

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting – April 13, 2010

President Higgins called the meeting to order with Vice President Colpitts, Council Member Mell, Council Member Groves, Council Member Gelow and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Also in attendance were Andrea Halpin, Pat Cummings, Roger Nawrot, Tom Baker, Augie Mauer, Jason Quirk, Candie Drake, Carol Middlebrook, Mary Ann Swope, Jill Doll, Davy Doll, Ken Davis, Jim Ford, Bill Gumm, Tim Kaminski, Jeff Justice, Heath McVay, Brenda Boniface, Scot Squires, Zachary Squires, Derek McVay, Adam Boniface and Carson Justice.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Vice President Colpitts motioned to accept the minutes of the March 24, 2010 Executive Session and March 24, 2010 General Meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

Recognition of Visitors

President Higgins welcomed the Weeblo Scouts and their leaders, Jeff Justice and Scot Squires to this evening's meeting.

Employee Reports

Tom Baker

- Is currently working on a new grant application that will require Council signatures when complete.
- Reminder that all golf carts must be registered with the police department.

Jason Quirk

- He has obtained all of the equipment necessary for Nick Cody who will begin class next week.

Bill Gumm

- The department issued a purchase order last week that contained electrical items that were not for the remodel of the fire station. All remodeling costs were paid for by the Olive Township Trustee. The PO does contain a stove and refrigerator for the meeting room. He previously spoke with both Olive and Hudson Townships who approved the purchase of these items and wanted to inform the Council of this purchase as well.
- At the Intergovernmental Meeting in June, Mr. Gray will be discussing Hudson Township getting out of the fire business. Bill feels that he cannot do this by law because he is required to provide fire protection and we need to be prepared. Mrs. Forbes is currently running for the Trustee position in Hudson Township and will hopefully be in attendance at the June meeting.

- Estimates cost of the 800 mhz radio system to be \$200,000 for the F.D. and is working with Sen. Arnold trying to find grants and funding alternatives. Feels this will need to be discussed in depth at the June meeting as well.

Andrea Halpin

- Is working on the proposed counter-offer to INDOT and has attended several meetings.

Roger Nawrot

- Received a call from a realtor in reference to the streets in the Weiss Homes development. Roger explained that they are private streets and the Town will not plow or maintain them.
- Reports that Mr. Cooreman is not explaining the non-access easement along Wintergreen to prospective buyers of Lot 1 at the Forest. There can be no driveway off of Wintergreen Road.

Pat Cummings

- Presented copies of a 27 Year Sidewalk Plan for Council review.

A copy of the plan will be available on the back table of the Council Room for review by residents.

Vice President Colpitts stated that we need to remember the precedent has been set in LaPorte and it is very good for to have a Town sidewalk plan in place.

At this time, President Higgins turned the meeting over to Vice President Colpitts who has attended meetings in her absence over the last week.

Vice President Colpitts reports that the second draft of the counter-proposal to the INDOT MOU has been prepared and reviewed.

Bill Gumm reports that he sent an email to Mr. McPhillips of INDOT regarding his concern as Fire Chief for the flooding situation at the viaduct. His received a call from Mr. McPhillips in return.

Vice President Colpitts left a message for Stacy Flick of INDOT mentioning the possible use of portable pumps being used when flooding occurs and was told that this could not be done.

Bill Gumm stated that his involvement is as Fire Chief not as a representative of the Town. His concern is the health and safety of our residents He explained to Mr. McPhillips that 2/10" of rain shut down US 20 at the viaduct and there were two accidents resulting from the flooding. He also had to stop kids from swimming in the water after 10 PM in the viaduct. He reports that Mr. McPhillips exact words were that "I will help you if you get your Town to sign an MOU and I'll get you a pump". He felt that he is being used as a pawn. Mr. McPhillips explained that

minutes from a 1985 Council Meeting stated that in 1985 Wayne Martenson asked the Council if the Town should clean the drains and was told yes.

Bill asked if this isn't US 20 and was told that he sees his point but just get the Town to sign the MOU.

Vice President Colpitts was told that there are no pumps available.

In reference to the agreement, Roger was on vacation and has some comments.

He feels that the change to pump replacement in place of repair is good but that the 90/10 maintenance is not as approximately 30% of the water is from the Town. Council Member Mell questioned where the 30% figure comes from and Roger replied that it is from a watershed report. He further suggests that the Town set up a stormwater utility to help with maintenance costs. He feels that we should use a 70/30 figure for the counter-proposal.

