

Minutes of Regular Meeting, September 10, 2014

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Wednesday, September 10, 2014, at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne Street, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Town Council, Barb Trosper, Ethan Stivers, Julia Glessner; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Dennis Spitler, Lee Poulson. Others.

President Glessner called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and announced the opening of a Public Hearing on the 2015 Municipal Budget as advertised. Following review of the budget and requesting public input and hearing none, the Hearing was closed. Adoption of the budget is scheduled for the Regular Meeting of October 13.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 11th were approved as submitted.

Jonathon Leist, Director of Huntington County Solid Waste District, reviewed the last ten years of recycling in Huntington County noting the decline in the amount collected since county Towns dropped curbside service. The impact on the Huntington City Landfill has been the increase of trash collection which decreases the life expectancy of the landfill. Leist suggested that Council explore the possibility of adding curbside recycling back to the Trash Collection Contract. Leist cited that area contracts show a cost of approximately \$2 per household.

Larry Buzzard, Huntington County Commissioners, continued discussion of a request that the Town of Warren pay \$7000 per year for usage of the Huntington County Department of Community Development, a charge Buzzard said is necessary due to the City of Huntington leaving the County to form its' own Planning Department. The City had previously paid a portion of the cost of operating the County Department as much more work was generated by the City. Issues were discussed such as to how the Town's amount was determined, whether County taxes would be impacted, whether service would be available if the amount was not paid, necessity for more information regarding history of the DCD within the Town limits, Town property tax payers already paying County taxes for the service while part of their Warren tax rate would also go for the same service, level of staffing for the department, and more. President Glessner cited that the 2015 Budget was already in place so funds would either have to come from already budgeted amounts or would have to be delayed until the 2016 Budget if Council were to approve the request. The issue was left unresolved with more information requested.

Citing more and more instances of drivers parking on the wrong side of the street and upon review of the Town Code, Council by consensus, determined that the Parking Chapter of Town Code be updated and that the issue be addressed as part of that update.

Department of Community Development has scheduled a Public Hearing for October 13th, the next Regular Meeting of Council, for Notice of Condemnation for the property at 417 N. Grover Street. Morrison reviewed the procedure and noted that the Town Council would be asked to cover the cost of demolition if the property owner did not. A decision would be necessary at the next meeting of Council.

Fall Clean-Up days were scheduled for October 6-11th following procedures as used before.

Indiana Department of Environmental Management had requested a more in depth emergency plan related to a prolonged water outage as the current plan does not address that issue specifically. Morrison and Poulson have worked with an official from IDEM and the subsequent Municipal Water Utility Emergency Plan was submitted to Council for adoption as an addendum to the already in place general plan. Trosper moved, seconded by Stivers, to adopt the Plan as submitted. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussed, due to the snow emergencies of the past winter and projected snow level for the coming winter, was Town Code 72.25, section dealing with parking of vehicles on opposing sides of streets during snow removal efforts. Following discussion, it was determine that that section of Town Code also be updated.

Due to the Scarecrow Festival being scheduled for Halloween night, Trick-or-Treat hours were set for Thursday, October 30th, 6-8 PM.

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Morrison reported that work continues with preparing the Billing Software to work with radio read meters. Three representatives had worked on site on this date and had tested meters already in place. As not all meters have been replaced with radio read meters, the input of readings will still require manual input. Representatives will do further training on Monday, September 15th for input of actual meter readings and retest the system. Morrison will meet at 8:00 am on Monday, September 15th with Council Council to review the 2015 Municipal Budget.

Poulson reported on projects as follows

Alley Paving - no report received from Engineers. Plan being discussed to allow individual property owners to pave drives attached to alley at their own cost.

SR 5 INDOT Project – at least two more weeks if not more.

Wellhead Protection Plan Update – no report back from engineer or IDEM.

Radio Read Meter Installation – ongoing.

Sewer Relocation – IDEM required relocation at 124 S. Main, no quotes yet.

Park Building Repair – Contractor will do work during cold months.

Dump Truck – Used truck located in Decatur. Have not seen it yet.

Meetings/Conferences – Three employees to Conference on September 18th. Council concurred. Continuing Education hours for licensing.

Well Installation – Complete, pumping at over 500 GPM

Water Towers – need replacement of altitude valve at cost of \$4800. Tosper moved, Glessner seconded and motion approved unanimously.

Fire and Police Monthly reports submitted for review.

Smoking at Tower Park was discussed as action taken previously by Council making most of the Park non-smoking with designated areas. It has been observed that the action is not being observed. Discussion was held and it was determined that league officials be notified and meetings be held with league officials prior to next year to review Park Policy.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is October 13th and will include 2015 Budget Adoption and a Public Hearing by DCD.

Accounts Payable Register was approved in the amount of \$1,574,885.22 including monthly fund transfers.

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

Submitted _____ Clerk-
Marilyn Morrison Treasurer

Town Council:

As _____ President
Julia Glessner

As _____ Member
Tracey Brown (absent)

As _____ Member
Barb Trosper

As _____ Member
Ethan Stivers