

SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM
118 E FRONT ST SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787
April 26th 2016 6:30 PM

The South Whitley Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 26th 2016 at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Board room. Those present were Council President Bill Boggs, Councilman Les Hoffman, Councilman Randy Cokl, Water Operator Ron Anderson, Town Marshal Mikel VanDevender, Attorney Gregory Hockemeyer and Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Boggs at 6:31 PM and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the April 12th 2016 Regular Session Meeting were approved and signed. Motion was made by Councilman Cokl and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote.

APV'S were presented for approval totaling \$130,207.74 and prepaid APV's for approval totaling \$469.49 were approved and signed. Motion was made by Councilman Cokl and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Payroll for Week ending 4-18-2016 and 4-26-2016 were presented, approved and signed. Motion was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS – Call to order of the final hearing of the unsafe building located at 405 S State St by President Boggs and turned it over to Craig Wagner from Whitley County Building. Mr. Wagner stated that there was no record of the property transferring hands from original owner and received information that the court had made a mistake, they failed to issue a tax deed on Jan. 4th 2016 and they are correcting that issue and the new owner is Property Max. Mr. Wagner stated Mr. Schaper understands the unsafe order and intends to do what the order states. Mr. Wagner said to the council as the hearing authority you can grant Mr. Schaper 60 days to comply and you can approve an extension if he needs more time. There are two vehicles, a truck camper and tow camper that need to be removed because of being an attractive nuisance to kids. There is also an old barn at the back of the property that is basically being held up by a tree and this also needs to be taken care of. Mr. Schaper said that on March 8th roughly he received a letter from the judge about the unsafe property order so he went out to the property and went through the house and agrees with the order as to what needs to be fixed. He stated he will remove the vehicles and take down the barn and also clean up debris from the property. He would like to have until August 31st 2016 for completion but will start work any day now when he receives the deed. He plans on fixing up the house and putting it up for sale. Councilman Hoffman asked Mr. Schaper if he would come back in 45 days to give an update on his progress and Mr. Schaper said he would come to the May 24th Council meeting with an update. This was approved by the hearing authority to start within a few weeks and be completed by August 31st 2016.

Employee Manual with clarifying the Holidays that if a Holiday falls on the weekend either the day before or after the Holiday would be time off. It was suggested by the Attorney that every year around October to look at next year's calendar and decide which day would be off. The amended Employee Handbook was adopted by council.

Burning in Hagen Park – Commercial tree company will be notified not to dump his truck loads in Hagen Park. It was stated that the town still needs to burn, Councilman Hoffman is hesitant to have a public

access site as far as burning. Talked about dividing it so compost would be a section and sticks and brush would be in a separate section to be chipped. Attorney asked Teresa if that sounded good to her and she said that on top of the hill where it is shady it needs chips because it stays muddy and on trails where they are grassy should stay grass and be mowed. Ron Anderson said he would like to see limestone on the trails because it would pack down so much better and Teresa liked that idea. Ron will get a quote and Teresa will do some measuring as to how much they might need. Ron asked what the council had for ideas for dumping for the community of their yard grass and etc. and that it is a problem with people putting their grass in bags and leaving it in the bags in the park. Ron also asked about getting a quote from Sprint to run wireless back in the park so Mikel could get this on his phone, Attorney Hockemeyer asked the council and Ron to continue to work with the Park Board on this. They will continue to think about what to do with sticks and such and Ron said he would also get a quote for concrete blocks to make separate bays to burn and compost. Quotes on the furnace were discussed and the quote from Bolinger Tin Shop for \$6152.06 was accepted. This was the best quote of three and will include gas furnace, central air and running gas lines. Motion was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote. Generators were discussed again and Ron's recommendation is to go with 2 separate Generators for the two buildings, smaller gas generator for the Town Hall Building ran by natural gas and a three phase generator for the Utility Building which is ran by diesel and would run for two days. Ron said he would ne savings around \$10,00.00 by going with the two separate generators. Fort Wayne Generators had the best quote for basically the same generators and labor. Funds for the Utility generator would come from the Electric Dept. Fund and the Town Hall generator would come from the general fund. Motion to approve quote from Fort Wayne Generators was made by President Boggs and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote. Ron needs to get purchase agreement from them. Ron also asked if the council had thought anymore about the 1 ½ times charge for Starlight Estates on water. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that we are grandfathered in right now and if they decided to change you will not be able to go back to this charge if the town would grow. Gregg stated that what they are paying now is still a lot cheaper than putting in their own well and running lines and also said to just look at the numbers to make sure. The council agrees to leave rates as they are right now. Ron had quotes form three places on a lawn mower and More Farm Store was best price for same mower and we already have them do service for yes. He went with a cast deck instead of steal so it would not rust and would last longer. Motion was made by Councilman Cokl and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote.