President Higgins stated that we need to be reasonable but we are also not going to be walked on.

Bill Gumm reports that Mr. McPhillips feels that the figure is 20/80 with 80% of the water entering the viaduct being from Town.

Vice President Colpitts motioned to accept Roger's professional recommendation that the Town enter into a 70/30 agreement on the MOU counter-proposal to move forward at this point. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mell and a roll call vote was taken. The result was a unanimous vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Pat Cummings reports that he received a call from Marcia Blancett of Mr. McPhillips' office on Friday 4/9 and was informed that Marcia was told to contact Pat to inform him that Mr. McPhillips is going to review the awarding of the TE Grant. Pat stated that funding for the TE grant had been previously approved.

Vice President Colpitts stated that he feels this is an intimidation tactic and that if this continues we will need to take it to the next level.

Andrea stated that they agree and feel that the people they have had correspondence with would not agree with this.

Vice President Colpitts reports that he issued a memo stating that any person with the Town to have contact with INDOT put all information regarding that contact in writing and turn in to Sue to be kept on file.

Council Member Gelow questioned the ability of INDOT to rescind the TE Grant. Roger replied that INDOT could as they hold the federal funds for the grant.

Andrea reports that she needs Exhibit B to be provided by Pat regarding pump specs. Percentages will be changed to 70/30 and all remaining articles will remain as amended. Chuck

will speak with the INDOT attorney who drafted the original document and then the counter-proposal will be submitted.

President Higgins expressed gratitude for the expertise and direction of our attorneys.

Council Member Gelow questioned what decision will be made on the sidewalks at Groceries by Joe.

Pat recommended that the Town release the bond stating that the sidewalks in this area are 24 years out on the proposed plan because connectivity is dangerous.

Council Member Gelow motioned that the sidewalk bond for Groceries by Joe be released. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mell and President Higgins called for a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Gelow Aye
President Higgins Aye
Council Member Mell Aye

Vice President Colpitts Nay
Council Member Groves Nay

Motion passed 3-2.

Pat asked if the Council wants the sidewalk on East Michigan Street that was partially removed when electric poles were installed replaced or removed as the current speed limit will preclude a permit being issued by INDOT. Pat spoke with the homeowner last week regarding this and was told the homeowner is waiting to see what the Town does about the sidewalk at Joe's.

Roger reports that the speed limit will probably be dropped when further development on the Borkowski property takes place.

Following discussion, Andrea was asked to research this issue.

New Business

- American Cancer Society New Prairie Relay for Life

The NP Relay for Life requests Council permission to "Paint the Town Purple" by putting up signs and purple ribbons on May 12th prior to the Relay for Life scheduled for June 4th and 5th.

Council Member Groves motioned to allow the American Cancer Society Relay for Life to "Paint the Town Purple". Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

Council Reports

Council Member Groves

- The Park Board would like to recommend Kari McLaughlin be hired as the Summer Park Program Director.

Vice President Colpitts motioned to accept the Park Board's recommendation that we retain Kari McLaughlin to run the Summer Parks Program this year. Motion seconded by Council Member Mell and passed unanimously.

Vice President Colpitts

- Preparation for the May 15th "Community Day" continues. He, Council Member Groves, Don Bayne and Dave Kirkham will be meeting again on Thursday, 4/15.

They are asking any individual or organization interested to come out. There are some projects that the Town has if anyone is interested. Girl Scouts will be planting flowers in the planters at the entrance to Bourissa Hills. Other plans include a pancake breakfast at the Lion's Club with proceeds going to the "Community Reserve".

Public Comment

Bill Gumm

- Has been invited to breakfast with Sen. Arnold and Mike McPhillips of INDOT. He would like to attend provided INDOT will receive the counter proposal prior to the meeting. His concern is Mr. McPhillips directive to get the Town to sign the MOU to get a pump for the viaduct.

Andrea stated that Bill must not negotiate and should explain that it is not within his jurisdiction to do so.

Mary Ann Swope

- Sent the Council an email regarding the relocation of town founder Richard Carlisle's children that included a brief history of the subject. She would like to have a roadside marker installed at Front & Cherry Streets and estimates the cost to be approximately \$2,000. She is seeking funding through donations from the NCBA, the Town and Walmart as we celebrate our 175th year. Mary Ann asks for \$1,000 from the Town for this project.

President Higgins stated that we will look at available funding and get back with Mary Ann.

Bills to be Paid

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

Adjournment

President Higgins adjourned the meeting at 8:28 pm.

Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer