

Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 24, 2025

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, February 24, 2025 in a Regular Meeting at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne St, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Council Members, Steve Buzzard, Michelle Schweikhardt, Jeremy Rufener; Ron Boxell absent: Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Dennis Spitler, Lee Poulson; others.

Matt Brinkman, 3A Development District Executive Director, reviewed the Park Development Plan and schedule as Council had requested. A post card mailer will be sent to each utility customer requesting input. The process must be completed for grant submission in November.

Marshal Spitler reported on properties being cited for clean up.

Fire Chief Poulson reported that all air packs must be tested this year and there is need for an additional CO monitor for approximately \$800.

Rufener reported on HCUED.

Discussed in detail was the need for an increase in the the Trash Collection rate due to the recently approved contract with GFL. By consensus of the three members present, an ordinance is to be prepared setting the per unit cost (user rate) at \$16.50 per unit, an increase of \$8 per unit. In addition, an automatic increase of \$1.50 per unit is to be added to the rate in January of 2026 and 2027.

Marshal Spitler submitted information to be considered for inclusion in an ordinance for control of truck traffic on specific streets.

Poulson as Utility Manager reported that he had contacted the representative of AT&T regarding relocation of two antennas owned by the Town on the Eleventh Street Water Tower noting that the AT&T project to add two additional pieces of equipment was slated for the Fall.

Information from TowerPoint offering to purchase the AT&T lease held by the Town on the Eleventh Street Tower had been forwarded to Financial Solutions Group. Council, by consensus of those present, directed that negotiations between TowerPoint, AT&T be conducted through Financial Solutions Group.

Resolution 1-2025 was introduced providing for encumbrance of funds from the 2024 budget to be used in 2025 due to the delay in completion of the Wayne Street Project from Motor Vehicle Highway and Local Road and Streets and from ARP Distribution Fund for purchase of Salamonie School Property. Buzzard moved, seconded by Schweikhardt, to approve Resolution 1-2025. Approved unanimously by those present.

Discussed by Marshal Spitler was information to be used toward possible amendment of the Animal Control section of Town Code. More discussion will be held.

Ordinance 2025-2, establishing a \$15 per hour rate to fill the janitor position for Town Hall and Assembly Hall was submitted for consideration of adoption. Buzzard moved, seconded by Schweikhardt, adoption of the Ordinance. Buzzard moved and Schweikhardt seconded to adopt with Rufener voting no. Due to the absence of one member, the two positive votes did not qualify as a majority of the four member Council so motion failed.

A document to finalize the purchase of property from Huntington County Community School Corporation was submitted for Consideration of Approval. Following review of the document, noting the final purchase cost of \$136,975.00 with closing costs of an additional \$1921.25, Rufener moved, seconded by Schweikhardt, to move forward with the purchase and to accept the Post Closing Agreement and Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions. Unanimously approved by those present. Closing has been set for Thursday, February 27, 2025.

The Claims Register in the amount of \$218,232.92 was approved unanimously as submitted.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is scheduled for March 10th at 6:00.

General Discussion held.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted

Marilyn Morrison

Clerk-Treasurer

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Warren Town Council:

Steve Buzzard
President

Michelle Schweikhardt
Vice President

Jeremy Rufener
Member

Ron Boxell
Member