

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, February 25, 2014

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

President Colpitts called the meeting to order with Vice President Higgins, Council Member Gelow, and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Council Member Vojtko and Council Member Carter were absent. Also in attendance were Pat Cummings, Andrea Halpin, Mary Ann Swope, Jason Quirk, Tim Kaminski, Carol Middlebrook, Mike Shilts, Mike McClaran and Jill Doll. Lisa Mills entered the meeting late.

Minutes

Council Member Gelow moved to accept the minutes of the February 11, 2014 General Meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Vice President Higgins and passed 3-0.

Visitors Comments

Employee Reports

Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Tim Kaminski

The water treatment plant swing shift operator has resigned with his final day being today. Tim has reviewed applications currently on file and will be placing an ad in the paper for a replacement.

Attorney Andrea Halpin

Reports that she and Chuck have begun work on items discussed at the work session.

Public Works Director Pat Cummings

The newly purchased hot box used for street repairs has arrived and will make hole patching much easier.

Pat and Engineer Jared Huss will have 2014 Sidewalk Project plans ready for the next meeting.

On February 12th the Town began to request that residents run a small stream of water at one faucet to reduce the risk of frozen water lines. This was sent to news agencies and information sheets were delivered door to door as well. Pat reports that the water usage increase has been as he expected, between 36 and 50 thousand gallons per day.

Pat recently received a call from Jones, Petrie and Rafinski, the engineering firm contacted by Hudson Township to investigate options for a sewer system for Hudson Lake residents. Jones Petrie and Rafinski would like to include the town as a part of the possible options. They have requested information from Pat and he asked if the board is receptive to working with Jones, Petrie and Rafinski on the various options.

In response to Vice President Higgins inquiry about the company and where they are from,

Pat replied they have an office in South Bend as well as one in Elkhart and do this type of work.

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President Colpitts stated that his understanding is that they also do work for the City of South Bend and because it is a conflict of interest, they needed to ask the Town.

Vice President Higgins expressed concern regarding the ability of other parties involved to meet the financial requirements. Pat stated that the other towns/townships may run it as a sewer conservancy and bill their own customers. President Colpitts asked if we would also become a sewer conservancy and Pat stated that it would be a possibility.

Pat reports that EPA, Farm Home Administration and places that award grants have recently raised the threshold from low to mod income and the Town is now just under that threshold, possibly allowing us to qualify for a grant of 40-60 percent of the cost of a sewer plant.

President Colpitts stated that there would be much to take into consideration, including the recently adopted rate increases by the City of South Bend and much research to be done. The Town would not be making any commitments and only giving them information as they pursue options available.

Council Member Gelow moved that the Council is receptive to the Town assisting Jones Petrie and Rafinski with information they are requesting regarding sewer treatment plant options, provided there is no cost to the Town.

The motion was seconded by Vice President Higgins and passed 3-0.

Pat reports that he will be on vacation starting tomorrow at 10 AM to go to Kansas for his parents 60th Anniversary.

Council Reports

Vice President Higgins

Vice President Higgins read a letter of resignation received from long-time Cemetery Board Member, Bob Palm.

Vice President Higgins recognized Bob Palm for his dedicated service and leadership during his tenure on the Cemetery Board.

She recently reviewed the Town Code regarding cemetery board members and the Cemetery Board will be seeking interested persons who meet the criteria to fill the vacancy.

Clerk-Treasurers Report

The Clerk-Treasurer's Annual Report has been submitted thru Gateway and was presented to the Council. Copies are available in the Clerk's Office for review.

Bills to be Paid

Council Member Gelow moved to pay all bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice President Higgins and passed 3-0.

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Adjournment

Upon a motion to adjourn by Council Member Gelow and second by Vice President Higgins the meeting was adjourned at 5:24 PM.

Ronald Colpitts, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer