

**Minutes of the Trail Creek Town Council Meeting for:
March 18, 2008**

(A complete transcript is available in the Clerk's office on tape # 333)

The regular meeting of the Trail Creek Town Council was held on Tuesday, March 18th, 2008 at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana. Council members present were: Council President Ron Lombard, Councilman Jamie Baldwin, Councilman Jeff Studtman, Councilman Warren Schacht and Clerk/Treasurer Anne Dobbs. Councilman John Bayler was out of town.

Following presentation of the minutes of the regular Council meeting on February 19th, Councilman Warren Schacht moved for approval. Councilman Jamie Baldwin seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Clerk/Treasurer Anne Dobbs presented copies of a financial report regarding the Town. Councilman Jamie Baldwin moved to approve the Treasurer's report and Councilman Warren Schacht seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Claims -Claims against the town in the amount of FORTY NINE THOUSAND NINETY NINE DOLLARS and 05/100 (\$49099.05) were presented. Councilman Jamie Baldwin moved for payment, Councilman Warren Schacht seconded. The vote was unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Clerk Anne Dobbs received a letter from Vector Pipe Line advising the Town and its residents to contact them if any excavation is occurring.
2. Clerk Anne Dobbs received a request regarding Congdon Park. The letter was received from the Dunes Lutheran High School regarding the use of the park for baseball practice. The letter was referred to the Park Board for action.

REPORTS:

ATTORNEY: Attorney William Herrbach addressed the Hydronic Heater situation. Attorney Herrbach spoke to the LaPorte County Health Department and they are of the opinion that since they are the Health Department for the entire county they would have jurisdiction. The county attorney is checking into the possible cost to the town. The existing Hydronic heater in the town has already been inspected by the LaPorte County Health Department.

A work session was going to be scheduled for discussion of the Employee Handbook

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Not in attendance.

ENGINEER: Engineer John Doyle requested that the Town think about what paving they would like to have accomplished in 2008. The issue of additional parking at Nelson Park was addressed. Engineer Doyle's thought that 20 to 26 spaces would be possible, in addition to what they currently have, depending on the amount of trees removed. He felt that approximately six (6) trees would need to be removed and the cost of these parking spaces would be approximately THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$35,000.00). It was felt that someone from planning should be involved with this issue. It was also suggested that possibly Meadowlark be made a one-way street during the baseball games. It was suggested that the Town of Trail Creek pursue possible parking during baseball season at St. Luke's Church. It was suggested that a meeting needs to take place between baseball, the Park Board and Planning committees. A Park Board meeting is scheduled for April 10th at the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m., the meeting involving the various committees regarding parking will meet at 6:30 the same evening.

Engineer John Doyle stated that there has been an issue with standing water on Laurel Avenue. He felt that the dry wells in that area probably need to be cleaned or/and a line may need to be installed from Greentree and Red Oak. He wasn't sure if it would work gravity wise. Council President Ron Lombard asked Engineer Doyle to pursue the cleaning of the dry wells. Engineer Doyle stated that these dry wells should probably be cleaned approximately three (3) times a year.

Mr. Al Walus met with several residents on Welnetz, east of Roeske, who are interested in putting in a sanitary sewer.

MS4: Kate Doyle stated that she had given Clerk Dobbs the annual report from IDEM, if anyone wants to read it, it is available. She also passed out a registration form to the Council regarding the 1st annual MS4 meeting which will take place April 3rd, 2008 at the Hendricks County 4-H conference center in Danville, Indiana.

PARK DEPARTMENT: Not in attendance.

PLANNING AND ZONING: Clerk Dobbs stated that the Planning and Zoning Board met to elect officers. Bill Greene was elected President and William Breining Vice-President of the Zoning Board. Mr. Gralik was elected President of the Plan Commission.

PLUMBING INSPECTOR: Not in attendance.

POLICE DEPT: Marshal Todd Klosinski stated that he had done some more research on the VIN checks. There is presently an Ordinance on the books regarding fees for VIN. Marshal Klosinski stated that his department wants to purchase some new portable hand held radios, he is waiting for an additional quote from another company. The State is moving just about everything online so he feels that the Marshal's Department will soon need internet service, possibly fiber optic or DSL. Marshal Klosinski will be getting prices for the Council before the next meeting.

STREET DEPARTMENT: Street Superintendent Brian Kubath stated that spring clean up will start April 7th and continue through April 16th. The Street Department was not able to finish leaf pick up in the fall because of the early snow fall. So far this year the Town has purchased three (3) tons of road patch. The street sweeper is in poor shape, it took the street department three (3) days to get it running from one building to the other.

Question: Has anyone heard anything in regards to the railroad crossing? The Town has not heard anything and they probably won't.

NIRPC: Council President Ron Lombard was unable to attend the last meeting but will be attending the March 20th meeting. He did attend a TPC meeting on March 11th, 2008.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. A workshop will be scheduled for April 21st 2008 at 6:30 p.m. regarding building permits and the new employee handbook.
2. Cindy Kautz's new computer program will be installed May 6th and her training will begin the same day. The office will be closed on May 6th.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution regarding provisional tax laws. Councilman John Bayler attended a breakfast with Mayor Oberlie and a letter was sent out by the Mayor proposing a draft form resolution. He encourages each Town and City to adopt the resolution and forward it to the County Treasurer and to our State Representatives and Senators.
2. Pritz Park seeding needs to be discussed. A decision needs to be made regarding seeding of grass, there is also an issue with standing water. Engineer Doyle feels that to get rid of the standing water piping will need to be installed. The major problem is adjacent to the ditch, which possibly needs some additional grading. The problem to the north, unless we bring an awful lot of fill in, pipe will have to be used. It was discussed to approach the problem with the seeding first, then the water.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comments: David Bays attended the meeting and showed the Council a picture of property located at the corner of Johnson Road and Highway 20. He is currently being sued by Michael Krachinski because Mr. Bays cleaned up some of this property. Mr. Bays feels that the Town of Trail Creek should be going after the mess on the corner that belongs to Mr. Krachinski. Attorney Herrbach remembers sending Mr. Krachinski several letters years back regarding the condition on that corner until the State of Indiana got involved. He is not aware of the outcome. He will look at this again and see if the Town can do anything and if need be he will contact the State.

Council Comments: Councilman Warren Schacht mentioned that the ditch behind Evergreen Plaza was discussed at a previous meeting and he noted that there was still furniture in the ditch. President Ron Lombard stated that he feels the Town will try to clean that ditch sometime this year.

Clerk's Comments: Clerk Dobbs told the Council that we will have the same playground supervisor again this year, Jill Pickford. She will soon be sending out letters to families regarding the program.

There being no further business or comments Councilman Warren Schacht moved for adjournment at 8:45 p.m. Councilman Jaime Baldwin seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Attest: _____

Anne M. Dobbs, Clerk-Treasurer