**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**AUGUST 1, 2017**

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

**MINUTES**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the July 18th meeting and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Alspach moves to approve the minutes of the July 18th executive session and is seconded by Councilman Vaughn. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Vaughn moves to approve the minutes of the July 26th executive session and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

**HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS**

None.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the August 1st Fund Report and Docket for approval. Councilman Rogier moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2017-08
Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents and explains the transfer ordinance on first reading. Councilman Vaughn moves to adopt Ordinance 2017-08 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative.** Councilman Alspach moves to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2017-08 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative**.
Council President Perrin presents Ordinance 2017-08 in title only on final reading. Councilman Vaughn moves to adopt Ordinance 2017-08 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2017-09
Attorney Robbins presents and explains the ordinance. This ordinance will rescind Ordinance 2017-06 and abolish the newly created Allocated MVH Fund. After more research it has been determined that his fund will not be needed.
Councilman Schilawski moves to adopt Ordinance 2017-09 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Rogier. **Vote 5 affirmative.** Councilman Rogier moves to suspend the rules and consider Ordinance 2017-09 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 5 affirmative**.
Council President Perrin presents Ordinance 2017-09 in title only on final reading. Councilman Alspach moves to adopt Ordinance 2017-09 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Vaughn. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

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**OLD BUSINESS**

Scenic Construction

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach states that Mr. Biasi came in and paid the $1,850 hook on fee. He shared with the utility clerk that he had contacted Indiana American to change out the meter to the 5/8” or ¾” size but was told there would be a fee for them to do that. He stated he was not going to pay a fee to have it changed. The clerk asked if he was going to pay the 1” meter hook on and he said that he was not as he had been told he only had to pay $1,850. She told him that her understanding was that he was to go back to the council if Indiana American could not change the meter and ask for the approval for the reduced hook on fee.

President Perrin asks that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. If Mr. Biasi does not appear at that meeting to report back to the council as agreed to in the last meeting he will be sent an invoice for the balance of the 1” meter hook on fee.

National Night Out / Family Fun Day

Updated copies of the scheduled events and exhibits and an itinerary for the demonstrations and activities planned for the day are distributed to all members. Lists of those participating in the parade as well as those having booths are also presented. Councilman Schilawski suggests that the councilmen participate in the parade. Police Chief Rynerson’s son-in-law has offered to drive his truck in the parade and the councilmen can ride in the back.

Sidewalk Repair on Warwick

Attorney Robbins states the property owner signed for the certified letter on July 20th. They have until August 25, 2017 to get the sidewalk replaced. Councilman Vaughn states no work has been done as of today.

Disc Golf

Council President Perrin states that he will be attending a meeting later this evening to inquire about any batting cage netting that might be available through the softball league.

State Highway Complaint

Councilman Schilawski states that he has been in contact with Commissioner McGuinness to see if we can get some resolution to this ongoing complaint. Joe Claudy, 623 Sweetbriar shares with the council ongoing issues he has had with State Highway. He has been attempting to get the right-of-way from Parkview to Tracy Road on the west side of 31 addressed for the last 2 years. Mr. Claudy has maintained his property and the State’s right-of-way out to the highway for decades. Because of the condition of the ditch and the easement it is no longer safe for him to do so. He adds that about 5 years ago State Highway came out and cut everything from the highway to the fence line from Parkview to Tracy Road, but it has not been done since. He states there is a definite lack of leadership at the Amity location. He shares that at least 7 trucks with crews have visited the site in the last few months but little work has been done. When they do cut cattails and small trees and vegetation they leave it for residents to clean up. In the most recent rain event backyards were nearly under water because of all of the debris left behind in the ditch line by State Highway. Mr. Claudy has even approached the workers when they are cleaning the right-of-

way on the east side of 31 to ask why they don’t maintain the west side. Councilman Vaughn states the same issue exists on the west side of 31 from Tracy Road to the town

limits. Councilman Perrin assures Mr. Claudy that we are working to try and get this issue

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resolved and that we will notify him if we hear anything. Perrin adds that we do not have the equipment nor the manpower to maintain the right-of-way and the ditch. We have taken over the mowing of the median on US 31 since it was not being done and had become a public safety concern.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Melrose & Hollybrook

Supervisor Duane McCauslin reports that while responding to a sink hole issue at 433 Melrose they discovered not only an exposed 2” gas line but also a storm sewer line with at least two (2) obvious separations in the line. McCauslin believes there may be an additional separation in the line further down. McCauslin notes that the intersection of Melrose and Hollybrook has always flooded and states that when smoke testing of the sanitary sewer line was done last year smoke was detected exiting the storm sewers. McCauslin believes the line from Hollybrook to Parkview needs to be lined. Council directs McCauslin to get quotes on having that work done.

Councilman Rogier leaves at 5:30.

IDEM

Supervisor Matt Gillock has contacted IDEM to have his name added as the point of contact for New Whiteland. A letter has been prepared for President Perrin’s signature authorizing that change.

Tot Park

Councilman Schilawski was approached by resident Chris Gonfiantini asking permission for the neighbors to raise money to clean up and possibly purchase equipment for this park. Council discusses establishing an exploratory community committee to discuss what things the residents would like to see added or improved in our parks. Discussion includes getting quotes to rehab the basketball and tennis courts and for a piece of equipment to replace the old pirate ship that was recently removed from the West Park. Councilmen Schilawski and Vaughn will try to identify some people to seek input from.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

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

 John Perrin, Council President