

New Carlisle Town Council
124 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana
General Meeting, March 22, 2016 5:00 PM

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Carter called the meeting to order with Vice President Vojtko, Council Member Vermillion and Clerk-Treasurer Susan Moffitt present. Council Member Rypma entered the meeting later. Council Member Budreau was absent.

Also in attendance were Andrea Halpin, Jared Huss, Brian Countryman, Josh Schweizer, Jason Quirk, Perry Hinton, Amanda Nally, Alan Tindall, John Gelow, Mary Ann Swope Jill Doll, Marcy Kauffman, Dawn Krueger, Carol Middlebrook, Sandy Raabe, Ryan Mann and Mike Yacullo.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2016 General Meeting and March 8, 2016 Work Session was made by Vice President Vojtko and seconded by Council Member Vermillion. Motion passed 3-0.

Visitor Comments

- Carol Middlebrook, 117 E. Front Street

Carol was in attendance to speak about the property at 102 E. Front Street that has been an on-going issue for several years. She was told that Mr. Keigley reported speaking with residents of the 100 block of E. Front Street and everyone said they had no problem with the property. She would like the Council to know that none of the neighbors in the 100 block has heard from or spoken with Mr. Keigley.

She reports that besides the appearance of the property, that no one would appreciate having in their neighborhood, and the fact that it devalues the property, there are several other ongoing issues.

The sidewalks which have been damaged by Mr. Keigley have been barricaded off for quite some time and school children have to walk in the street.

There has been dust blowing everywhere for many days in a row. The dust negatively affects the neighbor across the street that have a new baby who has developed breathing difficulties because of the dust that blows through all of the homes on the street.

Although there will be no work at the property for days or weeks, at times Mr. Keigley will then show up at 6 PM and work until 1 AM, disturbing the neighborhood. On other occasions, several neighbors have come out side because of yelling to find it was Mr. Keigley yelling at one of his workers using vulgar language that they were able to hear through closed doors and windows.

Carol asked that the Council address this situation as the neighbors do not deserve to have to put up with this for another year and that it should be taken care of now.

There was some discussion on the permits pulled for work at the property.

Jared stated that he agrees wholeheartedly with Mrs. Middlebrook and that we need to turn this over to the attorneys.

Council Member Vermillion reports that he spoke with Mr. Keigley last week and was told that it will be complete by March 31st.

Jared stated that many of the letters sent to the property owners contained time frames that would trigger the next action. He feels that we need to give all information to Andrea to start an action plan immediately so that we are ready when that March 31st date arrives.

Andrea informed the Council that the next step will be taken and he will be given final notice for the opportunity to comply. Should compliance not be met, we will then hire someone to complete the work and bring the property up to code and sue the property owner to collect the cost and fines accrued.

- Daniel Allen, 105 E. Front Street

Daniel was also in attendance to ask the Council to address this situation. His daughter has cystic fibrosis and the dust from the property is making her sick.

- Ryan Mann, 110 E. Front Street

Ryan lives next door to the property and states that they and other neighbors cannot even enjoy being outside. He spoke with Mr. Keigley when he first began and was told they were tearing down the house and retaining wall and would then rebuild the retaining wall. That was approximately two years ago and it is not complete.

Vice President Vojtko suggests that our attorney vigorously pursue this.

- John Gelow

John informed the Council that they will need approximately ten people when installation of the new playground equipment begins.

Employee Reports

Fire Chief Josh Schweizer

- The new fire truck has been delivered and is on station. He would be happy to show the truck and give a tour to anyone who would like to see it. A dedication ceremony will be held at a later date.
- The Intergovernmental meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 31st at 5 PM.

Electric Superintendent Jason Quirk

- We need to revisit replacement of the town tree soon as spring is here. The decision to remove the tree was based on the arborist's statement that the tree is dying and would need to be removed.

Council Member Rypma entered the meeting.

EMS Chief Brian Countryman

- He met with President Carter today to discuss billing collections.
- The requested state inspection of RA 291 is complete and it verified that there are substantial issues that would preclude its use as an ambulance.
- Reports that it was his mistake regarding the \$6,000 in repairs reported to RA291 as it was actually 191 that had the substantial work but 291 needed the work also. RA291 would take approximately \$6,000-8000 to repair.

