

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

July 2, 2019

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

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the June 4th meeting and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS

D. Crofts, 251 Hollybrook had an issue with an electronic check being rejected by Invoice Cloud our online payment vendor. It appears the routing or tracking numbers were transposed. Council waives the \$40 NSF fee. Ms. Crofts will pay \$60.37 which includes the \$15 ACH reject fee charged by Invoice Cloud. The Crofts account will not be Cash Only and we will no longer accept electronic check payments in the office or over the phone. Customers will have to go online and enter those themselves as Invoice Cloud does not give confirmation numbers for checks like they do with credit cards to know that the payment was processed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval for both June 18th and July 2nd. Councilman Alspach moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Storm Water Project Overview

Mary Atkins with Wessler Engineers gives a presentation covering the ERU conversion study as well as the five (5) proposed storm water projects that are being recommended for our storm water project. Steve Brock could not attend tonight's meeting but has forwarded his rate study which was included in your packets for tonight's meeting. Attorney Robbins explains that with the new billing structure every customer will be billed for the amount of runoff water (Storm Water) that comes off their property. Every residential property will pay the same amount of 1 ERU based on the average amount of hard surface (home, driveway, shed, patio) on a developed residential lot in New Whiteland. Our current monthly residential storm water rate is \$6.95 and the maximum proposed rate would be \$9.64. Commercial properties will be billed based on the amount of hard surface on their property. Wessler has gone out and measured all non-residential properties. Attorney Robbins also explains the rate options that are outlined in the rate study. Robbins recommends that the council review Wessler's presentation and Steve Brock's rate study and decide how or if they want to proceed. President Perrin asks, if we move forward with the projects presented tonight, how certain are we that we can get SRF funding. Mary Atkins states that the project will be funded, however it may be funded through the "pool" which carries a slightly higher

interest rate than the standard SRF funding. Storm Water projects often are prioritized high enough to qualify for SRF interest rates. Wessler will be on the agenda for the July 16th meeting to present their design proposal for the aforementioned projects. Mary Atkins offers to meet with councilmen Vaughn and Rogier prior to that meeting to go over tonight's presentation with them.

1114 Ashland

Attorney Robbins has the signed purchase offer and has ordered the title work. He will schedule closing as soon as the paperwork is in order.

PW Supt. McCauslin asks for council direction on how they want him to proceed once we own the property. McCauslin has met with a landscape architect and has a proposal for a Master Plan at a cost of \$7,000. This would address a layout for parking and a driveway on the new lot and the park layout for Tot Park. Once the layout is approved there would be additional cost for the actual design or construction documents if necessary. Councilman Schilawski states priorities will be parking, the driveway and the fencing in Phase I. Cameras will also need to be addressed before any investment in equipment or improvements to the park itself. This item will be placed on the agenda for July 16th.

Fire Engine

Attorney Robbins states that he had verbal confirmation late this afternoon that the vendor is agreeable to removing the arbitration language from the contract as requested. Once he receives the revised contract, he will have John Perrin sign it as it was previously approved.

Circus

Word was received today that the Kelly Miller Circus has cancelled all contracts and scheduled performances for the remainder of 2019. Council suggests forming a citizen committee to brainstorm some ideas for future events. Attorney Robbins shares details about Community Clean Up days held in two other communities and will get information to Council President Perrin to follow up on.

New Position

Council approves placing notice in the Daily Journal and on other media outlets for the position.

NEW BUSINESS

Employee Benefits Insurance Renewals

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach has forwarded the renewal information to all councilmembers. Councilman Alspach moves to accept the renewal quotes from EHD for Anthem, Delta Dental, VSP and AUL and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

Replacement Roof

PW Supt. requested bids from four (4) contractors for a new roof on the Town Hall. He only received one bid. The bid exceeded \$50,000 so we will need to request more bids (sealed) to be opened at the August 20th meeting.

Disconnects

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states that disconnects were supposed to be done this week on past due accounts. However, due to the holiday we will not be sending them over until July 8th. Due to the long holiday weekend and the high temperatures and humidity we felt that was the right thing to do. Council agrees.

PW. Supt McCauslin thanks the council for switching the Columbus Day holiday to make this a 4-day weekend.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

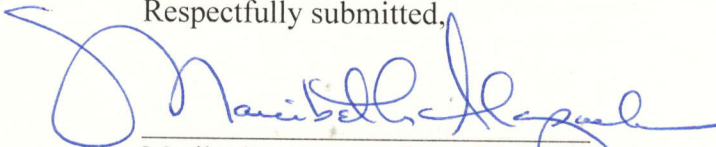
Ordinance 2019-07

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the ordinance to transfer funds and explains on first reading. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the transfer and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

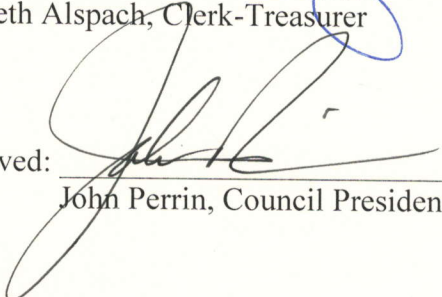
This item will be placed on the July 16th agenda.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, Council President