

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, November 10, 2009

President Higgins called the meeting to order with Vice President Groves, Council Member Mell, Council Member Colpitts, Council Member Gelow and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Also in attendance were Roger Nawrot, Pat Cummings, Bob Middlebrook, Mary Ann Swope, Bill Gumm, Oleta Kaminski, Joe Laureys, Carol Laureys, Tim Kaminski, Nadine Kaminski, Mike Shilts, Kim Huston, Tom Baker, Candie Drake, Jason Quirk, Shayne Landry, Kenny Davis, and Theresa Barnes.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Vice President Groves motioned to accept the minutes of October 27, 2009 as written. Seconded by Council Member Mell the motion passed unanimously.

Employee Reports

Pat Cummings

- He and Roger recently presented a conceptual improvement report on storm sewers and drainage along US 20 to INDOT.
- At the time of the electric territory purchase from AEP, the property at 54651 Wintergreen Road was inadvertently left out. Pat presented a contract between the Town and Mr. & Mrs. Suttor for Council approval that would add this property to the Town's electric territory. Pat has taken an average of their utility usage for the past three years to use as a basis for the three year contract. They will be billed a flat rate of \$160 per month for electric three years and will be charged per metered usage at the end of the three year period.

Council Member Colpitts moved to accept the contract with Jeff and Rhonda Suttor of 54651 Wintergreen Road for \$160 per month for the next three years. Seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

- Recently met with the committee on the zoning ordinance and will be meeting again on Thursday. John Byorni and Larry Magliozzi of Area Plan are reviewing the ordinance as well. Pat plans to have this ready for Council recommendation no later than the December 15th meeting.

Bill Gumm

- Reported that the building used for training on Walnut Road is in need of minor repairs. The department will do the repairs with Council approval.

Ordinances, Resolutions, Etc.

- **Ordinance #1219** - An ordinance regulating smoke detectors for rental properties was read in its entirety by President Higgins for the second reading.

President Higgins opened the floor for public comments on Ordinance #1219.

Nadine Kaminski: Questioned the added expense to the Town for enforcement of this ordinance.

Bob Middlebrook: Bill Herrbach advised that the smoke detector ordinance was the best solution to address the issue.

Tim Kaminski: Asked if this was a smoke detector ordinance or a property inspection ordinance.

President Higgins stated that this ordinance would offer some recourse for tenants who are afraid to report issues.

Mike Shilts: The State already mandates smoke detectors in rental properties.

Oleta Kaminski: Why just single out landlords and not make this applicable for the entire Town.

Because the attorney was not in attendance and there were so many unanswered questions regarding several aspects of this ordinance, President Higgins asked residents to write their questions and concerns and turn them in at the Clerk's Office. The questions and concerns will then be given to the attorney for response. This ordinance was tabled but will be on the agenda again for the November 24th meeting for further discussion.

- **Resolution #09-11-10-09** – A resolution providing for the transfer of appropriations for the General Fund, Motor Vehicle Highway Fund and the Cemetery Fund of the Town of New Carlisle.

President Higgins read Resolution #09-11-10-09 in its entirety. Council Member Mell moved to adopt Resolution #09-11-10-09. Seconded by Vice President Groves, the motion passed unanimously.

Council Reports

Council Member Colpitts

- Ken Davis will use Ambulance Department funds to pay a portion of the 2009 volunteer compensation. There was much more volunteer time than anticipated due to the elimination of the additional full-time position that was approved last year to begin in January of this year.

Public Comments

Theresa Barnes

- Her October 2009 Utility Bill had a very high water usage/charge and she feels that she could not have used this much water.

Sue explained that the original work order states that the wire for the water remote had been cut during water proofing work being done on her basement. A new meter was installed and the reading was taken from that meter. When bills were computed this water usage appeared high so a work order was written to re-read this meter. Augie brought the original meter into the Town Hall and that reading, with the reading from the new meter totaled the exact usage that was on the bill for Ms. Barnes.

Ms. Barnes stated that it turned out to be an antennae wire that was cut and not the wire for the water remote.

Sue further reports that we are unable to tell what caused this high usage and know only that the water did go through the meter. Because we do not know that date the remote stopped working and no usage was recorded or billed after the 8/17 reading the usage billed was for at least two months and possibly longer.

Following much discussion this was tabled until the next meeting for further investigation. Penalties will not be charged on this account for November as it remains in dispute.

Bills to be Paid

Council Member Gelow motioned to pay all bills as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously

Adjournment

Council Member Mell motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Colpitts, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer