

Minutes of Regular Meeting, March 22, 2021

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, March 22, 2021 in a Regular Meeting at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne St, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Council Members, Ethan Stivers, Steve Buzzard, Carrie Miller, Tavis Surfus; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison. Financial Consultant Greg Guerrettaz of Financial Solutions Group; Ben Adams of Commonwealth Engineering; Employees, Brian Sills; Others.

President Stivers opened the meeting at 6:00 PM and announced the opening of a scheduled public hearing on Ordinance 2021-4, an Ordinance to Re-establish the rate in the CCD Fund. Calling for public input and hearing none, the hearing was closed. Buzzard moved, seconded by Surfus to adopt Ordinance 2021-4. The Ordinance was approved unanimously.

Greg Guerrettaz, Financial Consultant, made opening comments regarding the steps necessary toward completing the Funding process for the Water Upgrade Project. Buzzard moved, seconded by Surfus, to adopt Ordinance 2021-3, An Ordinance Authorizing Issuance of Waterworks Revenue Bonds, which was then approved unanimously. Also submitted for consideration was an Agreement with the State Revolving Loan Fund for issuance of a loan to support the Water Upgrade Project. Miller moved approval of signing of the document and was seconded by Buzzard. The motion was approved unanimously. Guerrettaz reviewed information discussed at the previous meeting regarding a proposal to reduce the Electric Tracker factor from .07692 to .06192. Submitted for consideration was Resolution 2-2021, A Resolution to Amend the Tracker Factor. Stivers moved, seconded by Buzzard, to approve the Resolution. The motion was approved unanimously. The reduced rate will go into effect on the May 1st Billing. Guerrettaz and Morrison reviewed the previous Financial Comprehensive Plan and detailed moving forward with an update of the plan. The update of the Five Year Plan will be completed in 2021. Ben Adams, Commonwealth Engineering, reported that work on the ADA Compliance Plan was underway. No date given for completion.

Ordinance 2021-6, and Ordinance Allowing the use of EFT and ACH in Financial Matters of the Town was submitted for consideration of adoption. Miller moved, seconded by Buzzard, to adopt. The motion was approved unanimously.

A representative of The Huntington County Department of Community Development has reported that process will begin on Orders of Demolition on houses at 313 Matilda and 218 W. Third which Council had approved in 2020.

An Executive Session was set for Monday, March 29, for discussion of sale of real property.

Settlement with Salamonie Township for Fire Expenses in 2020 has not been completed due to lack of financial information from the Township.

Reported was that while the PreTreatment System at Golfo has been installed, it is not operational as a Certified Operator has not been hired and training on the operation has not been done. Morrison also reported that due to apparent malfunctioning of a flow meter installed by Golfo, billing for sewer consumption is still being based on water consumption. In addition, the Town's Compliance Manager had notified that proper reporting was not being done and that some reports received were inaccurate. Ben Adams, Commonwealth, noted that he would review. An update is expected at the April 12 Meeting of Council.

Representatives of Historic Warren requested Council consideration of the placement of a mural on the side of the building on Wayne Street. Following discussion and by consensus, approval was given although discussion with Council on the project would need to continue.

Ordinances 2021-7 through 13 were introduced on behalf of the Huntington County Department of Community Development in regard to language amendments to certain sections of the Zoning/Planning Plan. Discussion held.

A meeting of the Warren Redevelopment Commission has been scheduled for Monday, March 29th at 5:45 PM for discussion of the TIF Report which must be submitted to the State in April.

Discussed was American Recovery Plan and its' impact on planning for the Town as monies from that plan will be available to the Town. The monies must be used by 2014 in accordance with stipulations found in the act.

Following review, the Accounts Payable Register was approved by consensus in the amount of \$179175.42..

The permitting for construction of the new pavilion at Tower Park will be revisited.
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The next Regular Session of Council is scheduled for April 12th with a Special Meeting scheduled for March 29th.

General discussion was held.

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted _____ Clerk-Treasurer
Marilyn Morrison

Town Council:

As _____ President
Ethan Stivers

As _____ Member
Steve Buzzard

As _____ Member
Carrie Miller

As _____ Member
Tavis Surfus