

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

July 26, 2021

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. Udvard; present were Council Member S. Darnell, Council Member J. Ton, Council Member L. Kittredge, Council Member D. Lafata, and Council Member J. Fisher.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021 Meeting, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; 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

Indiana American Water- Water Main Replacement on Wabash- Ed Nickels- Nickels was not present at the meeting. Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg explained that a water main was scheduled to be replaced by Indiana American Water on Wabash last year but had been postponed due to Covid. They are going from 8th to Calumet, which was just paved. The compromise, instead of just redoing the road cuts, is the entire intersection would be milled and re-paved, which would prevent more utility cuts, bumps, and settling. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to authorize this compromise on the project, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Police— Interim Police Chief R. Byrd reported that incoming Police Chief Tim Richardson starts on August 16th.

B. Fire – Chief E. Camel reported that CFD has received the Aqua Eye machine and has been testing it out at Porter Beach. The machine locates bodies in water. Also, Chief Camel reported that Captain Jarka will be retiring July 31st and thanked Jarka for his 24 years of service.

C. Clerk Treasurer- Town Auction & Budget Dates- Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvare sought Council approval for the Town Auction to be held on September 21st. Clerk-Treasurer Udvare explained that the Town has a contract drawn up with James Waggoner’s Auction Service – who we have used in previous years. The contract has already been reviewed and approved by legal. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to authorize the auction and contract, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Next, Clerk-Treasurer Udvare explained that the public hearing for the 2022 budget has been tentatively set for October 11, 2021 and the budget adoption for October 25, 2021. The hearing and adoption will be held during regular Town Council meetings. Lastly, Clerk-Treasurer Udvare reported that no ARP funds have been received yet.

D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service – Equipment Replacement- Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg reported that the Community Crossing Grant has been submitted and that he hopes to hear an update by the end of October. Commissioner Schnadenberg reviewed a letter he provided to the Council regarding equipment replacements. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the purchase of the new mower & tractor, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the purchase of the pickup truck, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

E. Engineering—Town Engineer M. O’Dell reported that his department is reviewing phase 4 of Easton Park and also that Springdale is done with Phase 3. Lastly, Engineer O’Dell explained that the 1100 Woods plans must be modified by an engineering firm.

F. Building —Building Commissioner M. O’Dell advised homeowners to check if they need a permit before starting projects. Additionally, it was advised that homeowners doing projects check if their contractors are registered with the Town. He also reported that the new Aldi construction is moving along with the sprinkler systems being approved. He and Utility Superintendent Dave Ryan recently met with property owner regarding lift station upgrades.

G. Parks –Superintendent S. Griffin reported that SEH will be at the European Market presenting Coffee Creek Re-Invention ideas information. Also, hikes through Coffee Creek will be lead at 9:00, 11:00, and 1:00. Public input is sought regarding which version of plans to use for the park.

H. Attorney—NO REPORT

I. Utilities—NO REPORT

J. Town Manager—Social Media Archives-Town Manager D. Cincoski reported on a service that archives social media for public records requests. Town Manager Cincoski is researching this, and more information will be provided. Next, Town Manager Cincoski reported that Travel IN has produced a nice article about Chesterton on page 42 of its publication. Lastly, Town Manager Cincoski requested CREDIT funds/the ability to get quotes to replace HVAC at the 220 Broadway Chamber building. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to proceed with getting quote for the HVAC at 220 Broadway, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS, & REMONSTRANCES

NONE

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

NONE

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Jeff Trout- Resignation from Plan Commission and Redevelopment Commission- Clerk Treasurer C. Udvare reported that she received an email from Jeff Trout stating that he will be moving out of the area and that this will be his last month on the Redevelopment and Plan Commission. Public Liaison Nevers will put information regarding the vacant positions online.

NIRPC Board Report- Council Member J. Ton provided the recent NIRPC Board Report. They hope to resume in-person meetings soon. He provided a report on Cares Act business loans, NWI projects for the Investment in America Act, RAISE grants, and INDOT projects The report also noted that Census data will be released in August—hopefully generating more Federal dollars for NWI, Porter County especially.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Waiver of Town Standards- Rita and Len Davia- Council Member Darnell reported that the engineer had previously asked for a letter from the adjacent property owners which was received. It satisfied both the Town Engineer and Legal. Council Member J. Ton approved the project subject to completion of engineers requirements & drainage system/ legal approval, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Quiet Zone- Council Member J. Ton reported things are going on behind the scenes. The Riotech study has been received. Town Manager Cincoski, Town Engineer O'Dell, and Council Member Ton will work on a response and provide an update at the next meeting.

XI. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

NONE

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 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