

Minutes of Regular Meeting, April 13, 2015

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, April 13, 2015 at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne Street, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Town Council, Ethan Stivers, Julia Glessner, Steve Buzzard, Tracey Brown; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Lee Poulson, Dennis Spitler, and others.

President Glessner called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Minutes of the March, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Marla Stambazze of the Huntington County Department of Community Development (DCD) conducted a public hearing related to a trailer structure at 118 N Hendricks Street by reviewing citations issued from an inspection conducted on Marcy 16th. Following closing of the public hearing, Brown moved, seconded by Glessner to uphold the order of enforcement giving the property owners sixty days to correct the citations. The motion was approved unanimously. The owners have until May 20th to complete those corrections. In further discussion, Council, by consensus, requested inspection of three additional properties: 603 Jones Avenue, 312 W. Eleventh, and a trailer located at 118 Seventh Street. Stambazze will schedule the inspections.

Ordinance 2015-1, Flood Plain, was submitted for consideration of adoption. The ordinance had been discussed with Mark Mussman, DCD, at the prior meeting. Stivers moved, seconded by Buzzard to adopt Ordinance 2015-1 which was then approved by unanimous vote.

Introduced were three ordinances: Ordinance 2015-2, an ordinance to amend Town Code to prohibit wrong way parking on streets and alleys, Ordinances 2015-3 and 2015-4, ordinances amending rates and charges in the water and sewer utilities. A public hearing was scheduled for May 11th at 5:30 pm for Ordinances 2015-3, 4.

As several offers have been received regarding purchase of the AT&T Lease on the Eleventh Street Water Tower, Morrison requested that Council provide direction as to whether those offers were going to be considered which would require further action. Following discussion, by consensus, Council requested that other municipalities be contacted as to whether such a sale had been made and the procedure used.

A letter from the attorney representing the Town's insurance carrier was summarized in which it was noted that the Town's request for a summary judgement in the Benson vs Town of Warren matter had been approved by the Circuit Court of Warren. In effect, the Town has been held harmless in the action. Benson's attorney has also withdrawn from the case.

Discussed was the finalization of the building demolition project financial reimbursement matter related to the building collapse of July, 2013. The municipal attorney will be contacted as to the method to proceed.

Reviewed was a directive from the Municipal Attorney on the process for sale of real estate. In discussion and by consensus, it was determined that any sale of property would be tabled pending settlement of related issues.

Submitted was a listing of nineteen utility accounts to be considered for write off in the amount of \$1374.13. Buzzard moved, seconded by Brown, to approve the request. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussed was the refinancing of the 2002 Wastewater Sewer Bond. The action would reduce the cost of the bond by \$1 M over the remaining life of the bond by reducing the number of years and the interest rate. Letters from the Municipal Attorney, Bond Attorney and Financial Consultant were reviewed. Brown moved, seconded by Glessner, that the refinancing be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

Submitted was a recommendation report from the Financial Consultant setting the Electric Tracker Factor for the next twelve months at .062787, an increase over the 2014 factor of .0015. A user of 300 KW per month would see an increase of .48 cents per month. Buzzard moved, seconded by Brown, to accept the factor which was unanimously approved.

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Spring cleanup days are set for the first full week of May, May 4th through the 9th.

Submitted for consideration was the annual renewal of the software maintenance agreement with Keystone in the amount of \$6400. Citing that the licensing is necessary for conducting all Town business, Glessner moved, seconded by Stivers, to approve the payment of the invoice. The motion was approved unanimously.

Poulson reported for the street/utility departments. As the electric service pole at the Dollar General needs to be moved due to truck traffic, a quote in the amount of \$4500 was submitted from T&B of Hartford City. Another project is the installation of a 15kV, 3 phase recloser in the Salamonie Mill area. A quote from Cooper Power Systems for purchase is in the amount of \$15,360. Part of the T&B quote includes work on the recloser installation. Council approved both by consensus. E&B's paving project has been delayed due to weather. Poulson reported that some of the project is being reworked to allow some additional patching work to be done. Poulson also reported on the completion of hours necessary to maintain licenses held by three employees noting that all are being completed in a timely manner. As work continues on upgrading the men's public restroom, a quote was submitted in the amount of \$2,796.60 from Accent Interiors for removal and replacement of the tile flooring. Discussed was whether to request more quotes but it was determined that since the quote was local, it would be used. Austin Rosen and Josh Leidig will begin summer employment around May 1st.

As the fire department continues to have difficulties receiving radio pages (repeater) from County Dispatch, a letter from J&K Communications with cost projections was reviewed for options which include replacing of an antenna or cable. Council, by consensus, gave support to continuing to address the problem until corrected. Poulson submitted the monthly report and the annual financial report from the Firemen's Association. Poulson was complemented for supplying the information and for the work of the Association. Submitted was an invoice from 5 Alarm for registration for a Fire School in Wisconsin at the cost of \$524 per person. Poulson indicated that the department would like to have three people attend with the Association, the Town, and the Township sharing the expense. Brown moved, seconded by Buzzard that the Town pay one third of the cost of attendance at the conference. The motion was approved unanimously. Jimmy Asher of the Fire Department has volunteered to represent Warren on the Huntington County EMA Board of Directors.

Marshal Spitler submitted the March Activity Report and stated that quotes would be submitted at the next meeting for Council consideration of replacement of Tasers.

Morrison reported that Dustin Fortney, employee, had submitted plans for maintenance work on the playground equipment at Tower Park which includes replacement of swings, addition of swings and toddler swings, updating the wooden play set and others, and repainting of all equipment. In addition, work on replacing the diamond lighting will continue.

The Accounts Payable Register was approved as submitted.

General discussion was held.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 11.

Submitted _____ Clerk-Treasurer

Marilyn Morrison

Town Council:

As _____ President
Julia Glessner

As _____ Member
Steve Buzzard

As _____ Member
Tracey Brown

As _____ Member
Ethan Stivers