**SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM**

**118 E FRONT ST SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787**

**JANUARY 10, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER** was made at 6:31pm. Members present at council meeting were Council President Cokl, Council Vice President Waterson, Councilman Dunn, Dave Warner, Kent Slater, Marshal Vandevender, Attorney Greg Hockemeyer, and Clerk-Treasurer Alyssa Knepple.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**UTILITY ADJUSTMENTS**

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| Leah Oaks | $88.04 adjustment | Motion to accept adjustment made by Councilman Waterson. Seconded by Councilman Dunn. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0 |
| Guile Kipp | $696.73 adjustment | Motion to accept adjustment made by Councilman Dunn. Seconded by Councilman Waterson. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0 |
| Richard Kreider | $540.35 adjustment | Motion to accept adjustment made by Councilman Waterson. Seconded by Councilman Dunn. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0 |
| Larod LLC/ Brownstone | $406.97 adjustment | Motion to accept adjustment made by Councilman Waterson. Seconded by Councilman Dunn. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0 |
| Ashley Bashop | $131.24 adjustment | Motion to accept adjustment made by Councilman Dunn. Seconded by Councilman Waterson. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0 |
| James Tinsley | $136.93 adjustment | Motion to accept adjustment made by Councilman Dunn. Seconded by Councilman Waterson. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0 |

**NEW BUSINESS**

One Community Food Bank Road Blockage: Marshal Vandevender has tried to contact Community Harvest regarding the issue of the number of cars blocking driveways and alleys along Maple St. and Broad St. The people in charge have not been responding to phone call attempts, so the Councilmen will be going to discuss the issue in person with Community Harvest on Thursday to see if Hathaway Drive would be a better option. Hathaway Dr. would give Community Harvest more room to accommodate a higher volume of people. Topic has been tabled for next meeting to give update on how discussions went and what the next plan of action will be.

Stan’s BBQ has brought an issue to Councilman Waterson about lack of water pressure in their business. Alex Sturgess, who is the head of the water department, stated how the water pipes that flow into Stan’s have a high amount of sediment built up, which causes the lack of water pressure. Without tearing up the highway to replace the pipes, the other option is to bore into them to break up the sediment from the other side of the street. This could help with the water pressure issue. Councilman Waterson would like this to be scheduled within the next week.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Borden Signed Contract: Will be returned once we have a grand total of bins they have provided to add into the contract.

Sign Community Crossing Grant: Councilmen signed the final change order for the Community Crossing grant with E & B Paving, Inc.

Bonus Issue Clarification: Councilman Cokl went over the year-end bonus qualifications. Only current full-time employees with be paid the year end bonus and longevity pay. These employees **MUST** be on the current payroll to receive the funds. Bonuses and longevity pay **DO NOT** include elected officials. There will be an addition written into the employee manual that will insure this clarification in the future.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Melody Ellart brought up her concerns about the maintenance and safety of the Eel River Trail off of Calhoun St. Greg Hockemeyer stated there isn’t anyone in charge of the trail since the board that created the trail has been dissolved and the project has been shut down. Since the trail is not part of the parks department, the park board hasn’t been involved with cleaning and maintenance. There is trash that has started to build up down the trail. Marshal Vandevender suggested getting Borden to supply an extra trash bin that can be placed at the end of the trail and then picked up on Fridays with the rest of the town trash. The trestle is a safety concern because there are no warning signs about the danger of the trestle and could be a liability for the town if someone is injured. Kent Slater stated there are some options about where and how to put a sign on the trail. He is going to work on getting one set up.

* Ryan Null brought up the idea of creating a “Town Clean-Up” day to bring in volunteers to get the trail and some of the other areas in town cleaned up in the spring.

Melody Ellart also expressed her gratitude for Kent Slater coming in on Christmas Day to fix a transformer that caused a few houses to lose power. She said the whole process from calling it in and the transformer being fixed was about 45 minutes.

Deborah Bowers said their transition and conversations with the new trash servicemen did not go well on Friday when Bowers Towing and Auto Repair tried to refill their bins to have them emptied. Deborah said the men were rude and wouldn’t take the extra trash. On a positive note, the Borden office has been very helpful in getting Bowers’ the extra trash cans they need for the business.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

PARK BOARD – DAVE WARNER: Dave provided an update on what the parks department has planned for improvements in 2023. The park basketball courts will be resurfaced and painted, along with the fencing being replaced. He also expressed interest in purchasing a swing set and slide for White Rock Park. He will provide a quote on the cost to the clerk-treasurer to try and finish that project as well in 2023.

WASTE WATER/UTILITIES SUPERVISOR – KENT SLATER: The Collamer substation will be updated and using a mobile transformer starting the 26th. This could cause an outage at some point, but Duke is trying to avoid that by using the mobile transformer. The right-a-way project has been passed by the state for SR 14. IMPA should begin the process of moving electrical poles in the next month or so.

Lighting downtown was discussed at length. Kent provided a couple different options for new globes for the tops of the lamp posts. Councilman Waterson would like to also know if there are options for upgrading the lamp posts to have more than one light. Kent stated that could be a big cost for the town, but he would look into it and bring it a couple different options to the council at the next meeting.

TOWN MARSHAL – MIKEL VANDEVENDER: Swing’s tire is now being handled by IDEM. He is aware the number of tires is increasing and is hoping IDEM will step in sooner rather than later.

TOWN ATTORNEY – GREG HOCKEMEYER: Nothing to add at this time.

CLERK-TREASURER – ALYSSA KNEPPLE: Nothing to add at this time.

**APPROVALS:**

APPROVAL FOR DECEMBER 27th, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Motion for meeting minutes to be approved was made by Councilman Waterson. Motion seconded by Councilman Dunn. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR APV’s TOTALING $ 341,790.27: Motion was made for the approval for APV’s by Councilman Dunn. Motion seconded by Councilman Waterson. Motion was passed with a vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR PAYROLL WEEK ENDING JANUARY 2ND, 2023 TOTALING $ 10,276.34: Motion was made to approve payroll for week ending January 2nd, 2023 by Councilman Dunn. Motion seconded by Councilman Waterson. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR PAYROLL WEEK ENDING JANUARY 9TH, 2023 TOTALING $ 9,844.04: Motion was made to approve payroll for week ending January 9th, 2023 by Councilman Dunn. Motion seconded by Councilman Waterson. Motion passed with a vote of 3-0.

ADDITONAL PUBLIC INPUT: Alex Sturgess brought up the possibility of creating a program similar to the 50/50 sidewalk program for the water lines that need replaced for homeowners in the town limits. Council will add that to the work session in February.

Motion to AJOURN was made by Councilman Waterson and seconded by Councilman Dunn. Meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

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PRESIDENT, RANDY COKL

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VICE PRESIDENT, BROCK WATERSON

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COUNCILMAN, JOHN DUNN