

SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM
118 E FRONT ST SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787
May 10th, 2016 6:30 PM

The South Whitley Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 10th, 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, Waste Water Operator Kent Slater, Town Marshal Mikel VanDevender, and Town Attorney Gregory Hockemeyer, absent was Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard who was attending IACT workshop in Indianapolis.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Boggs at 6:30 PM and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the April 26th 2016 Regular Session Meeting were approved and signed. Motion was made by Councilman Cokl with one correction made on page 2 and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote.

APV'S were presented for approval totaling \$13,282.66 and prepaid APV's for approval totaling \$32,462.31 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 5-2-2016 and 5-9-2016 were presented, approved and signed. Motion was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS –Applications for lineman – no applications as of yet

NEW BUSINESS – Appoint Hearing Officer for Delinquent Utility Bill- Council President Boggs ask for motion to have any one of the Council members and/or Town Marshal to be Hearing Officers, motion made by Councilman Cokl and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried unanimous vote. Jennifer Dickmeyer presented the council with application for Fascade Grant for their business Dickmeyer Automotive. The Fascade Grant will match up to \$5,000.00 spent on improvements. They are putting in new energy efficient replacement windows, the big window in the front will be down sized and new siding on. Motion made by Councilman Hoffman to approve Fascade Application and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried unanimous vote. Once the project is complete they apply for check and bring in paid receipts and check can be issued. Easement is signed by Dickmeyer's and turned into the council.

Park Board – Teresa stated she sent copy of the Park Board by-laws and asked if there were any questions.

Council President Boggs introduced Lou from Triad about the updating of the Water Filtration Plant. Lou stated to the public that he has been working on this project for a little over a year and a half now and now we're getting down to where something needs to be done and to move forward with financing options. In May of 2015 they prepared a water study for the town, based on the needs within the system a lot of those were water quality, water line distribution and need for a water plant. We have worked on a Project Budget Cost and has recently found out that the Town may qualify for an OCRA

grant to help with this cost. It is a competitive grant and in order to apply and successfully obtain a grant you have to have your local funding in place and to do that they recommend we go with the SRF loan which is a 20 year loan at 2% and possibly 1.5% which is specifically for towns with water and waste water, and we feel this is the best option for the town. Will go thru preliminary engineering report, public hearing and come back and get that turned in, if they know we want to apply for the OCRA grant for this fall they will know the town wants to commit and could be ready for construction in early 2017, if not we would go into the first round of pooling next year. We are encouraging you if you want to move forward that the clock is ticking and if we can help you in any way to get the process going they will. Lori Shipman stated that Lou hit most of the highlights, she said time is ticking and basically the application process will involve public hearings, documentation and a letter of intent process will go thru the SRF process to select a grant administrator and I hope you would elect myself but it has to go thru a bid process for that because OCRA dollars pay for the grant administrator and if I get the job all files are kept with her. The application process is about a 5 to 6 month process until we get to the point as to finding out if the town will receive the grant and then go thru the process of bidding out. Good news is that OCRA is planning on two rounds of funding next year so if you don't get this one we would have two shots next year as early as late Feb. or early March to get application back in. Lou has paperwork ready to sign for SRF application if you so move to go forward tonight. You need to have letter to commit to go along with OCRA application before going on. Bill stated to the public that we have had options to buy used equipment but with that we could not use the SFR funding for the rest and would have to fund ourselves, if we could get this grant we could get 550,000 grant based on study of income, with this we would get new equipment with warranties and this would be cheaper to the consumer on the monthly billing then with the used equipment. Motion was made by Council President Boggs and seconded by Councilman Hoffman to pursue getting the grant money for the water filtration and the SRF funding and carried by unanimous vote. Bill stated if the grant falls thru they will try again the first of next year but thinks we have a good possibility of getting this. Lou has a contract for all the engineering for project and is covered with project budget. Les asked the public if they had any questions about the project or why the council is moving forward with this. Teresa asked about rate increases that we have been paying and how that figures in with the projects and we still need 550,000.00 grant and more for this. Bill said the rate increases were built in to help but because we were so far behind on our rates that it probably won't help that much for this project. Councilman Hoffman said they looked into the used equipment and it's not justified with the rates that we have and that's why we have to go with this type of situation the loan and the grant. Council President Boggs said we recently switched from a company that did that rating for us and now we are working with someone that has a better handle on it. Tom Crowder asked if we have to pay the 550,000 back and Council President Boggs said no that is grant money. Tom also asked what the actual SRF loan amount would be and Lou said it would be 1.9 million over 20 years at a rate of 1.9% possibly 1.5%. President Boggs said if we would get the grant money it would be cheaper monthly then getting the used equipment and going with an open market loan. Tom asked how does the bottom line figure from what American Water wanted to buy and do. Bill said bottom line on monthly basis would be cheaper for the consumer. Tom said so when all said and done the water rate will be lower with no major issue then what American Water proposed. Council President said yes with getting the grant and 20 year SRF loan at 1.9% or 1.5%. Judy Earnhart asked what would the increase be on the billing. Council President stated we didn't have that information now. Attorney Hockemeyer asked the Council President to go ahead and make a motion to retain Triad as engineering group for the application process for water filtration project. Motion made by Councilman Cokl and seconded by Councilman Hoffman and carried by unanimous vote. Motion for signing SRF Funding application by Council President Boggs and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote. Lou stated he Bond Council information from council and Attorney Hockemeyer said he would get that. Lou stated he would need a motion for Council President to sign all documentation for applications

