

Minutes of Regular Meeting, September 19, 2016

The Town Council of the Town of Warren met Monday, September 19, 2016 at Assembly Hall, Council Meeting Room, 131 N. Wayne Street, in accordance with rules of Council and applicable law.

Those present were: Town Council, Ethan Stivers, Steve Buzzard, Tracey Brown, Julia Glessner; Clerk-Treasurer, Marilyn Morrison; Employees, Lee Poulson, Dennis Spitler and others.

Vice President Stivers called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Stivers opened a scheduled Public Hearing in regard to the 2017 Municipal Budget. Following review of the budget as submitted to the state, Stivers called for public input. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed. Adoption of the budget is scheduled for October 10.

President Glessner opened a scheduled Public Hearing by introducing Mandy Woods, Executive Director of the Huntington County Department of Community Development, who reviewed proposed amendments to the Zoning Code Flood Hazard Overlay District as introduced previously. Calling for public input and hearing none, the Public Hearing was closed. Ordinance 2016-6, An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Code for the Town of Warren was submitted for consideration of adoption. Stivers moved, seconded by Buzzard to adopt said Ordinance. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 8th were approved as submitted.

Poulson reported that work on replacement of Christmas lighting damaged in the April Hail Storm was underway and nearing completion.

Poulson also reported that he had met with Commonwealth Engineering in regard to Phase II of the Downtown Project which involves replacing electric poles and light poles on Second Street from Wayne to Nancy where work has not been completed. No plans have been submitted as of yet.

The week of November 14th was set as Tox-Away-Week. Citizens will be able to deliver items such as computers, televisions, paint, etc. to receptacles at the utility garage area. Information will be distributed in the November Utility Newsletter.

Discussion was held on setting of 2017 wage rates. Following that discussion, Brown moved, seconded by Buzzard that an increase of .65 per hour be set which is three percent (3%) of the current mean wage of utility department personnel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Fall Clean Up days will be held as scheduled for the week of October 10th. Information will be included in the October Utility Newsletter.

Due to the Christmas and New Year Holidays falling on weekends, Council reviewed, discussed and accepted by consensus a proposed Holiday Schedule for employees. Town Hall and Utilities are set to be closed on December 23, 26, 27, 30, and January 2.

By consensus, Wayne Street will be closed from Third to First Streets and Second Street will be closed from Matilda Street to Main Street on October 28th for the annual Scarecrow Festival.

By consensus, Council approved that request for bids be issued for Trash Collection Service as the current contract with H&H expires January 1, 2017. The quote package has been reviewed by the Attorney and amended per his instruction.

Due to the condition of the Snowflakes used in Christmas lighting, Buzzard moved, seconded by Glessner, to authorize replacement. Estimated cost is \$5000 but the Warren Area Chamber of Commerce will be contacted for participation as the Chamber has a designated fund for such purposes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Morrison reported that Town Hall will be closed on November 10th for the annual software update meeting of Keystone Consulting in Wabash.

Morrison has set project planning meetings for September 20 with Commonwealth Engineering and Region III-A, September 27th with OCRA (Office of Community and Rural

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Affairs) and October 10 with Greg Guerrettaz, Town's Financial Officer. The meetings have been scheduled to lay out the financial schedule for projects currently underway and those being considered and is part of the Town's Comprehensive Schedule.

Marshal Spitler submitted the August Activity Report. Also submitted and reviewed was information related to the purchase of a police vehicle as scheduled for 2017. By consensus, Council directed that Spitler proceed in the process.

Poulson, as Fire Chief, submitted the August activity report. The Fire Department Truck Committee has proceeded with solicitation of quotes for replacement of the current Tanker Truck as discussed previously. Poulson also reported that it will be necessary in the next few years to replace the current radios for the department due to technology improvements.

Poulson, as Utility Manager, reported on projects stating that Peerless Midwest continues to work and upgrade the Tower systems, the Salomonie Heights electric system upgrade is nearing completion, maintenance paving as contracted with E&B Paving has been completed, and that the Storm damage work has been completed by Arnett although further work will need to be done on the Water Treatment Plant not related to storm damage. Submitted was a quote from W.A. Jones for the replacement of two snow blades at \$6550 each. Following discussion, Glessner moved, seconded by Stivers, approval of the purchase. The motion was approved unanimously. Dustin Fortney has started the education course for Water Treatment licensing.

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for October 10th at 5:00 pm.

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
Julia Glessner

As _____ Member
Steve Buzzard

As _____ Member
Tracey Brown

As _____ Member
Ethan Stivers