

Williams Creek Town Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2020 @ 7:30 PM

Notice: This meeting is being held by electronic communications due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Public Health Emergency in accordance with Indiana Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-04 and Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-3.6.

Attendance:

Present:

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

Absent:

Michael Wernke, Town Council Member

Others present:

Jan & Dave Stockwell
Patti Hefner
Heather Murphy

Agenda and discussion:

1. Council president C. Skelton called the meeting to order at 7:35pm. A quorum was reached with four council members present.
2. C. Skelton asked for comments and a motion to approve the meeting minutes of October, 2020. 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 November, 2020 as reflected in the financial report previously distributed to council members. The only extraordinary expense was right-of-way tree removal cost totaling \$5,492 as per the plan sent to the council. The failing tree on High Drive was left intact as it is intertwined with a healthy beech tree. Dead branches were trimmed from the tree.
4. R. Parrin advised that the Town's application for forgiveness of the Payroll Protection Plan loan was filed and we await a decision from SBA.
5. R. Parrin introduced Salary and Wage Ordinance 2020-01 for the fiscal year 2021 with no changes from prior year. On a motion by M. Burger, seconded by J. Sturman, the ordinance was passed unanimously. R. Parrin will route the ordinance electronically to council members for signature.
6. R. Parrin thanked the council members for submitting the 2020 anti-nepotism statements.
7. R. Parrin advised that the documentation has been submitted and accepted by INDOT for the last CCMG road project. Thanks go to C. Skelton for administering the project.

R. Parrin noted that the Town's IPL account has been updated with the power loads of the new camera system and Christmas lights.

R. Parrin reported the vandalism and theft of the street sign at Willow Spring and High. In addition the street sign at Hillcrest and High found on the ground. He has ordered a replacement sign and cast brackets with delivery in eight weeks. Material cost is approximately \$500. A spare unit was ordered as well.

8. A. Kasper reported several burglaries in Town and Meridian Hills. They occurred in the early evening. IMPD is investigating. He advised residents to use their alarm systems, keep doors locked, and report suspicious vehicles using 911. The security camera system is functioning well and the new camera only needs the Comcast connection.

He also reported that the individuals responsible for landscape equipment thefts have been apprehended with the assistance of Carmel PD.

There was discussion about the upgrade of the CrimeWatch application. M. Burger advised that IMPD North is entertaining a proposal for this system. She is waiting for an IMPD decision and will follow up on status. In the meantime, she has removed from the Town website the link to the CrimeWatch software.

9. T. Sandifur advised on progress regarding construction-related fees. The Taft law firm is in contact with the City's Bureau of Neighborhood Services on this issue. The Town cannot charge a fee for any service the City already provides. T. Sandifur suggested one option would be for the Town to form a committee such as a plans review group that could include a fee for the review of proposed new construction or major remodels/additions. Alternatively, J. Sturman proposed a committee to review storm water drainage for such projects. It was also suggested that Meridian Hills' architectural review committee be evaluated to see if this structure would suit our needs.

T. Sandifur will move ahead and have a proposal for the council to consider by the next meeting.

10. M. Burger suggested that for ease of administration, the Town directory be published in electronic format only and available on the Town website. Privacy concerns were raised. These concerns might be alleviated by adding user ID and password access to the site for items like the directory. The council agreed to move forward on this. M. Burger will have a proposal for the council to consider by the next meeting.

11 Resident P. Hefner addressed the council on plans to divide her lot on Willow Spring and build a new home on the western parcel. It would be a single floor home of about 3500 sq. ft. The proposal would not require any variances. The neighbors have been informed and have no objections to the development of the property. She offered to be available to any Town residents with questions or concerns.

12. New Morningside Lane residents Dave & Jan Stockwell addressed the council and shared plans to add a covered patio to their home. No variance requests are anticipated.

13. C. Skelton advised his intention to resign from the council once a replacement is found to fill the position. H. Murphy attended the meeting and expressed interest. The council is also soliciting interest from other residents.

14. It was announced that M. Burger will serve as president of the council for 2021.

The next regular meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7:30 PM. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by M. Neff, seconded by M. Burger.

Minutes recorded by R. Parrin, Town Clerk-Treasurer.