as necessary to further this process. Motion was made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote. Lou has copy for council of all papers signed and things will be moving forward quickly.

Town Marshal – ORV-Off Road Vehicles- Mikel said there is one man with a handicap and this is all he has to get around in that he can get into, Mikel did research on this and state statute says it is up to the town what they do on their streets but not on state roads, can cross them. Mikel is in favor of adding ORV's to golf cart ordinance but not ATV's. ORV's are Gators or known as side by sides. They are safe and fall under regular speed limits and traffic laws. Council members talked about for a while and going to table until next meeting and Mikel will check into more details. Mikel is asking the council to change the ordinance for golf carts to have to prove they have insurance which could be by buying a sticker for small fee to have on the golf cart. Mikel brought up the fact that our town policy does not state anything about military pay for police officers to get paid for their one weekend a month or 2 weeks a year if it falls on their schedule. There was a discussion and tabled until next meeting. Mikel said that Blake's first day was today and starts training tomorrow.

Kent Slater-Waste Water Operator- Waste Water generator is back in service last Monday and will get back with Kent if any of this was covered under warranty. He stated the Clerk's office and Utility building will be installed in 3 to 4 weeks and Bolinger Tin Shop will start in a week to install gas line, furnace and AC to Utility building. Push mower is purchased. IDOT permits were issued for sewer project at State and Wayne streets and they are placing two fire trucks out at Johnson Brothers old building during construction of the bridge. Kent told Attorney Hockemeyer that Ron and himself are ready for 2nd meeting with Lake Park Estates and could get scheduled. Kent said Long Term Control plan has been written up by Donohue and Bill and Kent are having a meeting this Friday with them. The ADA project is being audited by IDOT, Kent's been looking for paperwork, some has been harder to find because of the situation with the Town Manager leaving so DLZ is in charge of the ADA project and he has the contract for service that they would help us get thru the audit and paperwork. Kent sent a letter to IDOT asking for a 90 day extension so he can get things around. Council President Boggs wanted a motion made to have DLZ help with assistance with Audit, motion made by Councilman Hoffman and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote.

Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer – nothing tonight

Clerk-Treasurer – Absent tonight attending Budget Workshop in Indianapolis

Public Input – Tom Crowder wanted to know if Veteran's Day is a paid Holiday for town employees and why council has to think about whether to pay a veteran to go to training if falls on his schedule. The Council stated they weren't opposed to this just wanted to get some facts.

Council President Boggs asked Attorney Hockemeyer if they need paper work stating who would be hearing officers and Gregg said he felt as long as this was in the minutes that would be fine.

Les said that he did send Chris Judy an e mail about the closing of the bridge but has not received a response back but said it was probably too late to get anything done but glad to hear that there will be fire trucks on the other side to help. Mikel stated response time on 600 is 3 minutes and if he has to go around Collamer it takes 11 minutes. Judy stated since 600 is our detour we should keep pressure on the county to keep it in good shape and Kent said the county was in today to talk and said they are putting 10 ton limit signs up for CR 600 and will do their best to maintain it.

Council President Boggs asked for a motion to adjourn meeting, motion was made by Councilman Cokl and seconded by Councilman Cokl and carried by unanimous vote

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:34 P.M.

ATTESTED

Janet Howard
Clerk/Treasurer Janet Howard

President Bill Boggs
Les Hoffman
Councilman Les Hoffman
Randy Cokl
Councilman Randy Cokl