

SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM
118 E FRONT ST
SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787
SEPTEMBER 26TH 2017 6:30 P.M.

The South Whitley Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 26th 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, Town Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer and Town Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard. Absent was Waste Water Operator/Utility Supervisor Kent Slater.

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

New Business-Nathan Slater was present to ask Council for a sewage adjustment for a crack in an outside hose that leaked for a day and a half before noticing and getting fixed. Motion to approve sewage adjustment in the amount of \$152.65 was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0. Tonya Warner stated that 2 years ago her son was shot and killed by David Hagen. She was present to ask Council what the procedure would be to change the name of Hagen Park. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that he would need to do research assuming we can do this I would suggest procedure is that we would offer this to the Park Board to consider and make a recommendation to whether this could be done and how it should be titled. Attorney Hockemeyer asked Mrs. Warner to give him a couple of weeks to do research and the Council will revisit at the next Council meeting on October 17th at 6:30 P.M.

Old Business – Dead End sign in Whispering Hill Subdivision- President Cokl asked if there was any public comments on this matter and if so they would be allowed 5 minute's to talk but that Council will not make a decision tonight. Darlene Rudd, a resident in Whispering Hills stated that they are in the process of creating a Home Owners Association and that they have six members at this time. She stated that the Dead End sign was discussed and determined within the members that at this time we do not deem it necessary to have this sign. Attorney informed the Council that there is usually covenants when a subdivision organizes a Home Owners Association to set up rules and regulations for that sub division, but it is not state regulated. The Council is not bound by the Home Owners rules but would probably want to consider their ideas. Mrs. Rudd stated per South Whitley laws to have a dead end sign the street can only be 600 feet and it is way past that length and also to make a dead end the town has to create a safe turn around because it is a town street. Mr. Johnson stated that where the sign is going would be on town property not private property near the stop sign. Mrs. Rudd mentioned that a no outlet sign could be posted at the front entrance of the sub division. Council asked if traffic has changed and Mrs. Rudd stated that she has set out every night for a week watching and the traffic that goes by is two wheeled bikes and cars from the residents that live back there and that all of the construction is now done. Marshal Van Devender is concerned about the barricade and that there is no reflector's back there. He wants to check out the legal responsibility of the town. Attorney Hockemeyer stated that it sounds like the issue between the residents is where the sign is placed. Traffic control signs are the towns responsibility and they decide where they will go and that there are several cities with sub divisions that do not have no outlet or dead end signs. Attorney Hockemeyer recommended that Marshal Van Devender check with INDOT to see what needs to be done and Council can revisit this at the next Council meeting on October 17th based on the recommendation on Public Safety for the end of that street.

There was discussion on appointing members for the Redevelopment Commission. They have to live within the town limits and a total of five members are appointed by Council, three of them being appointed by the President. There will also need to be a School Board Member or representative designated by the School Board to be appointed. Attorney Hockemeyer suggested that one council member be designated to make a list of interested people and report back at the next meeting. Councilman Boggs offered to do this.

Park Board-Jeff Beer was present and stated that he was voted to be the new Park Board President in last night's meeting they held. He mentioned that they are planning an event in October in Hagen Park possibly something with Halloween theme. Day of Caring was today and there were several people back at Hagen Park painting and sprucing up. Also the basketball courts are all finished now. The Park Board has decided to change their monthly meetings to start at 6:00 P.M. on the third Thursday of every month.

Department Heads:

Town Marshal Mikel VanDevender-Marshall stated that he will be at training next Monday and Tuesday. Also mentioned was that the police department found sponsors that would pay for the new vests they talked about in the last meeting and that he has ordered plate carriers which are needed for the officers.

Waste Water Operator/Utility Supervisor Kent Slater-Absent

Town Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer- Attorney mentioned he had met with Nathan Bilger on the ordinance for Vacant/Abandoned Building and has a draft for them to look over. He made a change to address blighted properties in Section 2 stating unless otherwise ordained by the South Whitley Town Council, this ordinance shall expire and become void ten (10) years from its date of passage.

Clerk-Treasurer Janet Howard- Clerk Howard asked Council to sign Resolution 09-26-2017-01 Authorizing Clerk-Treasurer to pay End of the Year Bonuses for 2017 that they voted in favor of in the September 12th meeting. Reminder that the October 10th work session has been cancelled and the October 10th regular meeting is rescheduled for October 17th right after the Budget Adoption Meeting at 6:30 P.M. She also mentioned that the last meeting of the year is scheduled for December 26th the office will be close that day for the Christmas Holiday and wanted them to think about rescheduling or cancelling that meeting. If the meeting is cancelled then at the December 12th meeting they would need to vote for the 2018 Council President. Clerk Howard mentioned that they need to talk about the 2018 salaries to prepare for the 2018 salary ordinance in the next meeting as well.

September 12th 2017 Work Session Minutes were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

September 12th 2017 Regular Session Minutes were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

Prepaid APV'S totaling \$ 17,012.80 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

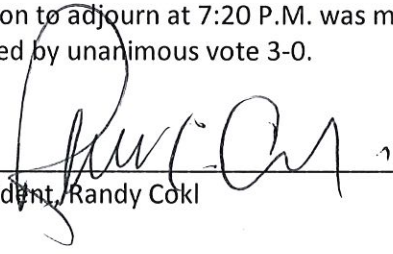
APV'S totaling \$ 142,951.06 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

Payroll for Week ending September 18th 2017 totaling \$ 9,203.62 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

Payroll for Week ending September 25th 2017 totaling \$ 7,216.41 were presented, approved and signed. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

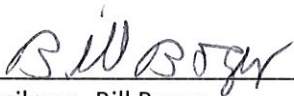
Public Input – John Myers with the EDC was present to report a few things to Council. He has been in contact with the owner of the Dwyer Building and they are now ready to sell the building and will send Mr. Myers the pricing information to put on his website. A wholesale fiber optic internet provider has talked with Mr. Myers and they might partner with someone that would provide wireless internet to the residents of South Whitley and would need to possibly put an antenna on one of the water towers if this goes forward. A new company called Red Earth LLC has moved into the Block building behind Subway. Mr. Myers stated that for various reasons several people have left the EDC so they are shorthanded right now but have three good applicants and hope to get someone hired soon. He also stated that there are a couple of different people working for Zimmer/Biomet and they are looking at houses in South Whitley so might have some new residents moving to South Whitley.

Motion to adjourn at 7:20 P.M. was made by Councilman Hoffman, seconded by Councilman Boggs and carried by unanimous vote 3-0.

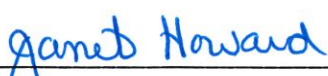


President, Randy Cokl

Councilman, Les Hoffman



Councilman, Bill Boggs

ATTEST: 

Clerk-Treasurer, Janet Howard