

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, November 16, 2021, 6:30 PM

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

President Rush called the meeting to order with Vice President Kauffman, Council Member Budreau, Council Member Colanese, Council Member Doll and Clerk-Treasurer Susan Moffitt present.

Also in attendance: Andrea Halpin, Jared Huss, Perry Hinton, Jill Doll, Jason Quirk, Tom Baker, Carol Middlebrook, Dan Caruso

Approval of Minutes

Vice President Kauffman moved to accept the minutes of the November 2nd General Meeting, November 9th Special Meeting and November 12th Executive Session as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Budreau. Council Member Budreau and Council Member Doll abstained from the November 12 Executive Session. Motion carried.

Visitor Comments

- Dan Caruso

Dan expressed that there was nice work on the comprehensive plan information that was put together by the committee. He reported that at the County Commissioner meeting today they passed the redistricting vote and he is extremely disappointed that this Council did not support keeping Derek Dieter, saying that Derek sat down with us for meals and has been more involved than anyone ever has. He continued that he has now been banished to an area that he can't possibly win re-election in during the next election. Dan said that there are people in Granger telling him how much we have in common and he believes we have nothing in common with them and now Andy K represents all of them, us and all the way down to Walkerton. The public rallying the last few weeks made no difference. He stated that Deb Fleming is just a puppet of the party and they had already made up their minds and it was perfunctory talk. He said that it absolutely burned him that we left Derek out to dry without even attempting to say we like what he has done over here where they are trying to put all these things without checks and balances, transparency or public input. Derek stood up for us and he gets banished to an area of the city that is 30 percent republican and he stands no chance of winning re-election.

Employee Reports

- Chief Tom Baker

Reported that they are getting ready for the Christmas parade.

- Perry Hinton

Reported that the street and sidewalk projects are just about wrapped up with 2.5 pallets of sod to remaining to be finished on Ada.

- Jason Quirk

Reported that there is one more capital project to complete before end of the year. Tree trimming is scheduled for end of month. Council Member Colanese asked about taking down the old siren from the fire station and Jason replied that it is not scheduled yet but is on the books and Josh is very happy. Andrea stated that the siren is surplus of the Town and the value will have to be determined to decide how we will dispose of it.

- Attorney Andrea Halpin

Reported that she has worked on proposed ordinances and attended multiple meetings.

- Engineer Jared Huss

Reported that the projects are wrapping up and he will get final paperwork for approval in December. He has also worked on miscellaneous other items and getting Meridian and Bray prepared for the 2022 CCMG application.

Council Member Colanese asked about a conceptual drawing of the spray pad for the donors. Jared said that DLZ is working on that and hope to have that and two or three options ready for the second week of December. This will give the donor the options we are looking at so they can see progress and then coordinate with them further to meet their end-of-year deadline to donate. Council Member Colanese asked if that would go through Andrea or their lawyer and President Rush said that she has been trying to set a meeting and hasn't heard back from them yet and suggested Council Member Colanese could let them know. Jared said that following the meeting with DLZ, President Rush can get that information over to the donors and Andrea will handle the legal side.

Ordinances and Resolutions

- Ordinance #1419 – A Salary Ordinance for Town Employees

A motion to waive the rules to allow for adoption on the day of introduction was made by Council Member Budreau and seconded by Council Member Doll. Motion carried unanimously.

President Rush read Ordinance #1419 by caption only for the first reading.

President Rush read Ordinance #1419 in entirety for the second reading.

President Rush read Ordinance #1419 by caption only for the third and final reading.

Council Member Budreau moved to adopt Ordinance #1419 as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Doll and carried unanimously.

Council Reports

Vice President Kauffman

Vice President Kauffman reported that she has heard from a number of citizens and would like for the Council to entertain opening up town hall. Andrea said that we need to revisit security measures as well as barriers or temporary partitions. Jill stated that we are taking care of our residents and customers and have helped everyone who has needed assistance whether by meeting them at the door or having them in the office to assist them. Sue stated that they had looked into some temporary partitions similar to what the bank uses and found several available on Amazon.

Council Member Colanese

Reported that Town stuff is all good with everything. The Fire Territory renovation hit a snafu and they found that the equipment for the control unit was never funded and only the wiring for it was included in the project. Andrea suggested sending the contract to the territory attorney for review as the architect may be responsible. Council Member Colanese said that they also screwed up on the handicap bathroom and made it a regular bathroom. Cost for the equipment is approximately \$30k and \$20k for the bathroom issue. Andrea highly recommended sending the contract to Pete for review to see if the fire territory is liable for this, or if it is under the standard contract, is either CORE or the architect. We have a policies and procedures meeting coming up and Andrea suggested that maybe review of the contract can be added but it should be discussed with Pete prior to the meeting. Council Member Colanese stated that there is a cushion in the contingency fund. Andrea stated that we need to find out who is responsible first and not discuss that so Pete should be contacted asap to make recommendations as to who is responsible and what the remedies may be. Council Member Colanese said that the good news is, we are ahead of schedule. Council Member Doll added that if they finish early we will get some funding returned.

Council Member Doll

Reported they did a walk-through last week and found just some minor issues. At Race and Ada the sidewalk was slightly raised and so they will fix that. He feels they did a really good job.

Council Member Budreau

Reported that he and Vice President Kauffman will get together and talk about the website again soon.

Council Member Budreau stated that, in his personal opinion, the Town of New Carlisle, as a Council, has no dog in the fight settling anything with the County Commissioners when discussing boundaries. He does feel we have a good rapport with the Commissioners now, with both Andy and Derek. Andrea was asked for legal opinion on whether to support or not support any elected official and stated that she doesn't feel that it is appropriate.

Council Member Budreau thanked the other four members for working to put together employee bonuses. He feels it really shows Council appreciation for the amazing, wonderful employees of the Town who go above and beyond.

President Rush

Asked if the Council Members feel we need to hold another executive session to continue employee reviews or if everyone is comfortable with the work that has been done. Andrea stated that she feels that one is not needed at this point and that people in agreement will vote yes and those who do not will vote no. President Rush said that Sue sent out the most recent revision to everyone for review. Anyone who has a question or needs to speak to Andrea can call.

Everyone wished Vice President Kauffman a Happy Birthday!

Bills to be Paid

Council Member Budreau moved to pay all bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Doll and passed unanimously.

Jared and Andrea would like to do a holiday celebration again for all to get together after the first of the year and they will work with Sue and the office to get it organized.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Council Member Budreau and second by Vice President Kauffman the meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

Samantha Rush, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer