

May 20, 2014

The Trail Creek Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana. Not in attendance, Council Members; Jennifer Heath, Jeff Studtman and Joshleen Denham, Clerk-Treasurer.

Council Vice President, Warren Schacht, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Correction to the meeting minutes last month for Mr. Bayler to adjourn, changed from Mrs. to Mr. A motion was made by Mr. Bayler to approve the meeting minutes from the April 15, 2014 as written; motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox, and was then unanimously carried.

Approval Of Fund Mr. Silcox made a motion to approve the fund report; motion was seconded by Mr. Bayler and then was unanimously carried.

Approval of Claims Mr. Bayler made a motion to approve the fund report in the amount of \$100,391.88 (ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY ONE DOLLARS AND EIGHTY EIGHT CENTS) motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and then was unanimously carried.

Correspondence None

Department Reports:

MS4: Kate Doyle in attendance. There were fifteen site inspections for the month of April. Rick has a summer intern which will help to alleviate some of the work load. Self inspection training material and quiz are now on the website, you can take it directly on computer. Patches for the fair are in. Annual MS4 meeting was attended by Rick. It was noted that 67% of MS4 communities have stormwater utility fees. This maybe something to consider in the near future.

Attorney: Mr. Bill Herrbach in attendance. He reported some good news, county clerk called to say in the year 2003 the town did a temporary easement on the property known as the Cooper property, 2915 E. Michigan Boulevard. The courts unfortunately do not have the file anymore. Mr. Herrbach has a docket where the town filed a bond of \$4065.00. When the suit was dismissed the bond was never returned to the Town of Trail Creek. Mr. Herrbach will file the appropriate paperwork to have the clerk release the bond and return to the Clerk-Treasurer.

Also, Clerk-Treasurer Joshleen Denham inquired about an ordinance for copy and notary fees. At one point we did have an ordinance; however it was never codified or recorded. The new ordinance would mirror Michigan City's and charge \$2.00 per notary and 10 cents for black and white copies and 25 cents for color, also there will be DVD copy fees and some other small fees included in the ordinance. This will at least cover the town's admin or over head costs for the notary, the bonds, ink and

paper. Bill indicated that he could go ahead and draw something up for the June meeting for review. Mr. Schacht and the rest of council agreed that this would be a good idea.

Engineer Mr. Doyle in attendance. Email from John Bayler regarding the intersection of Welnetz and Yanke road as part of our paving program. It certainly could use some attention. Mr. Doyle asked council if they have each had the opportunity to review their wards for street improvement projects. Mr. Schacht wondered if "patching could be done" instead. Mr. Doyle stated that of course it's best if you could put an inch or so on the street instead of the skim patching. Mr. Schacht asked when the cutoff date is for bids for the street improvement projects, Mr. Doyle stated by September. Mr. Bayler asked if the street department uses hot patch or cold patch. Scott Silcox stated that the street department as far as he knows only uses cold patch, so that it can be used year round.

Set of plans for Highway 20, have been received but unfortunately not through the proper route. Mr. Doyle has reviewed the plans. They are increasing pipe sizes under the road, adding pipes from south to north, increasing outlet capacity of the pond across from Hammers; however they are not doing anything about the "bottleneck" through Hammers parking lot. There has been a breakdown in communication between INDOT (Indiana Department of Transportation) and the Town of Trail Creek. Mr. Schacht, feels that INDOT owes us an explanation as to why we have not received any attention regarding this project. The Town of Trail Creek was also not included on the list of recipients for the plans, John indicated that even after Ms. Denham sent a request we did not received plans. After a lengthy discussion....Bill Herrbach stated that a representative from INDOT, Mr. Doyle and Warren Schacht should have a meeting so that we are all on the same page. Also the state senator should be made aware of this.

Street Department: None

NIRPC: No Report. Mr. Schacht asked Mr. Bayler if NIRPC could help with the Hwy 20 project concerns. Mr. Bayler indicated he believed this was beyond NIRPC. However, he recommended speaking with the the Acting District Deputy Commissioner Mr. Bob Alderman with the Indian Department of Transportation Laporte District. Mr. Bayler stated he will be contact him and try to get him to come to a meeting with Mr. Doyle and others to discuss the project.

Park Department: No Report, Mr. Silcox indicated that he must apologize; he will have a meeting in place for next month.

Building Inspector: No Report

Planning and Zoning: No Report

Police Department: Chief Marshal Steve Dick in attendance. The neighborhood watch program is still being put together by Officer Lisoski. Currently, we have no time frame but we do have a foundation. Officer Lisoski has been working with Sergeant Yagelski to put this into place. Coming up very soon, we will be starting some enforcement on speeding on our major roads, Johnson, Greenwood, Welnetz and Coalspring. The concentration will not be Hwy 20 or Michigan Blvd. Technically those are someone else's jurisdiction. We want to focus on our core streets. Also, were getting ready to assess the town on a weekly basis for grass ordinance violations and turn a list over to the town hall.

Reminder, we do have a facebook page as well as the town, please like both of our pages, and encourage your friends mostly trail creek residents to like our pages. We would like to use this as an avenue to get information to our residents. Warren asked if the professional pictures were taken of the officers, Steve responded by saying yes. Need to get frames, will run roughly \$200.00. He will also get digital copies to Warren for the website with information.

Old Business: 110 Harding; Mr. Herrbach, town attorney indicated that the yard has now been cleaned up, as well as the completion of the front porch and a new front door has been installed. Some trim work and siding on the back will be completed. Mr. Herrbach is staying on him, but he believes that the safety issues have been rectified. Mr. Herrbach will report back next month.

Arborist Ordinance; was talked about last month. The town does not currently regulate or license any contractors for trimming, pruning trees or taking down trees. Mr. Herrbach explained the ordinance. Council reviewed and set the fee to \$50.00 annually for the registration license fee. A motion was made to pass ordinance# 2-2014 by Mr. Bayler and motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was unanimously carried.

New Business: Proposals for new roof on the Town Hall have been received. The roofing is leaking; Silcox asked Steve Thomas about Bay 3 and the leaking roof and maybe get a bid for the police department and fire department. Mr. Schacht asked if Steve Thomas knew about this, Steve Thomas stated he was unaware of the roof leaking. Marshal Dick explained the tiles above Joshleen's desk are wet and there is some leaking in the meeting area of the town hall. A motion was made by Mr. Bayler to accept the proposal from L.R. Roofing in the amount of \$5000.00 for the repair and replacement of the town hall roof, motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was unanimously carried.

Approval of Doyle and Associates invoice in the amount of \$ 938.50, for various items including the review of flood plain maps and drainage issues. A motion was made by Mr. Bayler to approve the payment of the invoice; motion was seconded by Mr. Silcox and was unanimously carried.

On a side note, Mr. Schacht asked the marshal about the police vehicles. Steve indicated that we need two but that we only are getting one.

Public Comment Jeraly Stark, 2909 Red Oak Drive in attendance. She wanted to express a few concerns regarding drainage. Mr. Doyle explained in detail the problems the town experiences from a result of the drainage problems. This is why we as a town wanted for these concerns to be taken into consideration for this Highway 20 project.

She wanted to thank the street department for their hard work in the spring clean up.

Also, Mrs. Stark wanted to know if Mr. Doyle could explain the program for MS4. John Doyle explained the program as being a program for the municipal storm water drainage. It has to do with the gathering of water inlets. Essentially, it is a maintenance program to keep the storm water drains clear and free of hazards or any debris to prevent erosion from occurring.

Her last concern was regarding the arborist ordinance; she just wanted to make sure that this ordinance would protect residence from low quality workmanship. Mr. Herrbach assured her that the ordinance would protect the residents in that a copy of the liability insurance is required and also allows the town to know who is working in the town.

Clerk-Treasurer's Comment: Mr. Schacht made a few comments for Ms. Denham; Spring Clean up is officially over, but that the street department will be over to pick up a pile that was missed

Yard Waste will continue every Monday until November 3rd.

Also, Joshleen will be attending an annual IACT Budget Workshop on June 4th.

Council Comment: No Comment. A motion was made by Mr. Silcox to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m; motion seconded by Mr. Bayler, and was then unanimously carried.

APPROVED: _____

Warren Schacht, Council President

ATTEST: _____

Joshleen M. Denham, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: June 17, 2014