

**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
MINUTES**

Town Council President John Perrin opened the workshop at 6:00 p.m. Council members present were John Perrin, John Schilawski, Chad Waltz and Scott Alspach. Also present were Department Heads Dale Saucier, Joe Rynerson, Duane McCauslin, Matt Gillock and Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach. Councilman Frank Vaughn was absent.

Council President Perrin states that while the DLGF has reviewed our proposed budget and states that we can fund it he prefers that we remain as conservative as possible until at least mid-year until we see how the 2021 revenues will be impacted by COVID-19. He recommends no major, non-emergency purchases be made before August 2021. He admonishes that we need to be cautious and monitor our revenues.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Saucier goes through his budget and states there are no major changes, he actually shows a decrease of \$2,150.00 for 2021. Council approves the budget request with no changes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Rynerson goes through his budget. His budget is higher by \$237,369.00 over this year's budget with most of that being in wages and benefits due to the raises given in 2020 and the changes in insurance due to new employees. Rynerson is requesting a pay raise for Administrative Assistant Dunlavy as she was not included in the officer raises given earlier this year. Council approves the budget request with no changes.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

PW Supt. McCauslin reviews his proposed budget which increases \$3,969.00 in 2021. McCauslin explains this increase is due to the ongoing plans for Tot Park already approved by the council. Council approves the project with no changes.

PROPERTIES DEPARTMENT

PW Supt. McCauslin reviews his proposed budget which increases \$50,500.00 in 2021. McCauslin explains the changes that have been made to this budget. Utility Supt. Gillock's salary was moved to Sanitation. All other employees were being given a 1-2% pay increase. McCauslin is also requesting an additional employee but has no intention on hiring anyone until mid-year at the earliest or until there are enough new houses built in the new subdivisions to warrant hiring another employee. McCauslin answers question about his Contractual Services and Pond Chemical line items. Council approves the proposed budget with no changes. Council does want final approval before starting the hiring process.

MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY (MVH)

PW Supt. McCauslin reviews his proposed budget which increases \$701.00 in 2021. McCauslin answers question on the mini vehicle lift in Appropriation 249. McCauslin estimates the cost of the lift to be around \$4,000.00 and states this will improve safety for the employees servicing our vehicles. Council approves the proposed budget with no changes.

SANITATION / WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Utility Supt. Gillock reviews his proposed budget which increases \$284,287.00 in 2021. Gillock explains the increases in the 100's – more of his salary is being paid from this budget rather than by General Fund budgets, the requested new employee, the 1-2% raises for existing employees and increases in insurance coverage as more employees have picked up dependent coverage than in years past. Gillock notes that the money budgeted for the I & I Study should complete all of the areas in town with smoke testing and manhole inspections. Gillock is concerned about his line item for electric and moves \$15,000.00 from 361 Equipment Repair to 351 Electric. Gillock has budgeted \$200,000.00 for an Effluent Blower (\$45-55,000) a new truck and a mini excavator. These purchases were planned for in the current rates prepared by Steve Brock. Council approves the proposed budget with the two small changes discussed.

STORM WATER DEPARTMENT

Utility Supt. Gillock reviews his proposed budget which increases \$9,880.00 in 2021. Gillock has reallocated funds within his budget due to major changes in the MS4 Reporting that IDEM is making in 2021. Council approves the proposed budget with no changes.

PLAN COMMISSION

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the proposed budget which has a decrease of \$1,975.00. Council approves the budget with no changes.

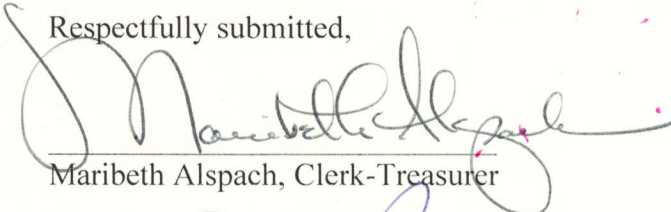
TOWN ADMINISTRATION

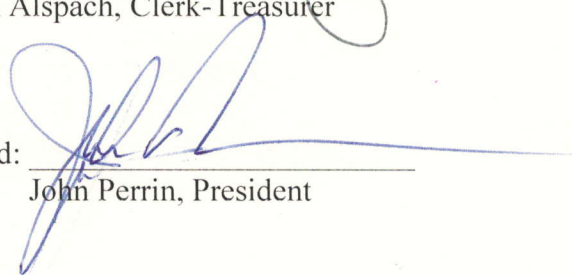
Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the proposed budget which has a decrease of \$32,966.00. Council approves the budget with no changes.

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach asks if it is okay to prepare the 2021 salary ordinance based on the salaries in the proposed budgets. Council says yes. She will prepare the salary ordinance to be passed along with the budget.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: 
John Perrin, President