

NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2020
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 Perrin, Frank Vaughn, John Schilawski, Chad Waltz and Scott Alspach. Also present were Attorney Lee Robbins and Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach. Councilman Alspach offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the September 1st meeting and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval for September 15th. Councilman Alspach moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Attorney Robbins opens the public hearing at 5:04 p.m. Robbins explains that the purpose of the public hearing is to take questions or comments on the proposed storm water rate increase. Robbins notes that the rate ordinance was introduced at the August 18th meeting, noticed in the Daily Journal and will be considered on final reading this evening. Attorney Robbins asks if there is anyone from the public who wishes to be heard. Being no public present, the public hearing is closed at 5:07 p.m.

ORDINANCE 2020-14

Attorney Robbins reviews and summarizes the rate study prepared by Steve Brock and the storm water project designed by Wessler Engineers that have brought us to the rate ordinance that is being considered tonight on final reading. This ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading on August 18th adopting the ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit) bill calculation method for storm water charges. All residential properties will be billed for 1 ERU which equates to \$7.50 each month based on the ERU calculations prepared by Wessler Engineers. Non-residential properties have been measured and Wessler Engineers has prepared a chart with the number of ERU's associated with each property based on the amount of impervious surface on each property. Those customers will be billed \$7.50 per each ERU calculated for their property each month. Notice of tonight's public hearing was advertised in the newspaper and there is no public in attendance. Councilman Waltz moves to adopt Ordinance 2020-14 on final reading and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Steve Brock arrives at 5:10 p.m.

Attorney Robbins states that in order to keep rates down the council chose to self-fund the storm water project rather than borrow money through the State Revolving Fund. In a year or so the council will need to set up a PILOT (Payment in lieu of Taxes) program to repay the general fund for financing this project.

OLD BUSINESS

Storm Water Project Update

Mary Atkins representing Wessler Engineers states that the Notice of Award has been sent to King's Trucking for the storm water project. Wessler has received the required bonds on this project. The contractor is preparing a cost deduction for the total project cost as some items in the project are no longer required since we are not using SRF funds. Ms. Atkins was hoping that those documents would be available tonight for council approval but they are not. Ms. Atkins asks if this will have to be delayed until the October 6th meeting. Attorney Robbins states that the contract has been awarded and the council can authorize President Perrin to sign the document when it arrives. Councilman Alspach moves to authorize President John Perrin to execute the contract and any documents related to the contract once they are received and have been reviewed and approved by Superintendents Gillock and McCauslin, Wessler Engineer Atkins and Attorney Robbins. Councilman Schilawski seconds the motion. **Vote 5 affirmative.**

Councilman Schilawski leaves at 5:20 p.m.

Councilman Alspach moves to authorize President John Perrin to approve the change order to remove items from the scope of the project not required by SRF that reduces the total cost of the project. Motion is seconded by Councilman Waltz. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

Ms. Atkins states that once the contract is signed there will be a preconstruction meeting. When the project begins the first step will be clearing the area by Hilltop Farms so that the utilities can be moved. There could be a 60-day delay while the utilities are relocated.

2020 Community Crossing Road Work Update

PW Supt. McCauslin states that he has spoken with INDOT and they are advising that any overruns will be New Whiteland's responsibility to pay for. McCauslin adds the section on Warwick has required more excavation and additional sub base (gravel) than originally specified. McCauslin is estimation that the overruns on Application #1 could be \$11,000 - \$12,000.00 and on Application #2 could run as much as \$35,000.00. Each ton of stone is costing \$23.75 and as of 4:00 today we had overruns of 510 tons. Council directs McCauslin to proceed with the project and we will pay the overruns, the road needs to be done correctly without cutting corners.

NEW BUSINESS

Library Halloween Event

The Clark-Pleasant branch will host a socially distanced trick-or-treat event on Friday, October 16th at 11:00 a.m. at the Story Walk at Country Gate Park. The town is not sponsoring or hosting but the library is unable to host the event inside the library as they have in previous years.

2021 Budget Workshop

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach reminds councilmen that the budget workshop will begin at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow evening here in the council room.

NWFD Vehicle Purchase

The council has received an email from Fire Chief Saucier requesting approval to purchase a

2007 Ford SUV from the Franklin Fire Department. Chief Saucier states that the SUV that our department owns has transmission issues. Saucier has seen the 2007 SUV at Franklin and states it is in very good condition and comes with all the lights already installed. Asking price is \$3,500.00. Councilman Waltz moves to approve the purchase of the 2007 Ford SUV from Franklin and authorize Fire Chief Saucier to proceed with the purchase. Councilman Alspach seconds the motion. **Vote 4 affirmative.**

PW Supt. McCauslin reports that the retired fire engine sold on GovDeals.com for \$6,600.00. The vehicle that will be replaced at the fire station with the new SUV will be listed on GovDeals.com as well.

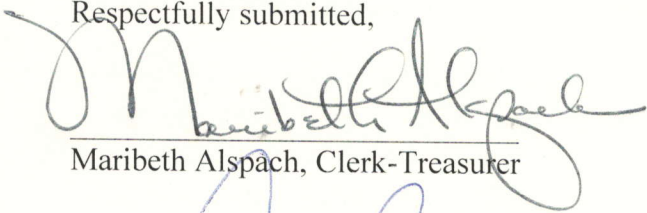
LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

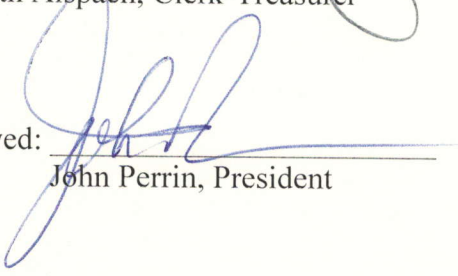
Ordinance 2020-14

The storm water rate ordinance was passed earlier this evening immediately following the public hearing.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, President