

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
November 22, 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. Udvare; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member D. Lafata, Council Member J. Fisher, and Council Member S. Darnell. Council Member L. Kittredge was absent.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

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

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

NONE

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

**A. Police**— Chief Richardson reported that the manhunt Saturday was handled well-great work to all departments involved. The Porter Police Officer that was injured in the crash is improving.

**B. Fire** – Chief Camel stated that Precision Dental received a life saver award for administering CPR and using the defibrillator on November 3.

**C. Clerk Treasurer- 2022 Holiday Calendar-** Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the 2022 Holiday Calendar as submitted, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve moving the 2<sup>nd</sup> Town Council meeting in December to December 28, 2021, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service** – Assistant Street Commissioner D. Moy requested

that the 2” snow ban be in effect December 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:01 AM. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the enactment of the snow ban, motion seconded by council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg reported that leaf pick up is behind because of the holiday. The program will be extended to December 10. Commissioner Schnadenberg also reported on the Texas Street project with the bid process hopefully opening January 10, 2022 and being awarded the second meeting of January. This project is part of a community crossing grant. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to allow going out for bid January 10, 2022, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**E. Engineering**—Town Engineer M. O’Dell reported that the department has been reviewing the Ken Allen building which will be breaking ground next week. The road leading to the project, Allen Court, will not be paved this year but the base will be down.

**F. Building** — Building Commissioner M. O’Dell reported that the department is inspecting the Allure and they will have a sprinkler system in place.

**G. Parks** –Superintendent S. Griffin reported that the Park Department is decorating Thomas Centennial Park for Christmas and is getting ready for the tree lighting this coming Saturday. Also, Griffin reported that Thomas Centennial Park has a new bench which was donated by the CHS class of 1971.

**H. Attorney**—NO REPORT

**I. Utilities**—NO REPORT

**J. Town Manager**—Town Manager Cincoski reported on the renewal for South Shore Clean Cities, an organization which helps write grant applications. They recently were paid by the town to write a grant for funds from the Department of Energy which was not awarded to the town. Fire Chief Camel requested information from Department of Energy regarding why the Town was denied and they would not provide the denial information. Council Member S. Darnell questioned what the Town gets for the \$250—besides grant writing which is still an additional fee. Council Member J. Ton recommended a renewal in the amount of \$250 and stated that South Shore Clean Cities works with NIRPC as well. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to renew in the amount of \$250, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Next, Town Manager Cincoski provided copies of the greenhouse gas inventory report. This is a program with NIRPC. Chesterton has a 37% greenhouse gas rating from residents, 27% from commercial use, and a lot from transportation because of travel, which indirectly effects Chesterton. Town Manager Cincoski explained that the next step with this would occur in 2022 and would involve establishing a greenhouse gas elimination strategy. NIRPC is looking at a regional approach to this because a lot of the greenhouse gasses are indirect. More follow up to come.

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

NONE

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

**Ordinance 2021-25- Vacating a Portion of a Public Way- Bennett’s Rentals- 2001 W. Morgan Ave. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** The public hearing and 1<sup>st</sup> reading for this ordinance occurred at the previous Town Council meeting. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton has no reservations about the development fitting in with area.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

**Quiet Zone-** Town Manager Cincoski received the evaluation report and provided copies to the council. The evaluation is only a recommendation. The cost is an estimate. The next step will be for the consultants to present this report to the Council and to answer any questions. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve holding a special Town Council meeting which will include a consultant presentation on January 10, 2022 at 5:30 PM, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

**NIRPC Report-** Council Member J. Ton reported that there is a grant for Marquette greenway to connect Chicago to New Buffalo, MI. This will include the Calumet Trail. The Marquette Greenway system of trails and development has been funded to the extent of 17 million dollars. The Greenway will extend from the Illinois state line to New Buffalo, Michigan through NW Indiana. It has a 5-year window for completion and is the largest regional award so far. Ton also reported that matching funds by local entities will be required to take advantage of new Federal Funding. In this regard, NIRPC is currently funded by tax at \$.70 per capital. It is recommended that the per capita assessment be raised to \$1.00.

XI. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

NONE

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member S. Darnell:	No comment
Council Member J. Fisher:	Member Fisher wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Birthday to Kevin Nevers. Hometown Holiday celebration is this coming weekend.

Council Member L. Kittredge:	No comment
Council Member J. Ton: Thanksgiving.	Member J. Ton wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.
Council Member D. Lafata:	No comment

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST:

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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CLERK-TREASURER C. UDVARE