

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, April 15, 2024

Attending: Council President James Miller, Councilors Matt Coppock, Steve Hahn, with Mary Jo Totten and Greg Jones attending virtually. Also attending: Attorney Eric Burns, Town Supervisor Ron Holladay, Interim Marshal BJ Moyars, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones.

Guests: Soo Shin, Ron Lafon, Colin Sullivan, Chris Limiac in person; Ed Stanisz and Joe Kline virtual.

James Miller called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Minutes

Steve Hahn moved to **accept the minutes of March 11** with second of Matt Coppock. **Motion carried** with unanimous roll call vote.

Attorney

Ron Lafon attended the meeting to speak about an issue on Northgate Drive. Semi trucks park on the street for extended periods creating a nuisance with engine noise and headlights shining on his residence. There was discussion of applicable ordinances however the current action item is to contact the property owner where the trucks park and request a “No Trespass” agreement for that location.

Eric Burns advised the council on handling insurance coverage for events that occur on public spaces or town property. A specific question concerned sponsoring a town-wide garage sale or festival event on the weekend that the Fiddler’s Gathering typically promotes. No action was taken to create a sponsorship for that idea.

James Miller asked about town exposure in the case of non-residents “squatting” on properties in town. Burns said Indiana has favorable statutes for trespass situations. Municipal parks have hours of operation that can be enforced.

Access to the Woods Edge sewer easement is still in process and may require condemnation to establish the right of entry. Ron Holladay and Eric Burns will continue to research this.

The unsafe structure at 103 Prophet Street is the subject of an order to remove. The agreed date for demolition and removal is August 31.

Contracted Services

Woods Edge SRF Application – Chris Limiac presented a binder with the SRF asset management plan in hard copy format. The town should be apprised of the application’s initial score by the end of July.

Attention will be given to the financing of preliminary design and the lift station equipment cost with installation.

The Trail Planning Grant kickoff meeting is 10 AM on Wednesday, April 17 at Town Hall.

Clerk-Treasurer

The register of claims in the amount \$ 205,752.87 was reviewed. Steve Hahn moved to **approve the claims**, with second of Matt Coppock. **Motion carried** with unanimous roll call vote.

Matt Coppock moved to **approve Resolution 24-131 Signature Authority for INDOT** projects, naming council president James Miller as the town representative for contracts and agreements. Second of Steve Hahn, **motion carried** with unanimous roll call vote.

Clerk Georgia Jones reviewed the Additional Appropriations ordinance which will be advertised for adoption on May 13. The requested additional budget for 2024 police training was reviewed. The current town ordinance for travel needs to be updated as it may not provide the requested per diem expense for training events.

Police

Officer Moyars is attending Chief School this week. He requested replacement of five body armor vests. at \$1450 per item under current budget allocation. Matt Coppock moved to **approve the request for armor vests** not to exceed \$7250.00, with second of Steve Hahn. **Motion carried** with unanimous roll call vote

Utilities and Street Department

Ron Holladay reported the trees at the Water Barn would be sold to a lumber company. Dan Gemmecke requested that part of the revenue be used to replace them with 10 Arborvitae evergreens which will not grow as tall. This suggestion met with approval.

A study of pump run times at Woods Edge recently showed them working 500 or more minutes per day during April, compared to 60-70 minutes on a typical summer day. The management for UMH Mobile Home Community has not addressed enough of the ground water infiltration points in that system.

Area Plan

Greg Jones moved to **adopt Ordinance 2024-637 Amendment #108** to the Unified Zoning Ordinance and **Ordinance 2024-636 Amendment #13** to the Unified Subdivision Ordinance, addressing updates for townhomes. Second of Steve Hahn, **motion carried** with unanimous roll call vote.

It is anticipated that the recently finalized land use plans will be adopted at the Area Plan Commission general meeting on April 17.

Committees

- Redevelopment Commission** – No report
- Transportation** – The CCMG 2024-1 grant application was successful and the bid process may begin.
- Strategic Planning** – No report
- Citizen Advisory Groups** – No report

Old Business

Town Spring Clean-up The weeks of activity was generally well received, and the one area to improve communication is for pickup of storm damage branches and twigs. These need to be in 48” or shorter pieces and able to be lifted by an individual. Residents who use a saw for tree and landscape pruning of larger pieces are expected to transport that refuse to the compost area or hire a commercial service to take it out of town.

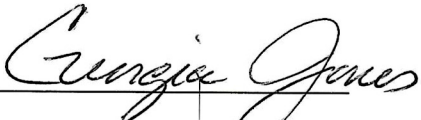
Solar PV Funding James Miller is expecting a price verification for financing purposes, and be able to make decisions moving forward.

New Business

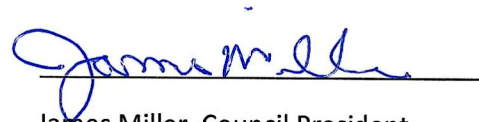
Town Marshal Steve Hahn moved to fully promote Benjamin Moyars to the position of Battle Ground Town Marshal. Second of Matt Coppock, **motion carried** with unanimous roll call vote.

Guest Comment

Motion to adjourn 8:20 p.m. by Matt Coppock with second of Steve Hahn.



Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer



James Miller, Council President

Memorandum of Open-Door Law Compliance
Battle Ground Town Council

Date: April 15, 2024

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Members Present

in Person: James Miller, Steve Hahn, Matt Coppock

Virtually: Mary Jo Totten, Greg Jones

Also Present in Person: Officer BJ Moyars, Ron Holladay, Georgia Jones

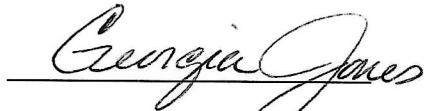
Also Present virtually:

Guest Present in Person: Soo Shin, Ron LaFon, Chris Limiac, Colin Sullivan

Guest Present virtually: Ed Stanisz, Joe Kline

Electronic Means of Communication Used For Members and Public: Zoom.us

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Georgia Jones". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Georgia Jones, Clerk-Treasurer, Financial Clerk