**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**June 16, 2015**

**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, Joe Noonan, John Schilawski and John Perrin. Also present were Attorney Robbins, Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach and Town Manager Spencer. Councilman Noonan offered the opening prayer.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the June 2nd meeting and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

**HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS**

None.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Rogier moves to approve and ratify both and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Councilman Alspach arrives at 5:05 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Commercial Realtor Update

Attorney Robbins has spoken with a realtor with Collier. The realtor is reviewing the appraisals on the two buildings. Once he has completed that task and looked through the buildings, Attorney Robbins will draft the sales contract agreement for President Perrin’s signature.

Tracy Road Property

Councilman Schilawski will follow up with the school corporation to see if there is an interest in purchasing the 1.5 acres on Tracy Road adjacent to the soccer field.

Sale of Remaining Furniture and Inventory

Town Manager Spencer has prepared an inventory list of the items remaining in the old police station and town hall. After some discussion Council approves scheduling a sale of the items listed less 3 of the filing cabinets that will remain at the town hall. Also the cash register and other preapproved surplus items and some of the old tables and folding chairs. Town Manager Spencer will also check with Marshal Stephenson about some of the accumulated bicycles at the street garage. Sale will be held at 401 Mooreland Drive and Clerk-Treasurer Alspach will serve as cashier.

WWTP Pole Barn Update

Town Manager Spencer states that the plans are finished and available. Three to four contractors have expressed interest in bidding on the project. The drainage calculations have been

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completed as well. The plans and specs have been posted to the town’s website and sealed bids are due at the July 7th council meeting.

Trash & Recycling Contract

Town Manager Spencer states that the Town of Whiteland has one more year on their contract with Republic. The City of Franklin’s contract with Ray’s expires at the end of this year. Spencer will schedule a meeting within the next two weeks with both entities to review bid specs.

Police Car Purchase Update

Town Manager Spencer states the cars are in and waiting on Waymire’s to install equipment. Hopefully they will be finished by the end of the month.

Animal Control Request

Attorney Robbins has spoken with Major Bob Golinski with Johnson County Animal Control. The Animal Control Warden, Major and Lieutenant are asking to be sworn in as Special Deputies with limited powers. This will give these deputies the authority and power to enforce New Whiteland’s animal control ordinance. Robbins notes that state statute has provisions for Humane Officers. These Special Deputies will remain employees of the county not the town. To accommodate this arrangement we will need to amend our ordinance fixing the number of deputies we have and these Special Deputies will need to be sworn in by Marshal Stephenson. Attorney Robbins will prepare a draft ordinance to amend our existing ordinance.

Health Insurance Annual Renewal

Town Manager Spencer states that our renewal is August 1st. Anthem has reduced our renewal increase to 3.75%. We also have a quote from United Health which is a little less expensive premium wise however, the co-pays and out of pocket costs for the employees is higher. Spencer met with the employees that are currently on the health insurance plan. Eight (8) employees prefer staying with Anthem and five (5) employees want to change to United. Spencer adds that Whiteland has United Health insurance and are unhappy with issues employees are having with getting claims paid. Spencer also presents the renewal quotes for dental and vision coverage and recommends moving from Best Life to Delta Dental and VSP which are the largest providers in the nation. Councilman Schilawski moves to accept the 3.75% renewal from Anthem and to move to Delta Dental and VSP policies for dental and vision coverage. Councilman Rogier seconds the motion. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

New Whiteland Commons

Town Manager Spencer states that the property owners will be meeting again this week and one of the items that will be discussed is the paving of the gravel area behind our building. Spencer has paving estimates with the low bid at $17,850.00. Council President Perrin asks that Spencer see if there is any interest in cost sharing of an entrance sign. Perrin will see if he can get a second quote on a LED display sign. Also need a quote on a monument style sign.

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Street Paving

Councilman Rogier asks if a date has been set for receiving bids for 2015 street paving. Town Manager Spencer advises that PW Supt. Johnson is working on the bid packets.

Fireworks Complaints

President Perrin asks Attorney Robbins to look at our current ordinance and see if it needs to be revised to be as restrictive as permissible by law.

Employee Absence

Town Manager Spencer reports that Officer Rynerson is requesting an unpaid leave of absence as he is close to exhausting all of his sick, vacation and personal time off. Rynerson has been under doctor’s care for a non-work related injury and will not return to the doctor until July 24th. Attorney Robbins states employee needs to submit a Family Medical Leave request / application before his time runs out. Spencer states that the paperwork has been started. Molly Smith is also off work until June 30th when she will see her doctor again for re-evaluation. She has also nearly exhausted all of her sick, vacation and personal leave. There has been some discussion about Officer Rynerson being released to light duty and covering Ms. Smith’s position. If that happens Rynerson would be paid his hourly rate for the number of hours worked each pay period (80 instead of 84). By performing the clerical duties normally performed by Ms. Smith, instead of the duties of an on line officer, Rynerson would not be covered by the FSLA exemption for law enforcement officers.

Fire Department Grant

Fire Chief Wilson applied for a Homeland Security Reimbursement Grant and was notified that he will be receiving said grant. New Whiteland needs to spend the $3,826.90 and request reimbursement. Wilson states he does not have funds available in the fire department budget. Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states it can be taken from the Cumulative Fire Fund and council approves. Chief Wilson states this grant will be used to replace firefighting gloves, purchase extrication gloves and replace some of the old helmets. Wilson adds that he intends to apply for a Johnson County Community Foundation Grant this fall to replace more helmets.

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states she is looking at applying for that grant as well to replace the laptops in the police cars that are 10 years old. She is waiting for a quote from Skyline Communications. A recommendation is made that we also contact Gary Stofer, with the 911 Dispatch Center, for a quote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

None.

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**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Laurie Morrison, 432 Melrose is present to ask what action the council intends to take on the complaints and concerns she raised at the last meeting. Attorney Robbins asks if she has been given all of the records that she has requested. Ms. Morrison states that she has. Attorney Robbins asks if there is anything else that she is now requesting and she asks that Marshal Stephenson and Sergeant Glaze be fired. Attorney Robbins states that we have complied with all of her public records requests and will continue to do so in the future as required by Indiana’s access to public records law.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

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

John Perrin, Council President