

SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM  
118 E FRONT ST  
SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787  
OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup> 2017 6:30 P.M.

The South Whitley Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 in the Town Hall Board Room. Those present were Council President Randy Cokl, Councilman Les Hoffman, Councilman Bill Boggs, Town Marshal Mikel Van Devender, Utility Supervisor Kent Slater, Town Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer and Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard.

Call to order was at 6:30 P.M. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business-Jorell Tucker who resides at 505 E. Front St was present let the Council know that he had went to the Whitley County Planning & Building Commission for a permit to add on a deck to his house and discovered the whole block is zoned heavy industrial and is subject to heavy industrial laws not residential zoning laws so he is facing very heavy setbacks. He has done research and back in the 1980's it was probably overlooked. Mr. Tucker has talked with Nathan Bilger who recommended coming to the Council to see if you feel it should be changed, if so then it would go to the zoning board to be corrected. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that procedurally what would happen is that the Council is the ultimate authority and would have to pass an ordinance, Nathan probably wanted to get the Council's thoughts before moving forward. Mr. Tucker mentioned that if they chose to change the zoning that an amendment would need done with the Comprehensive Plan. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that Council could not take official action on this tonight because it has to work its way up to that point. The best thing is to let Nathan know if this is something you want to do then it can go back to the Plan Commission to get started. It was suggested to have the staff look into this rezoning area and that someone would need to send Nathan an email as to the decision.

Appointment of members for the South Whitley Redevelopment Commission – Motion for Executive Appointments for members by the President of the Council, Randy Cokl are Karen Jordan, Tim Campbell and Chris Shoemaker, seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote 3-0. Motion was made by President Cokl for the Appointment of two other members by Council are Brian Rose and Nate Haywood, seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote 3-0. Attorney Hockemeyer mentioned that the members would need to be sworn in and also elect officers. It was recommended to wait until the first of the year. John Myer with the Whitley County EDC stated that the school board will need to appoint a nonvoting member and he is on the agenda for the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to talk with them about this. Mr. Myer also recommended they wait until after the first of the year so the new members could sit in on a meeting and have some training to see how the process works, he will line this up.

Old Business-Whitley County Economic Development Fall Invoice totaling \$8,265.00 was presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

Renaming of Hagan Park - President Cokl stated the recommendation from the Park Board was not to change the name but make both of the signs to say Gale Hagan Memorial Park. He stated to Tonya that I can't imagine what you and your family have gone thru and it was a struggle to make this decision but he also knew Gale Hagan and what she did for our community, he feels we should not take away from

her memorial. Mrs. Warner asked if this came from the Park Board and did they have an official vote. Jeff Beer mentioned it was the Park Board's recommendation but no vote was taken. It would be the Town Council's Decision. Councilman Hoffman stated that not originally being from this area he did research as to what Gale Hagan did for the town and feels the same that the name should be Gale Hagan Memorial Park. Councilman Boggs stated it was a rough decision knowing the family but also felt the name should not be changed.

Park Board-Jeff Beer was present to announce on October 28<sup>th</sup> they will be having day events at Gale Hagan Memorial Park from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM and a Haunted Trail starting at 8:00 PM. Their next meeting will be November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM and will be discussing the mission of the Park Board.

Department Heads:

Town Marshal Mikel VanDevender-Marshal VanDevender mentioned that he has not made contact with the Whispering Hills Home Owners Association yet and that the latest reserve will finish up training tomorrow so she will be on the road soon.

Waste Water Operator/Utility Supervisor Kent Slater-Mr. Slater said all the trees have been moved that needed to be for the Waste Water Project that will start next summer. Most of them were more to Gale Hagan Memorial Park with a few being placed in the downtown park. Niblock has started prep work in town and won't be ready to pave for a couple of weeks because it takes time to do all the prepping. The contractor hired for the ADA sidewalk project is really behind but should be back in town this Thursday. The deadline is October 30<sup>th</sup> but will not be done so they will have damages to pay back to the state but nothing will go to the town.

Town Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer-Attorney Hockemeyer introduced a Proposed Timeline for Waterworks Revenue Bonds, Series 2017.

Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard- Clerk Howard presented the revised Town Employee Manual for approval with the only changed being under Section II – B, that the School Resource Officer will earn Compensatory Time for extra hours worked for school related programs; at the rate of 1 hour compensatory time for each hour worked beyond their regular scheduled shift. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0. Clerk Howard presented the 2018 Salary Ordinance 10-24-2017-01 for approval. Motion to approve was made by President Cokl, seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

October 17<sup>th</sup> 2017 Meeting Minutes for 2018 Budget Adoption were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Boggs, seconded by President Cokl with a 2-0 vote. Councilman Hoffman abstain vote for not being present at that meeting.

October 17<sup>th</sup> 2017 Regular Session Minutes were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Boggs, seconded by President Cokl with a 2-0 vote. Councilman Hoffman abstain vote for not being present at that meeting.

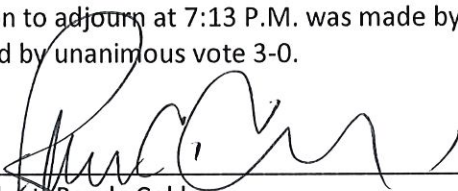
Prepaid APV'S totaling \$ 27,551.67 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Boggs, seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote 3-0

APV'S totaling \$ 5,078.98 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs with unanimous vote 3-0.

Payroll for Week ending October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 totaling \$ 7,113.40 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs with unanimous vote 3-0.

Public Input – Brock Waterson asked Council how many Librarians the South Whitley Library has and why they are going to the schools. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that they have one official Librarian, Teresa from the Tribune News said they put on programs for the schools. Mr. Waterson said he heard they were rich with money and how do they get their money. Jorell Tucker stated they have their own board. Mr. Waterson mentioned he just wondered if they could help with the beautification of the town since they seem to have extra money. Attorney Hockemeyer mentioned that they are approved by the local finance government and are also governed with a budget as to where they can spend that budget. It was mentioned that the Public Library has public meetings and would be recommended to go to the meetings, that the Library would probably like to have more of the public come to the meetings and ask questions. Marshal VanDevender stated back to the rezoning area mentioned earlier in the meeting by Mr. Tucker, that Council may want to look into the whole area before making changes so it can all be done at once.

Motion to adjourn at 7:13 P.M. was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

  
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President, Randy Cokl

  
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Councilman, Les Hoffman

  
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Councilman, Bill Boggs

ATTEST:   
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Clerk-Treasurer, Janet Howard