Park Board – Teresa said they sent out 1500 surveys and received 95 back. A lot said they would like the Fall Festival to come back, Community Gardens and interest in local history classes. There were 25-30 people who said they would be volunteers. They intend to get activities going this summer and are going to set up Facebook and get on towns website. They are looking for someone to take over the Car Show, the Sroufe's are no longer going to be in charge so if anyone knows of anyone let them know. Councilman Hoffman said he would like to see the different boards in town to coordinate meetings so they know what is going on between the different groups, Gregg suggested the one of the council members go to different meetings and report back at the town meeting.

Town Marshall – Mikel told the council members that Chuck resigned from his position to take go to town of Claypool as Town Marshall, he said he is replacing him with Blake Burman who was going to be reserve for the town and Blake will sign a 3 year contract with the town. The interview process has already been done and the board agreed with Mikel's recommendation. Motion was made by President Boggs and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote. Mikel said that Chuck will stay on as part time and that our salary ordinance does not have part time pay on it and will need to redo

motion was made by President Boggs and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote and moved to amend salary ordinance for part time position.

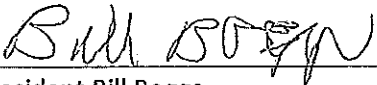
Mikel stated that the training he went to was on ordinances for speed limits and Mikel said that Lake Park Estates is a problem and Water Operator Ron Anderson agreed. Attorney stated that they would have to get with Lake Park Estates on this before pursuing. Mikel said he would like the same thing at Eberly's but not possible do that there because there are no street names. Mikel said he has spent a lot of money on computers for the police cars and hopefully done with that but the Charger that the SRO drives is starting to nickel and dime them with repairs. Mikel stated the Town Flow Chart needed to be updated and had Attorney looked it over to be revised by Mikel. He stated that he has met with all the principles about SRO Officer and has gotten only good comments. Attorney Hockemeyer said that he was at a SADD meeting and they really liked Matt also. The Bridge will be closed from May 16th until October of this year and there are a lot of concerns about response time for medical, fire and public safety issues south of the bridge. Councilman Cokl stated that he is upset that the state comes in and closes the bridge completely and how it will affect our town and we have no say in the matter. Attorney suggested that the council members call their state legislators and let them know.

Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer – Gregg suggested officially not to do anything with the Class Action the town was named in unless something else comes in.

Clerk-Treasurer – March Bank Statement and Fund Report was presented to the board. Clerk provided the council with email papers from Consumer Affairs wanting us to join the paper as one of the safest cities in Indiana but decided not to pursue this. Bicentennial Brochure was presented to the council to look over to see if their interested in purchasing a torch for the town to support the Bicentennial year. The board will consider and think about this. Clerk was asked to look into the Park Board Handbook to clarify who has final say on decisions in the parks. It was decided that this handbook was just a workbook presented to the previous council and never approved and Attorney Hockemeyer stated that there are statues for Park Boards and what they have authority to do. Teresa is going to give the town a copy so we have the right paperwork on file. President Boggs said he has noticed that when the trash is being dumped in the trucks that not all the trash is making it in when its windy and a lot of trash blows around. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that home owners should not be putting loose trash in cans that they should be using trash bags. Council suggested that we print on the next Utility bills that we mention this to the home owners.

Public Input - Nothing

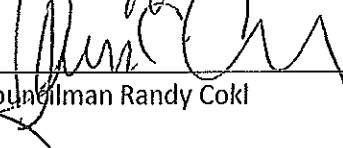
Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:42 PM was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote.



President Bill Boggs

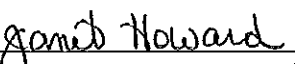


Councilman Les Hoffman



Councilman Randy Cokl

ATTESTED



Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard