**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**June 2, 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 Scott Alspach, Mike Rogier, Joe Noonan, John Schilawski and John Perrin. Also present were Attorney Robbins, Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach and Town Manager Spencer. Councilman Perrin offered the opening prayer.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the May 15th meeting and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

**HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS**

Tan Worx, 400 Tracy Plaza, Unit 10 had a toilet leaking. Paige May presents a copy of the receipt showing that the necessary repairs have been made. Council approves a two (2) month sewer adjustment of $550.45.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

Commercial Realtor Update

Attorney Robbins has spoken with a realtor with Collier. The realtor is out of the area but Attorney Robbins will meet with him when he returns and negotiate a sales contract. Robbins notes that the average commission is 6%. Councilman Alspach moves to have Attorney Robbins negotiate a sales agreement and to authorize President Perrin to execute the contract. Councilman Noonan seconds the motion. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Rogier asks if the owner of the vacant lot behind our building has any interest in trading that land for our two (2) unused buildings. Town Manager Spencer met with the owner and showed him both buildings. Owner seemed interested. Council directs Spencer to have feedback from the owner within the next two (2) weeks before the Sales Agreement is signed with the realtor.

In 2004 the Town purchased 1.5 acres on Tracy Road from the Clark Pleasant School Corporation for a sub-station for our Fire Department. The existing fire station was renovated and added on to with a grant and there is no longer a need for a second station. Our employees have maintained the property for 10+ years and have run both water and sewer lines to the property. Would council be interested in selling the property back to the School Corporation or another buyer if the School is not interested? Council is waiting on response form Dr. Spray before making any decision.

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach contacted Christy’s about auctioning off the remaining furniture in the old town hall and police station. Christy’s states that there is not enough furniture to justify an auction. Alspach asks if we could have a one day sale. Attorney Robbins believes that we can as long as it is open to everyone and advertised. Council asks that an inventory list be prepared so that the items can be declared surplus.

WWTP Pole Barn Update

Town Manager Spencer presents a proposal from Wessler Engineers to oversee the drainage design for the new building. The amount of the contract is not to exceed $1,500.00. Councilman Noonan moves to approve the contract and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Town Council

Page Two

6-2-2015

Trash & Recycling Contract

Town Manager Spencer states that the Town of Whiteland would like to be included in our bid. He has not had a response from the City of Franklin. Spencer is unsure when the other municipalities’

current contracts expire. President Perrin directs Spencer to have confirmation of what other entities want to be included in our bid specs by the July 7th meeting.

Police Car Purchase Update

Town Manager Spencer states the cars have been ordered. The light bars on the old cars are outdated and the parts are obsolete. New light bars run $1,710.00 each bringing the total estimate for Waymire’s to install all of the equipment on and in the new vehicles to a total of $15,558.00. Councilman Schilawski approves the purchase of the new light bars and the installation package and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

IDEM Update

Town Manager Spencer states that a letter was received stating that the oil spill / soil contamination issue has been placed in “Self Closure” and the matter should be completely closed out by the end of the year.

Liability Insurance Renewal

Town Manager Spencer states that before the insurance renews he would like permission to remove the abandoned concession stand in the East Park. We are currently carrying $50,000 worth of coverage on the old building. Spencer also recommends removing the old “lean to” at the Street Garage. Councilman Alspach moves to approve the removal of both buildings and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Movies in the Park

Charles Howard, Pastor at South Pointe Church, 70 West Street is requesting use of the East Park on Saturday, August 1st from 5 – 11 p.m. for their annual Movies in the Park event. Mr. Howard states this will be the 7th season for the free movies. They plan to make it more of a festival type atmosphere this year with some vendors, food, music, possibly a rock climbing wall and/or bounce houses. Clerk-Treasurer Alspach advises the Town will need a certificate of insurance naming the Town of New Whiteland as an additional insured on their policy for this event. President Perrin states we will need to post notices that the park will be closed for disc golf. Park will be closed from 4 p.m. on. Council approves.

President Perrin leaves the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Animal Control Request

Town Manager Spencer explains the request asking that the County Animal Control Officer be given the authority to enforce our local ordinances related to animals. This officer would have the authority to write ordinance violations in New Whiteland. Attorney Robbins will do some additional research and draft an ordinance / resolution along with an updated section of our Town Code addressing animal violations. Councilman Schilawski asks if this request is approved and the County Animal Control Officer is injured on a call in New Whiteland who would be responsible for the workmen’s comp claim. Attorney Robbins states the officer is a county employee and on their payroll, not ours.

Town Council

Page Three

6-2-2015

Health Insurance Annual Renewal

Town Manager Spencer states that our renewal is August 1st. The Anthem increase is 9.2% and we have asked our agent to get additional quotes.

Officer Rynerson

Town Manager Spencer has spoken with Officer Rynerson who suffered a back injury at home. Rynerson has been getting treatment for the last few weeks and will see a back surgeon on June 15th. He may be able to return to work with restrictions after that appointment.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2015-05

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach reads the transfer ordinance in title only on final reading. Motion to adopt by Councilman Rogier with second by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Utility Transfer and Additional Appropriation Memo

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents a transfer memo for the Wastewater and Storm Water Utilities as well as an Additional Appropriation for Wastewater and explains. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the transfers and the additional appropriation and is seconded by Councilman Noonan. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Laurie Morrison, 432 Melrose is present to voice a complaint about the New Whiteland Police Department and their procedures. Ms. Morrison believes she has been denied access to certain information that she has requested. Ms. Morrison was told that the Council members had no prior knowledge of the events or actions she complained of and would arrange for inquires to be made.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

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

John Perrin, Council President