

**New Carlisle Town Council**  
**124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana**  
**Special Meeting, March 30, 2021, 5:00 PM**

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

Also in attendance: Andrea Halpin, Tom Baker

Chief Baker requested this meeting to discuss restarting a Police Reserve Unit for the department. He would like a limited number of reserves that can assist with things such as traffic control and assisting with maintaining scenes. He explained that he had previously used reserves and would like to do that again because they were a benefit to the department. Reserve officers are required to complete a 40-Hour Pre-Basic Course.

Andrea distributed information from the Indiana Code on requirements for reserve officers. She said that very specific rules could be set and those interested come onto the reserves knowing what those requirements are.

President Rush asked whether reserves work alone on a shift and Tom responded that they do work alone on other departments. He would like 4-5 reserves that would could come in as extras on a shift to ride with a patrol officer or patrol on their own. He previously also used them for assistance with special events such as Home Town Days. Tom explained that, in addition to the 40-hour pre-basic, the reserves have to have the same training annually as all officers on the department. Tom has had several people approach him to express interest in becoming a reserve. If having a reserve unit is approved, interested people would submit an information packet and also go through an interview process. Reserves cannot be paid but are provided uniforms and drive police vehicles. Council Member Colanese asked if background checks are required for reserves. Tom feels that they would be required although not as extensive as those we do for sworn officers and if they currently have powers on another department it wouldn't be necessary.

Council Member Colanese asked if the department has cameras and Tom replied that they have car cameras but unfortunately they have not been properly maintained and he is having them all repaired.

Council Member Doll asked if the people that have expressed interest have police experience. Tom replied that one is currently a reserve with another agency and works for county police and the other is employed by the county.

Council Member Colanese expressed concern that a reserve could come in with a heavy hand and asked how we could prevent that. Tom said that there would be specific guidelines.

Vice President Kauffman asked if we should wait until we have guidelines and hold further discussion and Tom responded that he needs manpower now and would like to move forward as soon as possible. Council Member Colanese stated that Tom is the expert in this situation and suggested we get the legalities as soon as possible to quickly make a decision and questioned whether we could take applications now and then decide. President Rush stated that she did not feel we would want to take applications until we determine whether or not to move forward with a reserve program and suggested contacting other local agencies that have reserve departments and ask if they would share the policies and/or guidelines they have in place. Vice President Kauffman and Chief Baker will contact other agencies regarding their policies. President Rush will schedule a meeting for further discussion and determination as soon as the information is available.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

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Samantha Rush, Council President

Attest:

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Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer