

Town Council Meeting
March 10th, 2025
Westport Community Building

The Westport Town Council met in regular session at the Westport Community Building, with the following present: Bryan Gatewood, Jennifer Hryb, Dolores Honeycutt, Glenn Black, and Clerk Treasurer, Gloria Alumbaugh. Council member Russell Wilson was absent. Bryan Gatewood called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge to the Flag. Then there was a moment of silence in Honor of George Cann.

Approval of the Minutes from the February 10th, 2025 Council Meeting:

Dolores motioned to approve the February minutes, which Glenn seconded. Vote 4:0

Approval of Annual Finance Report, Adjustments, Payroll Vouchers, and Monthly Bills:

Jennifer motioned to approve the Annual Finance Report, Adjustments, Payroll Vouchers, and Monthly Bills, seconded by Dolores. Vote 4:0

Commonwealth Update:

Rachel Runge reported that on-site construction started the first week of March, and pipes will be installed along the driveway to the Westport Transfer (Dump) in the next few weeks. Rachel explained that pipe installation will begin at the Sewer Plant and head north, ending at the lift station by the end of March.

Decatur County Solid Waste Management – Stephanie Westbrook:

Stephanie Westbrook introduced herself and mentioned the other recycling sites available in Decatur County that Westport Residents can use while the Westport Transfer is closed on Wednesdays. Other recycling sites include St. Paul, Lake Santee, and Bestway Landfill. Stephanie announced the upcoming Electronic Recycling/Paper Shredding event at Westport Town Hall on April 12th. Stephanie encouraged residents to bring any small appliances with a cord and suggested residents take stoves or larger appliances to River Metal Recycling in Greensburg. Shares Inc., a non-profit organization from Shelbyville, IN, will offer paper shredding services at the event.

Zoning Permission:

Jeff Robbins requested a letter of approval for utility hook-up at his property on the north end of Deer Run, Parcel # 16-14-31-320-008.000-014, which was approved by Jennifer, and seconded by Glenn. Vote 4:0

Attorney, Chris Tebbe, requested a letter of approval for Roy Saylor to change the zoning from A1 to R2 for Parcel # 16-13-36-410-037.010-014. Bryan asked for any written plans that Roy Saylor may have for the intentions of the property and tabled the vote for April's council meeting so that Russell Wilson could be present.

Animal Control Update – D. Honeycutt:

Dolores gave an update on her work with animal control assistance in Westport, stating that there is confusion over the town's animal control ordinances and the level of assistance that

the county animal control is willing to provide. Alex Whitted offered to meet with the Decatur County Animal Control Attorney to gain a better understanding of their stance on Westport's Ordinances. Dolores also reported that she contacted the county about getting striping on West County Road 1100 S. due to safety complaints on the road. Dolores said that the county denied the request due to lack of funding, so she is reaching out to Indiana State Representative, Alex Zimmerman.

Haven Gasper Presentation:

Haven Gasper introduced herself as a 5th-year student from Ball State University, who completed her Capstone project on revitalizing/restoring the Westport Area Community Park. Haven explained that she lives close to the park and is related to Westport residents, giving her a connection to the park and its future success. Haven presented her capstone project, which included recommendations to turn the baseball field to the north, add additional shelter houses with public restrooms, natural play playground, additional pickleball courts, updated tennis courts, additional parking, etc.

Ordinance 2025-1 [Purchasing Procedures]:

Bryan completed the first reading of Ordinance 2025-1 which was approved by Jennifer, seconded by Glenn. Vote 4:0. Bryan opened the floor for public comment at 7:34 pm but there were no comments.

Resolution 2025-1 [Old Outstanding Checks]:

Dolores approved Resolution 2025-1, seconded by Jennifer. Vote 4:0

Utility Billing Procedures Update:

Gloria stated that the last update was in 2021. Since 2021, additional Ordinances have been passed, and the pool adjustment procedures have changed, so it was time to update the Policy again. Glenn motioned to approve the updated Utility Billing Procedures, seconded by Dolores. Vote 4:0

Superintendent of Public Works Report:

Damon requested council approval to sell a 1995 Simplicity mower and Honda Tiller(cemetery) through the sealed bid process, which Bryan motioned, and Jennifer seconded. Vote 4:0
Damon also discussed closing the Westport Transfer on March 29th due to an auction, but the town council recommended leaving the Transfer open unless there is inclement weather.

From the Floor:

Bryan announced that tomorrow, March 11th, is a state-ordered tornado drill, and the tornado sirens will ring in town at 10:15 AM. He also announced that the Westport Area Community Building Committee officially donated their leftover funds to the Westport Community Building Donation Fund for \$37,136.18, with an additional \$13,000 in CDs to be deposited after March 19th, 2025.

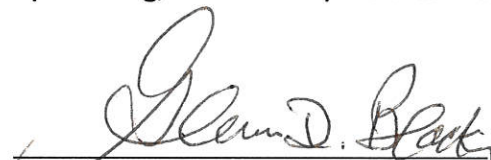
Lauren Naum, resident at 607 E Gatewood, asked the council to consider waving her fines for mulch piles and yard clean-up. Bryan stated that he would review her clean-up progress tomorrow during office hours and then make a decision on the fine.

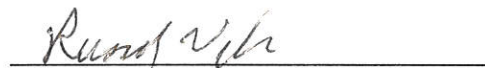
Nathan Snyder, resident at 209 S Elizabeth, also questioned his clean-up fines, but Bryan stated that there are now 9 vehicles on his property, various vehicle parts in the driveway, and continued clean-up is needed.

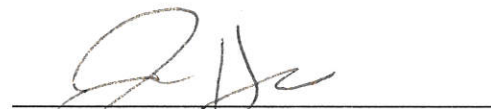
Sandy Lowe asked the council what happened to the request from GS Courtyard Community, who were asking for free water meters and discounted prices to set up individualized meters inside the park. Bryan explained that after the request in the council meeting and an unpleasant phone call, the council has not heard anything more about the issue.

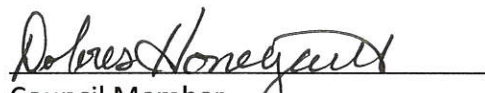
Jennifer motioned to close the March monthly meeting, seconded by Dolores. Vote 4:0


Council President


Vice President


Council Member


Council Member


Council Member


Attest: Clerk-Treasurer

