

New Carlisle Town Council Work Session Memoranda, September 29, 2015

The work session was held in the council chambers at 9:00 AM.

Present were President Higgins, Vice President Vojtko, Council Member Carter, Council Member Rypma and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt. Council Member Gelow was absent.

Also in attendance were Attorney Andrea Halpin, Jason Quirk, John Mrozinski, Ron Colpitts, Kathy Aurenz and Cheryl Thomas.

The work session was scheduled for continued discussion of decorative lighting.

The Council had all expressed that the decorative lighting was an important part of our Town and all were in favor of its continuation. The Council had asked that options be researched and reviewed to allow continuation following several issues discovered and brought before the Council by the Electric Department. There was also much input from business owners as well as citizens of Town, all in favor of continuing the decorative lighting.

Options for continuation of the decorative lighting downtown from Jon Street east on Michigan Street to Race Street were discussed and would include a Waiver of Liability and Indemnification Statement executed by each property owner and business owner. A draft copy was prepared by Andrea and presented for Council review.

There was discussion of existing inventory including lights and wreaths. The purchase of LED lighting, sturdier clips to hold the lighting in place and other necessary items was also discussed. The LED lighting would lower the electric consumption and the sturdier clips would hold the lighting in place much better, reducing the need for constant repairs. Although the cost for purchasing necessary items this year would be approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000, costs in years following would be significantly lower. It was suggested that costs involved in continuing the decorative lighting could be paid for from the Council Promotional Fund.

The Electric Department will continue to handle rooftop lighting and wreaths and with lighting at Memorial Park and the Christmas tree in front of the garage at the viaduct handled by the Town Crew.

There was discussion regarding the Town Christmas Tree. An arborist was called to look at the tree and found that the tree is dying and he expects that it will be completely brown within 2 years. Greg Dudeck of Dudeck Tree Farm has offered to donate a tree to the town. Following discussion the consensus was that the trees remain for 2015 to allow for pictures, etc. this year and that it be replaced in the spring of 2016.

Upon a motion by Council Rypma and second by Council Member Carter the work session was adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Carolyn Higgins, President

Attest:

Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer