SOUTH WHITLEY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES

TOWN HALL BOARD ROOM

118 E FRONT STREET

SOUTH WHITLEY, IN 46787

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

6:30 PM

The South Whitley Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 in the Town Hall Board Room at 6:30 p.m. Those present were President Les Hoffman, Vice President Randy Cokl, Councilman Brock Waterson, Attorney Gregg Hockemeyer, Town Marshal Mikel Vandevender, Utilities Supervisor Kent Slater and Clerk-Treasurer Pamela Hoffman.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS DLZ - Phil Labrash – Approval for Pay Req#3 – Prof svc thru 8-14-2020 for $408.00, Motion made to approve by Councilman Waterson, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by vote 3-0.

TONY STARKEY – Concerns with Matt Ridenour Property regarding brush in woods and flowing to river. Town Marshal Vandevender will check with the DNR for any possible hazards. Tony also asked about the process to silence the trains blowing their whistles in town, as he would like to use one of his buildings downtown for recording sessions. The whistle noise interferes with the recording process. Attorney Hockemeyer stated this process was brought up back in 2012 and requires a petition process to begin. He said he would send the information he had on file to the council to look over.

WHITLEY CO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT – Reappointment of Randall Cokl – Council President Hoffman made motion to reappoint Councilman Cokl to the Sewer District, with a second by Councilman Waterson, carried by a vote of 2-0, Councilman Cokl abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS – DONOHUE – Paul Elling – APPROVAL PROJ No.13218 Inv#38 - $5,692.50, Motion made by Councilman Cokl to approve, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL PROJ No.13562 – Inv#15 - $610.00, motion made by Councilman Cokl to approve, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

ADOPTION OF 2021 BUDGET – Motion made by Councilman Waterson to approve 2021 budget, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL PURCHASE AGREEMENT 206 S STATE ST PROPERTY – for BMJ Entertainment, Inc. Motion made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

SOUTH STATE ST PROPERTY – Council President Hoffman recited the original ideas in purchasing the South State St Properties and they were to be “white boxed” for ready to move in properties to purchase. Somewhere through this process, this was negated and a façade renovation approved for S & S to complete for the State Street Bldgs. As far as Tanner’s contract signed with the Town, stated the building was purchase “as is”, meaning the previous approved façade renovation back in November 2019, was not included in the contract signed. He asked for a motion for responsibility for the Phase 2 renovation to 204 S State St for $12, 724.00, paid to S & S Contracting recently by the Town. Councilman Waterson made a motion for the Town to pay for the entire renovation of $12,724.00, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by a 2 vote yes, 1 vote no.

PUBLIC INPUT – Karen Jordan mentioned that there is a lot of debris at the trestle at Collamer Dam and wondered if that would cause a problem. Councilman Waterson asked Marshal Vandevender about the status of take home cars, Mikel said he is working on a Grant that would pay 55% of the cost. Right now they are one vehicle short for the employed officers. With the budget amount minus the grant there should be enough to purchase a used car. Councilman Cokl questioned the accountability for officers with their own take home car. Joe Erion asked about the town easement/right of way that his property and Augustus’ share. Joe said he would like to remove the wooden fence and cut down the weeds growing there. Mikel Vandevender said he will inform Brent Augustus.

PARK BOARD – No one attending.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

TOWN MARSHAL – MIKEL VANDEVENDER – Marshal Vandevender stated Brent Hull is qualified to be a reserve for the Town, just needs to redo his pre basic. Mikel asked for approval to add 5 more reserves, capping total to 10. Motion made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0. New hire applications will be received until September 30th, two really good candidates have applied. Take home cars could be in place through USDA Grant by April 2021. Grants for radars and radios for cars is also being researched.

UTILITIES SUPERVISOR – KENT SLATER – Kent Slater stated 2 replacement lights have been installed in pickleball court area. A stump in park will be removed and strip lights have been ordered for pocket park sign. Fountain in park has been repaired and the fountain by Moyer’s Café, parts have been ordered. Jason Keim is working on two more bids for Salt Storage Building, also will be getting bids for repairing the utility building on Front Street. E & B Paving will be starting their CCG paving project tomorrow morning, September 23.

TOWN ATTORNEY – GREGG HOCKEMEYER – 208 S State St Property will keep on Old Business, as Council expressed a desire not to let the purchase delay indefinitely. Nothing to report on Hazen Property Closing, will check with the Title Company.

CLERK TREASURER – PAMELA HOFFMAN, Clerk-Treasurer informed the board that she hired a Whitko Learning Based Student, Anne Marie Fetters for 1 ½ hours per day, 5 days a week, to help with office duties. She began on Monday, September 21st.

APPROVAL JULY 2020 CASH RECONCILIATION STATEMENT – presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR SEPTEMBER 8th, 2020 WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR SEPTEMBER 8th, 2020 REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR SEPTEMBER 8th VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY HEARING MINUTES were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR SEPTEMBER 8th PUBLIC 2020 BUDGET HEARING MINUTES were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Waterson, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL FOR SEPTEMBER 15th SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES for E & B PAVING CONTRACT, were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Waterson, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL for PREPAID APV’S TOTALING $ 75,695.00 were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Waterson, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by vote 3-0.

APPROVAL for APV’S TOTALING $163,453.17 were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL for PAYROLL WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 7th, 2020, TOTALING $8,118.33 were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Cokl, seconded by Councilman Waterson, carried by vote of 3-0.

APPROVAL for PAYROLL WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 14th, 2020, TOTALING $8,966.63 were presented to council, approved and signed. Motion to approve made by Councilman Waterson, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by vote of 3-0.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING at 7:37 p.m., motion to adjourn made by Councilman Waterson, seconded by Councilman Cokl, carried by a vote of 3-0.

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PRESIDENT, LES HOFFMAN

ATTEST:

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VICE PRESIDENT, RANDY COKL

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CLERK TREASURER PAMELA HOFFMAN

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COUNCILMAN, BROCK WATERSON