

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting – March 8, 2011

President Higgins called the meeting to order with Vice President Colpitts, Council Member Groves, Council Member Gelow, Council Member Vojtko and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Also in attendance were Andrea Halpin, Pat Cummings, Jack Mell, Bob Middlebrook, Tom Baker, Ron Whitt, Jason Quirk, Tim Kaminski, Mary Countryman, Mary Ann Swope, Augie Mauer, Dawn Ebersole and Mike Ebersole.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Employee Reports

Tom Baker

- Tom introduced new full-time Officer Ron Whitt. Ron is academy certified.

Bob Middlebrook

- Following many attempts to get the owner of the portable sign placed at a business on Michigan Street to remove it, they remain in non-compliance and he has begun to fine the sign owner.

Vice President Colpitts asked if this could result in a lien being placed on the property. Andrea explained that it could become a lien against the sign owner but would not be attached to the property. The Council asked that Andrea send a letter to the property owner informing her of the continuing code violation.

Andrea Halpin

- Has obtained the last property legal description needed to complete the fire and ambulance agreement. Final copies of the agreement were distributed to the Council and following approval will be forwarded to both Olive and Hudson Townships in their final form.

Council Member Vojtko stated that time is of the essence for this agreement. Council Member Groves asked if this was the same document previously reviewed. Andrea reported some small changes such as addition of the legal description and other exhibits.

President Higgins read Resolution #11-03-08-02, a resolution transferring and accepting ownership of fire protection equipment and real estate from Hudson Township, in its entirety.

Council Member Vojtko moved to adopt Resolution #11-03-08-02. The motion was seconded by Council Member Groves and passed unanimously.

President Higgins read Resolution #11-03-08-03 in its entirety.

Vice President Colpitts moved to adopt Resolution #11-03-08-03. The motion was seconded by Council Member Vojtko and passed unanimously.

Vice President Colpitts moved to accept the Fire & Ambulance Protection Agreement as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Groves and passed unanimously. Andrea will forward the complete agreement to John Michalski and Joyce Forbes.

Pat Cummings

- Reports that a letter from Roger was included in the Council packets recommending H&G as the lowest and most responsible bidder for the viaduct project with a bid of \$113,794.50..

Vice President Colpitts moved to accept Roger's recommendation and award the bid for the Storm Water Improvement Project to Herrman & Goetz for \$113,794.50,

Council Member Vojtko asked if acceptance of this agreement means that the Town takes responsibility for this as he feels that we have no business doing so. He stated that the State retains control of the highway yet we are taking responsibility for what will most likely eventually become a money pit. Vice President Colpitts replied that an agreement is already in place between INDOT and the Town.

Vice President Colpitts explained that much was at stake with this deal. It was found that when the pumps were installed thirty years ago there was no contract, at least as far as anyone was able to determine. The State continued to drag their feet and the Council worked on an agreement with the State as they felt it was in the best interest of public safety.

Council Member Vojtko stated that he understands that there was pressure to fix the situation but feels that the State should take responsibility for the viaduct and that this is a flawed agreement.

President Higgins stated that Council Member Vojtko's opinion is important but the Council did what they had to do.

Council Member Gelow seconded the motion to accept the Herrman & Goetz bid of \$113,794.50 for the Storm Water Improvement Project. The motion passed 4-1 with Council Member Vojtko voting nay.

- Asked for Council comments and input on the information regarding fees presented at the last meeting.

There were no Council comments.

New Business

- New Town Brochures

Mary Ann Swope, representing the New Carlisle Business and Community Association, informed the Council that they have new brochures ready for printing. 1500 copies will be printed at a cost of \$1,088. This will be a larger brochure that will contain founding history of the Town as well as the listing of businesses and Town phone numbers. A local vendor will be used for printing this year.

Mary Ann asked if the Town will again share in the cost of printing of the brochures. Vice President Colpitts moved to pay \$594 out of the Council Promotional Fund to share in the printing cost with the NCBCA. The motion was seconded by Council Member Groves with the request that the Town website be included. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances and Resolutions

- Ordinance #1236 – An Ordinance regarding electric fees.

President Higgins read Ordinance #1236 in its entirety for the second reading.

- Resolution #11-03-08-01 – A Resolution regarding 125 Zigler Street.

President Higgins read Resolution#11-03-08-01 in its entirety.

Council Member Vojtko asked if all adjoining property owners will be notified of the sale of this property. All owners will be notified.

Vice President Colpitts moved to adopt Resolution #11-03-08-01. Council Member Vojtko seconded the motion which passed 4-0. President Higgins abstained.

Council Reports

Council Member Vojtko

- Reports that he just received the fire territory financial impact information. He would like to hold a meeting to review the information with both Hudson and Olive Townships. There was much information provided and he would like to address several questions with Paige of Umbaugh prior to the meeting.

The Council will hold a Work Session on Monday, March 14th at 4 PM.

Council Member Groves

- Announced that Waste Management is partnering with the Town for the Logo Contest. They will donate an IPAD 2 as part of the prize for the winner of the Town Logo contest. They are also donating \$500 to the Town to update business cards, letterhead, etc with the winning logo. The deadline for the contest has been extended to April 11th.
- Expressed her sympathy at the passing of long-time Clerk-Treasurer Wanda Wilhelm.

Council Member Gelow

- Expressed thanks to Keith Kauffman for all of his work clearing snow from the downtown sidewalks this winter.
- Would like to review security at Town buildings.

Following discussion, Jason Quirk suggested that this be handled in executive session. Andrea reported that this would be an issue for executive session.

Vice President Colpitts

- Recently filled out a survey received from Sen. Jim Arnold and has received results from that survey. He recommends everyone fill out and return these surveys as they help Sen. Arnold know what is important to his constituents.
- The move of the Public Works Dept. Secretary to Walnut Road is complete and Pat should complete his move to the Town Hall by Friday.
- The tentative date for Community Days is May 21st. He will have more details at the next meeting.
- Asked that Pat have the Code Book available on the Town website as soon as possible.

Council Member Vojtko asked who else will be at Walnut Road with Dawn. Vice President Colpitts reports that the Town Crew is in and out all day. Council Member Vojtko expressed concern about safety. Vice President Colpitts stated that the door remains locked at all times. Dawn reports that safety is not a concern for her. She is okay with the move and all has been great. President Higgins stated that if safety is ever a concern for Dawn, she should immediately bring it to Pat's attention.

Public Comments

None

Bills to be Paid

Vice President Colpitts moved to pay all bills as presented. Seconded by Council Member Vojtko, the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Vice President Colpitts moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Groves seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer