

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
October 12, 2020
6:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President S. Darnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvaré; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member D. Lafata, Council Member S. Darnell, Council Member J. Fisher, and Council Member L. Kittredge.

III. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvaré presented the 2021 Budget to the Council. Council Member L. Kittredge made a motion to recess and reconvene at 7:00 PM, seconded by Council Member J. Fisher, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council was recessed at 6:35 PM.

President S. Darnell called the meeting back to order at 7:00 PM

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 meeting; motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

V. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

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

VI. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Waiver of Standards- 2302 Dakota St. - Brian Lewandowski of 913 S. 22nd St. spoke about this waiver of Town Standards request for 2302 Dakota St. Lewandowski began by saying there are no sidewalks in the entire subdivision and that there is drainage in the area where the sidewalk would normally be located. Council President S. Darnell questioned whether or not Lewandowski had included the location of the sidewalk on the plans when submitting the permit applications. Town Engineer M. O'Dell said there was a note on the application saying

sidewalks would be required per town standards. Lewandowski wondered if the waiver was not granted, where the best spot to place the sidewalk may be. Lewandowski said he spoke with Michael Barry from the Town of Porter (adjacent lot to the north) and he has no intentions of putting a sidewalk on the north side of the property. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to take the waiver under advisement and to ask for a letter of recommendation from department heads, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Vacation of a Utility Easement & Vacation of a Drainage Easement- 1685 Sand Creek Dr. - Kurt & Diane Schmiegel- Todd Leaf spoke on behalf of petitioners, Kurt & Diane Schmiegel. The petition involves Lot 67 of Phase II of Sand Creek Subdivision. Leaf explained that he has reports from a title company showing no easements. However, two other plats do show easements and this clouds the title. An 811 locate request was done and easements were discovered from the Town, GTE Telephone, NIPSCO. 811 showed no utilities. The petitioners requested a public hearing. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to set the public hearing for both vacations (utility & drainage) on October 26, 2020, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VII. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Police—Police Chief D. Cincoski stated the hours for trick-or-treat in the Town of Chesterton will be 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on October 31, 2020. Chief Cincoski also said it is a personal choice regarding whether or not you participate. Persons not interested in participating in trick-or-treat have been advised to leave their porch lights off. Those that are participating have been advised to use caution.

B. Fire – Emergency Vehicle Preemption Support Letter- Fire Chief Jarka asked the Council for approval and the Council President’s signature on the preemption program support letter. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the support letter for this project, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Chief Jarka reported Deputy Chief Williams, Town Engineer Mark O’Dell, and Robinson Engineering have been working on this project. They are hoping other communities join in with letters of support.

C. Clerk Treasurer—NO REPORT

D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service —Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg said October 26 will start the Monday through Friday schedule for leaf pick up. Additionally, Commissioner Schnadenberg recommended raising the wage from \$12 an hour to \$15 an hour for the position of part-time help street department positions for the leaf program. There has been little interest in the 5 week program at \$12 an hour. Furthermore, Commissioner Schnadenberg reported that paving on Calumet will begin on October 13th There will be southbound traffic only, with the northbound traffic detoured. Lastly, Commissioner Schnadenberg mentioned he would like to upgrade an equipment need for next year from an

F250 to an F550 Truck. The F550 would be more versatile, able to hold 4 passengers, and have an upgrade of dump bed. This purchase would be around \$95,000. He would like to get the truck May or June of next year and asked for the Council's permission to purchase. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the purchase upgrade, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

E. Engineering—Town Engineer M. O'Dell said he has been working on the park master plan with Superintendent S. Griffin. Additionally, Engineer O'Dell has been working on a sidewalk plan with Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg. They have been comparing these plans to the 2011 ADA transition plan and focusing on the old part of Town. Furthermore, they are working on a community crossing grant for Dickinson/Rail Road due at end of month.

F. Building—Building Commissioner M. O'Dell said the distillery - located in former bowling alley- has a building permit and that this will be a two phase project, requiring them to build a three hour firewall. They have been working with Commissioner O'Dell, and Fire Chief Jarka on this. A BZA variance had been granted for the distillery to have a storage area in the back. They also will be remodeling the front of the building. A remodeling inspection has been done for Oh Gee Donuts. Aldi has submitted building and architectural plans and the Town is starting to review these. Additionally, Aldi will have a BZA sign permit review process. Construction for Aldi will start in Spring 2021.

G. Parks – NO REPORT

H. Attorney—NO REPORT

I. Utilities—Superintendent D. Ryan reported that on October 26 there will be a week of manhole spraying on Wabash with road detours present.

J. Town Manager—Town Manager B. Doyle reported that Aldi has a good schedule for their upcoming construction and that their plan is to be done by late fall.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS, & REMONSTRANCES

Public Hearing- Ordinance 2020-16- 2021 Budget- Town Attorney Lukmann presented this Ordinance for 2021 appropriations and tax rates. Council President S. Darnell opened the matter to public hearing. No comments were made for or against. Public hearing was closed. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2020-15- Approving Settlement Agreement with Local 4600, Amending Town's Personnel Policy Handbook, and an Amendment to Agreement with Chesterton Firefighters Local 4600- Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to suspend the rules, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J.

Fisher made the motion to approve the ordinance on second reading, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

XI. OLD BUSINESS

Quiet Zone- No Report

Vacate a Right of Way- 401 S. 10th. St- Kelly Foster- Not present. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to remove this from the agenda/not to pursue further, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

XII. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

NONE

XIII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member S. Darnell: Council President S. Darnell thanked Clerk Treasurer C. Udvare for the user-friendly budget presentation.

Council Member J. Fisher: Council Member J. Fisher thanked Clerk Treasurer Udvare for the budget presentation and said it was really fantastic. Fisher also thanked the legal team and those involved for their hard work on the settlement with Local 4600.

Council Member L. Kittredge: No Comment

Council Member J. Ton: Council Member J. Ton thanked Clerk Treasurer Udvare for the excellent budget presentation. Ton said it was well done, well organized, and very clear.

Council Member D. Lafata: No Comment

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

CLERK TREASURER C. UDVARE