

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

April 21, 2020
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 Mike Rogier, Scott Alspach, John Schilawski, Frank Vaughn and John Perrin. Also present were Attorney Lee Robbins and Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach. Councilman Alspach offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the March 3rd meeting and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS

None.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval for April 21st. Council also needs to ratify the dockets and fund reports for March 17th and April 7th. Councilman Alspach moves to approve and ratify all reports and is seconded by Councilman Vaughn. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

OLD BUSINESS

Storm Water Availability Fee Proposal

Attorney Robbins explains the difference between a connection / hook on fee and an availability fee. The availability fee allows to recoup part of our historical costs for the utility from any new connections. Council asks that Steve Brock attend the May 5th meeting to explain the report.

Cumulative Capital Development Fund

Attorney Robbins states that he will re-introduce the ordinance to re-establish the rate. There is some language that needs to be added to the public notice and we will re-advertise and schedule a public hearing for May 5th.

NEW BUSINESS

Pond Treatment Contract

PW Supt. McCauslin has submitted two (2) contracts for approval from Aquatic Services of Indiana (ASI). The first is to treat the pond at Country Gate for algae. It is a two (2) year contract for \$1,325 / year. The second is to treat the riprap at Proctor Park. The cost is \$240 per treatment and these will only be done when scheduled by McCauslin. Councilman Rogier asks if this is the same company we have used in the past? It is not as they had increased their prices. Attorney Robbins commends PW Supt. McCauslin for his work to find a new vendor at a better cost. Councilman Alspach moves to approve both contracts and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Clerk-Treasurer Report

All councilmen have received a proposed salary ordinance amendment to adjust the pay of the New Whiteland police officers. Clerk-Treasurer Alspach has prepared four (4) proposals for the council's consideration. She offers to answer any questions they might have. After some discussion Councilman Rogier moves to approve Option #4 and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2020-04

Attorney Robbins explains the ordinance allowing us to suspend the late fees on our utility bills due to the financial difficulties several of our residents are suffering due to COVID-19. Attorney Robbins has checked with Susan Gordon with State Board of Accounts and we can write off the penalties but we need to show the late fees on the bill and then "forgive" them. We will have a message on the bill explaining that while the penalties appear on the bill, the customer need only pay the lesser amount. The ordinance also adds that we will not be doing disconnects for non-payment until further notice for the same reason. Councilman Vaughn moves to approve the ordinance on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Alspach.

Vote 5 affirmative.

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

Council President Perrin presents the ordinance in title only on final reading. Councilman Rogier moves to approve the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Council President Perrin thanks Attorney Robbins for his hard work in getting this ordinance drafted and in researching the proper procedure with the State Board of Accounts.

Ordinance 2020-05

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the ordinance declaring certain items surplus and allowing for disposal. An employee has asked to purchase the two (2) cell phones listed. Councilman Rogier moves to approve the ordinance on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

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

Council President Perrin presents the ordinance in title only on final reading. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.** Council states that there is no charge for the two (2) surplus phones and the employee may have them.

Ordinance 2020-06

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the ordinance that will amend the 2020 salary ordinance. Councilman Alspach moves to approve the ordinance on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

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

Council President Perrin presents the ordinance in title only on final reading. Councilman Vaughn moves to approve the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

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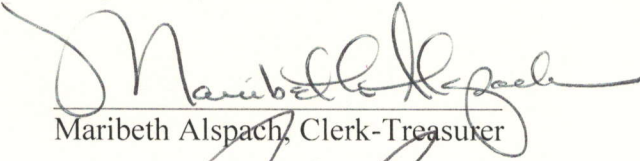
4/21/2020

Councilman Alspach recommends having Compliance Officer Downey shadow the building inspector at Bargersville to be trained on footer inspections before the new subdivisions get started. Council agrees.

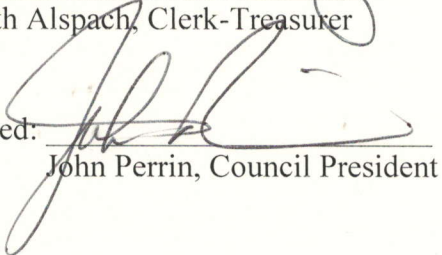
Clerk-Treasurer Alspach has received proposals from four (4) local banks. Citizens Bank has no fees, meets all of our needs and is offering the highest interest rate. Council asks why we are changing banks. Alspach states MainSource sold out to First Financial. First Financial has drastically cut our interest rate, will no longer provide courier service and will begin charging fees which we have never been charged. They are no longer the hometown bank that MainSource was.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer



Approved: John Perrin, Council President