President Carter asked about the status of the roof issue Brian reported at the January work session. Brian reports that he is waiting for bids but has spoken with the insurance company.

- Amanda reports that she presented the Council with options for financial agency collections. There are many customizable options for collections on arrears which is a very large amount of money.

Attorney Andrea Halpin

- They have assisted with several Public Records Requests
- Research regarding St. Joseph Energy

Engineer Jared Huss

- School zone speed limit signs will be ordered with the downtown street signs.
- SJEC draft document is nearly complete and should be ready for review soon.
- Water service for SJEC will be set up for their domestic connection soon.
- Sanitary and water extension project to support SJEC and loop our waterman at the Niespodziany Ditch and US 20 should go to bid in September of this year.
- Schematic design of the water treatment plant being constructed is complete and they are looking at architectural items.
- As permits come through, the town will be included as we will eventually own the water treatment plant. Permits will be signed by JMH.
- The Council will need additional discussion regarding the possibility of having additional inspection services when the SJEC water treatment plant construction begins.
- Existing Water Treatment Plant assessment is complete with a meeting/recommendations submission forthcoming.
- Brownfield Phase 1 Assessment at the American Legion is complete with a Phase 2 possible.
- Sidewalk project is progressing.
- The 2016 Street Project will include Ben Street, Bran Street and Front Street with Zigler as an alternative.
- The Ben and Bray Street Project will be advertised on April 7 and 14 with bid openings on April 26 and the contract awarded on May 10. Contracts would be signed at the May 24th meeting with construction to begin soon after.

- John Mrozinski is obtaining quotes on the Ben Street water services to alleviate the freezing issue. The paving project will follow completion.
- Will have a proposal for the paving project for the April 12th meeting.
- Would like a work session to discuss OCRA and SRF Process with Kathleen Wiessenberger
- Bill Schalliol was unable to attend today so a work session for April 18th at 5 PM was requested.
- A meeting is scheduled with INDOT for March 31 at town hall regarding the paving project for US 20 to be let in September of this year. There will be a coordination meeting at a later date regarding concrete work under the viaduct.

Old Business

- Review of A/V quote from last meeting

Vice President Vojtko moved to approve the additional \$1,500 for the ADA compliant headset interface. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rypma and passed 4-0.

- Disposal of 1999 Ambulance

Vice President Vojtko moved to table disposal of the 1999 Ambulance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Vermillion and passed 4-0.

New Business

- Ben & Bray Intersection Improvement Cover Sheet

Jared presented the cover sheet for the previously approved project for Council signature.

- Bobcat Sweeper Attachment

Vice President Vojtko reports that he emailed info on a Bobcat sweeper attachment to the Council. John and crew tried it out and it can be used in tight places, along the right of way, in the park, can be used to brush off light snow from sidewalks and it is generally more efficient.

Following discussion with John and his recommendation, Vice President Vojtko moved to approve the purchase of the Bobcat Sweeper for a cost of \$5,028.00. The motion was seconded by Council Member Vermillion and passed 4-0.

Council Reports

Council Member Rypma

- Thanked Chief Countryman for getting the requested documents from the State.
- He had the opportunity to see the new fire truck and reports that it is very nice.
- Stated that he personally appreciates the info given regarding the misinformation previously presented on the \$6,000 ambulance repair.
- Questioned the need for an ordinance to allow for collections by both the Fire Dept. and EMS.

Andrea reports that an ordinance will be required.

- Inquired about the status of the ordinance previously discussed addressing dead end streets.

Council Member Vermillion

- Attended the Park Board meeting last Friday and it was very nice. He reports that the DNR has accepted the five year master plan prepared by the Park Board. Unfortunately most grants that might be considered require matching funds.

Council Member Rypma reminded Council Member Vermillion that the park encumbered money for new playground equipment with an additional \$11,000 that will need to be used for this year or it will go back to general fund.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report

The Annual Report was advertised and submitted on Gateway February 26th. A copy was presented and will remain on file in the Clerk's Office for review.

Bills to be Paid

Vice President Vojtko moved to pay all bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rypma and passed 4-0

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Council Member Vermillion and second by Council Member Rypma the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 PM.

Ken Carter, Council President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer