

Town of Williams Creek

Minutes – Town Council meeting Monday, February 10, 2020

Hollyhock Hill Restaurant not available; meeting moved to the Burger residence and so posted at the Hollyhock.

Attendance:

Present:

Craig Skelton, Town Council President
Bob Parrin, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Wernke, Town Council Member
Allen Kasper, Town Marshall
Maureen Burger, Town Council Member
Matt Neff, Town Council Member
Jason Sturman, Town Council Member

Others present:

Jim Connolly

Agenda and discussion:

1. Council president C. Skelton called the meeting to order at 7:45pm. A quorum was reached with five council members present.
2. C. Skelton asked for comments and a motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 9, 2019. There being no comments, on a motion by M. Neff, seconded by M. Burger, a unanimous vote approved the minutes as written.
3. R. Parrin updated the Council on Town finances as of the end of the year 2019 and reflected in the preliminary financial report previously distributed to Council members. It included the transfer of 10% of the annual budget to the Rainy Day Fund. However, the year end adjustment charging 15% of law enforcement expenses to MVH is no longer available. He did find another adjustment that can be made per IC 36-5-4-13(a) for Town's with a population of less than 500. It allows transfer from any Town fund to another with a Council approved resolution.

As such, Resolution 2020-01 was introduced to transfer MVH and LRS funds to the General Fund for Town operational expenses. On a motion by M. Neff, seconded by M. Wernke, a unanimous vote approved the transfers as presented.

4. R. Parrin made a report to the Council of road conditions in Town. Overall, the roads are in the best condition in years. There are three sections that will require attention in the near future, Willow Spring from High to Ridge, 80th from College to Morningside, and 79th from College to Morningside. He stated that Town finances could support resurfacing these sections if we could secure a Community Crossings Grant.

The next round of CCMG grant requests is this summer. C. Skelton will inquire about the timing. He and R. Parrin will develop an application.

Longer term, there are two road sections that will need repair due residential construction damage. They are on Sycamore and the intersection of High/Hillcrest. A discussion ensued on how the Town can recover repair costs from the developers/ property owners. M. Burger pointed out that there is a section in the Town Code concerning restoration of the ROW however the mechanism to recover costs needs to be added.

M. Wernke offered to draft such a modification as part of the building permitting process. This will be available at the next council meeting.

R. Parrin reported that Tim Joyce of DPW advised the city's on-call pot hole repair service contract should be completed in the next few weeks.

5. A. Kasper reported on one recent incident in Town. A Town resident was approached by a man representing himself as a roofing contractor who noticed roof damage that needed repair. While he was distracted by the discussion outside the home, two others entered his home. In the end nothing appeared to be missing. Residents should be on alert for this type of offense.

A. Kasper again reminded residents to use the CrimeWatch PWP (patrol when possible) feature to advise of periods when they will be out of town.

6. M. Neff and M. Burger met with Relay concerning the CrimeWatch application transition to a new national platform. Most if not all of the current features will be available with the new app.

7. M. Burger proposed that additional security cameras be installed. One in particular would be at 81st and Morningside. A. Kasper and R. Parrin will define the electrical and civil work required to add a camera at that location and present the findings to the Council for approval.

8. J. Sturman has been in contact with Carrie Tauscher of DNR concerning the Town's need for a long-term ROW tree plan. He will meet with her in early March to start the application process for a grant to develop a Town tree assessment and inventory program. Matching DNR grants are available to communities with the Town's contribution including in-kind costs. Applications are due in September for December awards.

9. M. Burger noted that efforts to recruit a Town Attorney have not produced any prospects. It was agreed that council members would approach attorneys who live in Town to find someone to fill this position.

10. M. Neff reported on the status of the Williams Creek Foundation as of December 31, 2019. Thus far, five residents have made contributions. On a motion by M. Neff, seconded by J. Sturman, C. Skelton, R. Parrin and M. Wernke were appointed trustees. There are two at-large trustee positions open. M. Wernke offered to draft a vision statement that can be used to recruit trustees as well as new donors.

The next regular meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2020 at 7:30 PM at Hollyhock Hill restaurant.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by M. Neff, seconded by C. Skelton.

Minutes recorded by R. Parrin, Town Clerk-Treasurer