

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

June 10, 2019

7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President N. Cobbs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Deputy Clerk-Treasurer K. Hrapek; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member L. Kittredge, Council Member D. Lafata, Council Member N. Cobbs, and Council Member E. DeLaney.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2019 Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to approve the claims as presented, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Town Attorney Lukmann stated the Council did not vote on the claims at the last meeting when presented. They have been paid and he suggested a motion to ratify payment of them. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to ratify the claims from the meeting of May 28, 2019, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

NONE

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

- A. POLICE - No Report
- B. FIRE - No Report
- C. CLERK-TREASURER – No Report
- D. STREETS, SANITATION & CENTRAL SERVICES- Commissioner J. Schnadenberg commented that the State Highway Department has cleared trees and shrubbery along SR 49 in the area of the old Kmart and Wendys and would be installing a new fence in that area. He also provided updates on the paving projects on 8th St and 11th St. and paving in Chestnut Hills. He reported the Morgan Park project has been completed. He advised the difficulties associated in working with multiple paving companies and advised on Thursday they would begin milling Porter Ave with paving on Friday and Saturday. He also reported on the work to be done on 15th St. He reported on the work by J. Gadzala and team of volunteers prepared the downtown planters and hanging baskets. He advised his department would take care of watering the plants.

He also reported on the paving of the Town lot in the area of the Chamber and handling the storm water drain in the area of 4th St.

E. ENGINEERING – Engineer M. O’Dell reported the Assistant Engineer Kacie worked on the paving and storm water drain project in the area. He also reported on the work they have been doing with the parking on Broadway from 2nd to 3rd Streets. He advised they would have to relocate 2 handicap parking spaces because they would not be able to use parallel parking spaces as handicap spaces. He also advised they would be changing Indiana Ave parking to angle parking and since it is a one-way road. There would only be one lane of roadway where the angle parking was established. He also advised the roadway would be narrowed because of a bike lane created along Indiana Ave. He stated that this was in the planning stage and for the review and input of the Council and businesses. Council Member J. Ton acknowledged businesses between 2nd and 3rd Streets have been contacted and so far are ok with the change. Street Commissioner Schnadenberg prior to beginning the project they would have to confer with the businesses so that the work would have the least negative impact on the businesses. Council Member J. Ton commented the sooner the better, this is a good facelift for the downtown and is needed.

F. BUILDING - No Report

G. PARK - Superintendent B. Mathias reported on the splash pad work and explained what work that has been done and is being done to resolve the problem.

H. ATTORNEY - No Report

I. UTILITIES - No Report

J. TOWN MANAGER- No Report

K. NIRPC REPORT - Council Member J. Ton requested that item K be removed and the NIRPC report would be moved to New Business Updates and would include NIRPC information as well as information regarding the CEDC.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS AND REMONSTRANCES

Vacation of PublicWay – J. D. and Diana Arroyo – Council President N. Cobbs opened the Public Hearing. He asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of the petition. Mrs. Arroyo explained that when they bought their house they found that the driveway was in the public right of way and are requesting it be vacated. President N. Cobbs asked if there was anyone else to speak in favor. He then asked if there was anyone to speak in opposition. Council President N. Cobbs closed the Public Hearing.

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2019-09 – An Ordinance of the Town of Chesterton, Porter County, Indiana Vacating a Portion of a Public Way - Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the Ordinance on 1st Reading, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the Ordinance on 2nd Reading, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Laura Layman – representing Duneland Business Initiative Group and the Chesteron Lion’s Club – requested the Council donate to the Family 4th Fest in the amount of \$300. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to donate and support the Family 4th Fest, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Final Inspection Contract – Westchester Liberty Trail Phase II – Engineer M. O’Dell requested Council sign the INDOT required paperwork for the Westchester Liberty Trail project. Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to approve the request, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Quiet Zone – Council Member J. Ton requested an update on the RFP for the Quiet Zone, Engineer M. O’Dell advised he was still working on this and it required statutory citations before forwarding it to the Town Attorney for legal review. He advised that once he has that done it would be given to the Town Attorney for their review.

NEW BUSINESS

1957 Texas St – Nick Scalise – No show, Engineer M. O’Dell advised he had it placed on the agenda because he had a conversation with Mr. Scalise. Council requested this be removed from the agenda.

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member J. Ton: Council Member J. Ton complimented the “3 Musketeers” that he feels are recognized enough and are responsible for acquiring millions of dollars of grant money for the Town. He identified them as Jennifer Gadzala, Mark O’Dell, and John Schnadenberg. He advised they are very efficient at writing the grant applications. They deserve the credit and thanks for their hard work, those grants are not easy to write. In response, Engineer M. O’Dell advised that Council Member J. Ton’s work on the committee aids in the awarding of the grants.

Council Member E. DeLaney: Council Member E. DeLaney commented on the amount of work that has been done preparing the information for the modified parking in the downtown area and it is made possible by the work of all the department heads and legal department, it is a wonderful thing. He advised he has spoken with businesses downtown recently and they had commented on how vibrant the downtown is becoming.

Council Member L. Kittredge:	No Comment
Council Member D. Lafata:	No Comment
Council Member N. Cobbs:	No Comment

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. meeting adjourned.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer K. Hrapek