

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

APRIL 6, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

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

MINUTES

Councilman Purdie moves to approve the minutes of the March 9th and 28th meetings and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for April 6th for approval. Councilman Combs moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Purdie. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

JCPL ANNUAL UPDATE

Lisa Lintner, Director of JCPL, gave updates on the library. They broke ground on the new Clark-Pleasant branch in March, 2021 and now the project is finished. The new meeting room has space for 100. Grand-opening / ribbon cutting was March 5, 2022. The adult learning center is now based in the new Clark-Pleasant branch. Even with the pandemic they're still checking out more than 1 million items per year. They just completed an online resource for students to learn about skilled trades (partnered with Aspire). There is a native seed library and seed packets are available at all branches. Last summer they partnered with other organizations in Johnson County to do The Great Park Quest, which brought patrons to parks all over Johnson County. This Saturday they have a flag dedication ceremony at 1pm. Lisa left a brochure showing more upcoming programs. They had a successful fundraising campaign of \$100,000.00 to add a Robotics Learning Lab. They also hosted COVID-19 vaccine clinics. They do have an interested buyer for the old Clark-Pleasant branch building. Councilman Schilawski asks if there have been more people visiting the new branch. Lisa says they've issued over 300 new library cards in the first 3 weeks and they usually have 60 library cards per month. There has been at least a 50% increase in door count.

OLD BUSINESS

Coordination Proposals for ARP Funding

Utility Supt. Gillock presents two (2) proposals for the reporting paperwork for the ARPA funds. Supt. Gillock adds that the first reports are due April 30th.

Kleinpeter Consulting has a do not exceed fee of \$10,000.00 and GRW's proposal is for a not to exceed amount of \$4500.00. Kellie Robertson is here from GRW to explain the reporting requirements. The GRW proposal should take us through 2024, however some projects might also qualify for SRF funding which could result in additional SRF fees. If we elect the loss of revenue option, we would only need basic reporting. Attorney Robbins explains that initially we were restricted on what we can use the ARP money for; storm water, wastewater improvements or broadband, all infrastructure. The requirements were recently expanded to allow a Lost Revenue option that will allow the council to allocate those funds to most government expenditures. Attorney Robbins has prepared an ordinance to select that option should the council choose to do so. Councilman Purdie asked if there is reduced paperwork will we still need the help; Clerk-Treasurer Alspach says she recommends that we do – it

helps to have everything done right for auditing; there's a high level of confidence in knowing that everything is correctly documented when we are audited. If we decide to buy a police car or playground equipment, we still need to file our reports with supporting documentation.

Motion to accept the GRW proposal from Councilman Purdie with a second by Councilman Waltz – **Vote 4 Affirmative.**

Lobby Reopening

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states that Councilman Combs brought this up at the last meeting. After talking to the girls in the office; they have no issues with re-opening. A few people have asked when we're going to reopen the lobby and we have no problem with it if Covid numbers remain low. We do have an intercom system in place and people can be buzzed in. Councilman Schilawski says we need to think about safety measures – does it have to reopen since we do have the buzzer situation. Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states we do have a buzzer system that goes to the police department. Councilman Schilawski suggests to open it for now and should there be any issues we can revisit this. Council approves.

Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Reappointments

Matt Gillock and Duane McCauslin's terms on both boards expired at the end of December. Both gentlemen need to be reappointed. Motion to reappoint both men was made by Councilman Combs and seconded by Councilman Waltz. – **Vote 4 Affirmative.**

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Road Work Bids

PW Supt. McCauslin states sealed bids were opened on March 28th. All Star Paving appears to be the lowest, responsive bidder. We are still waiting to hear from Community Crossings / INDOT on our 2022 grant. McCauslin spoke with Katie Adams and anticipates hearing something within the next week. McCauslin recommends awarding the 2022 Road Work contract to All Star Paving contingent on New Whiteland receiving our Community Crossing grant monies. Councilman Waltz moves to accept the bid from All Star Paving subject to receiving Community Crossing funding and authorizing a notice to proceed when funding is received. Councilman Purdie seconds the motion – **Vote 4 Affirmative.**

Pond Fountain for Proctor Park

PW Supt. McCauslin presents three (3) quotes for the replacement of the fountain; this was put in the budget last year for \$10,000; the lowest bid is for \$10,300.00. Supt McCauslin anticipates the cost to be a bit lower because the town will assist with install. This is a local company and they really want their name on the fountain going in there. The quote includes colored lights; it can have any color they choose at any time at a cost of \$2,600.00. McCauslin recommends to accept the bid as stated on the quote. a fountain serves aquatic health, aerating the pond, and visual aesthetics. The old fountain was only 1 horsepower; this one will be 3 horsepower, taller, more eye-pleasing. Councilman Combs moves to approve the proposal as presented and is seconded by Councilman Purdie – **Vote 4 Affirmative.**

Johnson County Community Foundation Grant Cycle

PW Supt. McCauslin requested permission to submit a letter of inquiring for this round of grants. He would be submitting an emergency response type application to fund 2-way radios

and a generator for the town hall. We would need to submit a letter of inquiry by 4/22/22, council approves.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Ordinance 2022-02

Reestablishes our cumulative capital development fund (CCD) rate as originally established in 2013. Attorney Robbins explains that we do this every year to maximize the rate allowed by law. The town council can impose as much as a nickel per \$100.00 of assessed property value but that amount will trend down each year if it isn't reestablished annually. Tonight's ordinance is to set the town's cumulative capital development maximum rate of \$0.05 per \$100.00 of assessed value, effective on those taxes that are assessed in 2022 and payable in 2023. Councilman Combs moves to adopt the ordinance on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Waltz – **Vote 4 Affirmative**. Councilman Waltz moves to suspend the rules and consider the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Combs – **Vote 4 Affirmative**. Councilman Combs moves to adopt the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Purdie – **Vote 4 Affirmative**.

Ordinance 2022-03

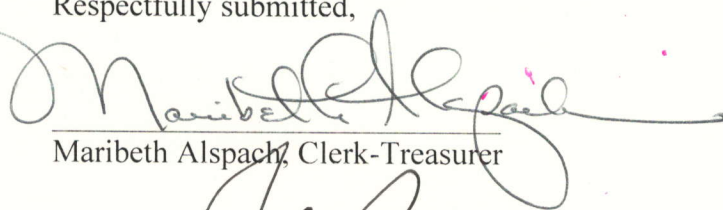
Attorney Robbins presents the ordinance on first reading. Robbins summarizes the ordinance which includes excerpts from the law outlining both approved and prohibited uses of these funds. Adopting this ordinance would allow the council to use these funds for the provision of government services. We will still have to appropriate the money to be spent as any other money is spent in the town. Councilman Purdie moves to adopt ordinance 2022-03 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Waltz – **Vote 4 Affirmative**. Councilman Purdie moves to suspend rules and consider the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Waltz – **Vote 4 Affirmative**. Councilman Purdie moves to adopt the ordinance on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Combs – **Vote 4 Affirmative**.

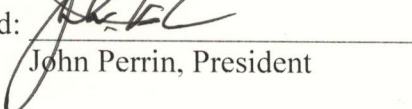
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, President