

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
October 26, 2020  
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President S. Darnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2020 meeting; motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

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

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

**Refuse & Recycling** - Jim Metros of Republic Services discussed the current conditions of the recycling market that are impacting the cost of the Town's contract renewal with Republic Services. Metros stated that costs of recycling are increasing due to products being made differently. Metros added that China would no longer take recycling unless it is not contaminated. Revenue is generated off of trash services. The issue arose regarding extending the Town's contract with Republic Services vs. going out to bid for the Town's trash/recycling services. Council Member J. Ton said that since the price increase would be over 2%, the Town would legally have to bid out for services. Republic Services current contract with the Town ends December 31, 2020. Town Attorney Lukmann said the Town could look for a 3 year option or 1, 2, and 3 year bids from companies. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to go out for bid for refuse & recycling services for the Town in the forms of 1, 2, and 3 year options at the November 23, 2020 Town Council meeting, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

## VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

**A. Police**—Police Chief D. Cincoski reported that the grant was successful for bullet proof vests and the Police Department will receive \$2,926.00. Also, the Police Department received 450 lbs. of prescriptions and 26 lbs. of needles through the DEA drug take back program. They will be properly destroyed.

**B. Fire – Emergency Vehicle Preemption Support Letter-** NO REPORT

**C. Clerk Treasurer**—NO REPORT

**D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service** —Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg reported that the Street Department has started their Monday through Friday leaf route. Calumet Ave. has been paved and will be striped soon, weather permitting.

**E. Engineering**—Town Engineer M. O’Dell said that the emergency vehicle preemption grant has been submitted. The Community Crossing grant has also been submitted.

**F. Building** —NO REPORT

**G. Parks** – NO REPORT

**H. Attorney**—NO REPORT

**I. Utilities**—NO REPORT

**J. Town Manager—Cares Act Requests-** Town Manager B. Doyle reported that there have been no new requests. MS4 Coordinator, J. Gadzala, will provide a presentation regarding the Chesterton Branding and Leadership Team (CBLT) for the Town Council in November. There is more grant funding available through the Main Street program once CBLT comes under the DEDC. The CBLT is joining with the Duneland Economic Development Committee (DEDC) under their 501(c)3 until CBLT gets their own. Council Member J. Ton commented that Main Street did not work for Chesterton in past years because of income, but we may qualify now.

## VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS, & REMONSTRANCES

**Vacate a Utility & Drainage Easement-** 1685 Sand Creek Dr.—Kurt & Diane Schmiegel- The hearing was opened regarding these vacations. Attorney Todd Leaf was present representing the owners, the Schmiegels. Town Engineer M. O’Dell commented that there is no need for the easement for the Town. No one spoke for the easement or against the easement. The hearing was closed.

## VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

**Ordinance 2020-16-2021 Budget-2<sup>nd</sup> Reading-** Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Ordinance 2020-17- Vacating Platted Easements- 1685 Sand Creek Dr.-** Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the ordinance on 1<sup>st</sup> reading, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to suspend the rules, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

**Quiet Zone-** No Report

**Waiver of Standards-**2302 Dakota St.-Brian Lewandowski of 913 S. 22<sup>rd</sup> St. - Department Heads have recommended to deny this request. Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to deny the waiver of standards, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

XI. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

**John Rogers- Riverfront District** – John Rogers of The Golden Leaf spoke to the Town Council about opening a new location in Chesterton. In his Michigan City and Hobart stores, customers were bring their own alcohol but Excise will no longer allow that. Rogers is seeking riverfront designation in order to get a liquor license. Town Attorney Lukmann and Town Manager B. Doyle have reviewed Rogers’ plans for 30 seats as well as hot food service at this new location and have found no issues. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to proceed with designation, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Interviews for Incoming Town Manager-** Council Member J. Ton made the motion to make the cutoff date for applications for this position Wednesday, October 28, 2020, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to hold executive sessions at 4 P.M. on November 4, 2020 and November 18, 2020 for the purpose of discussing applications received and interviewing for the position, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member S. Darnell:	No comment
Council Member J. Fisher:	No comment

Council Member L. Kittredge:	No comment
Council Member J. Ton:	No comment
Council Member D. Lafata:	No comment

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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CLERK TREASURER C. UDVARE