invoice of \$8,089. Council President Perrin states that he prefers that we pay the invoice to UpLift. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve payment of the invoice to UpLift and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Maribeth Alspach also shares about the community celebration event. The committee is considering Sunday, August 3rd. That date is two days before National Night Out, which is on Tuesday, August 5th, so Council asks if the celebration could be held on a different day. After discussion of various dates, it is decided to have the celebration on Saturday, September 13th which is the same date as the Sheriff's Charity Ride.

Flood Insurance – starts 24:44

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock shares that he discovered that Mayfield, our new property insurance broker, did not include flood insurance in their quote. There are 2 flood policies necessary. One is for the biosolids building and one is for the maintenance garage. Both of these buildings are in the flood plain. If Council approves, Mayfield will give us documents for Council President Perrin to sign as well as cancellation documents for our current flood insurance company. Utility Supt. Gillock further adds that Mayfield also did not include a quote for the Police Department accident and sickness policy which is an additional \$389.00 annually. He's waiting on another quote which is a similar policy for the Fire Department. Utility Supt. Gillock shares that the total amount saved will be just under \$7,000.00 annually, which is less than what we previously anticipated saving. Councilman Combs moves to approve the above new policies and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Annual On-Call with Wessler

Utility Superintendent Matt Gillock shares that the Town has hired Wessler for on-call services since 2009 for the MS4 program. They help with the annual report and keeping the facility compliant with IDEM. The service this year will include setting up a tracking system on the GIS for inspections which will make it easier to do the annual reports going forward. Utility Supt. Gillock states that he budgets for this service every year and asks Council approval. This year the cost is estimated to be around \$15,000. Councilman Purdie moves to approve the on-call service with Wessler and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Bond Renewal

Clerk-Treasurer DeVoss presents surety bond renewals for Melissa McCarty and Cindy Yates. These will need to be signed by Councilmembers and then she will file them with the county Clerk. Councilman Purdie moves to approve the bonds and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

NEW BUSINESS

Sewer Hookup Request

Andy Barnhart comes before the Council tonight to ask for permission to connect to the sanitary sewer line at a property he recently purchased, which is outside the Town's boundaries. He purchased the former Kloess property on 75 West. His plan is to build a house a little farther back on the property and he is donating the current home to the Fire Department to use to burn for training. There is discussion as to whether to include, as part of the approval, for Mr. Barnhart to agree to waive the right to remonstrate against any future annexation. Mr. Barnhart is not interested in annexation and would prefer to be able to keep the property in the jurisdiction of Johnson County. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the sanitary sewer line hookup request and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Use of East Park

Kevin Surface approaches Council with a request on behalf of Charlie and Michelle Edmunds, members of his church, Rocklane Christian Church. He asks Council for permission to use East Park for a fundraiser for Elijah, Charlie and Michelle's 4-year-old grandson, who has been diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a type of cancer. Elijah is currently at Riley and doctors have stated he has a severe case. Elijah's mom, Beka, works for Clark Pleasant School Corporation. She lost her husband in August, 2023 due to a rare blood clot disorder. Mr. Surface would like to have this fundraiser on June 21st to help lessen the financial burden on Beka during this time. Councilman Schilawski asks if the Town is insured for activities such as bounce houses. Attorney Robbins states that we are covered through our property and liability insurance. Councilman Purdie moves to approve the use of East Park for this fundraiser at no cost and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Community Crossing Matching Grant

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin shares that he received a phone call from INDOT and found out that his project will get funded. The bidding will be advertised on Saturday. Bids will be opening March 26, 2025 at 4:15pm. They cannot award the contract until they receive funds and have a Purchase Order. He notes that the procedure is different this year.

IMPO Check Presentation

Public Works Superintendent Duane McCauslin states that the IMPO (Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization) wants to do a check presentation ceremony for the round-about project. The ceremony is scheduled for the end of March. He will send details to Council if they would like to attend. Construction will probably not begin until 2028.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2025-01

Non-Emergency Calls

Lee Robbins introduces the ordinance he created to address the resent issues with an increase in non-emergency calls to a long-term care facility. Fire Chief Curin states that previously it was their rule that if a nurse was not present, staff had to call 911 for any lift assists. Now there is a new director of nursing and there are more nurses on staff. The procedure has changed in such a way they are not getting as many non-emergency calls. Council asks whether the ordinance is still necessary. There is discussion regarding whether to go ahead and have the ordinance in place for any future issues. Chief Curin asks if they want to write an ordinance for one single situation or take more time and expand the ordinance to cover all nuisance type calls. Council decides to postpone the ordinance for non-emergency calls to allow for further review.

Resolution 2025-01

State Revolving Fund

Attorney Lee Robbins presents a Resolution authorizing Council President John Perrin to act on behalf of the Town for the required documents in regards to the SRF Loan process for planned infrastructure improvement projects to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Councilman Purdie moves to approve Resolution 2025-01 and is seconded by Councilman Combs. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

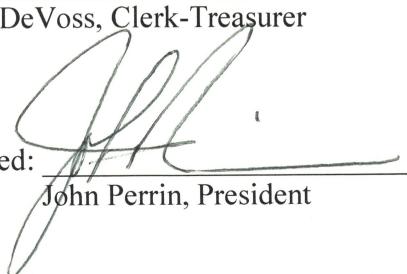
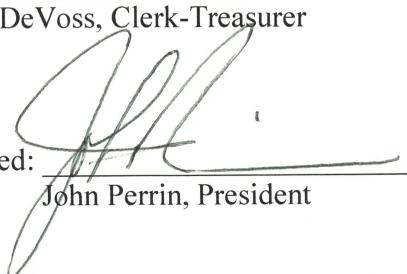
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm by Council President John Perrin.

Respectfully submitted,


Angela DeVoss, Clerk-Treasurer


Approved: 
John Perrin, President