**NEW WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL**

**September 3, 2019**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Town Council President John Perrin opened the meeting at 5:05 p.m. with the pledge to the American flag. Council members present were John Schilawski, Scott Alspach and John Perrin. Also present was Clerk-Treasurer Maribeth Alspach. Councilman Alspach offered the opening prayer. Councilmen Frank Vaughn and Mike Rogier and Attorney Lee Robbins were absent.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Alspach moves to approve the minutes of the August 20th meeting and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

Councilman Schilawski moves to approve the minutes of the August 27th executive session and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

**HARDSHIPS / ADJUSTMENTS**

M. Landry, 426 Pleasant presents an invoice for a part he purchased to repair a toilet. The toilet ran for 3 weeks while they were out of town. Council approves a credit of $759.04 and authorizes an additional credit on the October bill since the repair was not made until early September.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents copies of the Fund Report and Docket for approval for September 3rd. Councilman Alspach moves to approve and ratify both reports and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

**BID OPENING**

Public Works Supt. McCauslin states that he sent bid packets for the fifteen (15) dead trees in West Park that need to be removed to 4 contractors. We received no bids.

**OLD BUSINESS**

WWTP Project

Mark Sullivan with Midwestern Engineers is present to give an update on the project. Sullivan explains that we had $138,000.00 in contingency funds built into the project for change orders. To date we have not had any. One area of the project actually came in under budget. The project should be complete within the next 4 – 6 weeks and there are a few things that have been identified during the project that could be addressed with the contingency funds. Council directs Sullivan to work with Utility Supt. Gillock to draft a “wish list” to present to the council that can then be prioritized. Council would like to schedule a walk thru of the renovated plant with the wish list before approving the final change order.

2020 Budget Update

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents revised 2020 budgets to the council. All Department Heads have submitted budget cuts to both the 2019 and the 2020 budgets except for the Fire Department and she is waiting to hear from Chief Saucier. She notes that the council needs to be aware of the following:

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* The proposed 2020 budget shows a salary decrease for the Fire Chief; she does not believe that the council would want that to happen.
* Payments for the new fire engine have not been budgeted. In talking with the bank on a 10-year loan for $400,000 we are looking at payments of $47,000 per year. The Cum Fire Fund cannot fully fund those payments. She recommends looking for money to apply as a down payment to borrow less money.
* We have removed the 2 new police cars from the Police Department budget. She is recommending purchasing one car outright this fall with Cum Capital Development money ($37,000 +/-) and budgeting CCD money again next year to purchase the 2nd car in the fall of 2020.
* A couple of the police officers are interested in working Operation Pullover – the rules have changed and it is now a quarterly reimbursement program. Money has not been budgeted to cover the cost of participating in the program. Alspach has questions about comp time, taxes, reimbursement time table, etc.

Council directs Clerk-Treasurer Alspach to contact Fire Chief Saucier and ask him to submit budget cuts for 2019 and/or 2020. They state that whatever cuts are made to the 2020 budget the Fire Chief salary needs to be restored.

Council approves using CCD money to purchase police cars in 2019 and 2020. They also approve changing the fleet color from blue to silver as cars are replaced.

Council asks that Police Chief Rynerson attend a council meeting to explain Operation Pullover and to verify that participation will not cost the town any money. They are glad for the extra revenue opportunity for the officers but are trying to cut money from the budget not add to it. They also need to know how the hours are recorded, how taxes are paid, how scheduling is handled and how often we are reimbursed and how quickly.

Manhole Rehab

Utility Supt. Gillock states that we have an On-Call contract with Wessler Engineering. Structural Solutions started rehabbing the 70+ manholes today. Wessler is recommending that we have a full-time inspector on site during the rehab. Estimated cost is not to exceed $4,000.00. Council approves.

INDOT

Council President Perrin received a call from INDOT asking if the town had changed its opinion/position on the J turns at 31 and Tracy Road. Perrin asks the council if anyone has changed their mind and is now in favor of making that intersection a no left turn in any direction intersection. Perrin adds that INDOT is also considering not allowing traffic to cross US 31 going east or westbound. Council states they do not want any changes made to the traffic flow at US 31 and Tracy Road.

Community Crossing Grant Street Repairs

PW Supt. McCauslin states Milestone should begin the final paving tomorrow. The recent rains delayed the work. They should be finished possibly by the end of the week.

**NEW BUSINESS**

BZA Appointment
President Perrin has a letter from Pamela Paulin asking to be appointed to one of the vacant

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seats on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Alspach moves to appoint Ms. Paulin and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

Proctor Park Proposal

PW Supt. McCauslin presents a proposal from Sign Solutions to reface the Hoosier Heroes Wall and to reface the large limestone panel on the Vietnam Memorial. To replace 7 panels in cast aluminum on the Hoosier Heroes Wall and the single panel with a bronze finish cast panel would run $12,400 installed. These would only require cleaning moving forward, the lettering would not fade or wear off. A second option was received today to replace the panels on the Hoosier Heroes Wall with black granite panels at a cost of $5,000 +/-. McCauslin would like to get more information on this option. Council directs him to bring back all the info and pricing at the next meeting.

Circus

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach sent out information on the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus. They have offered us a booking date of May 19, 2020. They would set up in East Park and would give 2 performances; one at 5 p.m. the other at 7:30. Pre-sale tickets would be $7 for children ages 2-12 or seniors age 65+. Children under 2 won’t need tickets. Adult pre-sale tickets are $12 (ages 13 – 64). At the gate ticket prices are children and seniors $8 and adults $15. Council authorizes Clerk-Treasurer Alspach to book the circus. It won’t interfere with National Night Out or Community Day.

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

Resolution 2019-04

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents a resolution to reduce various appropriations within the 2019 budget and explains. Councilman Schilawski moves to approve Resolution 2019-04 and is seconded by Councilman Alspach. **Vote 3 affirmative.**

Ordinance 2019-10

Clerk-Treasurer Alspach presents the transfer ordinance on first reading and explains. Councilman Alspach moves to approve Ordinance 2019-10 on first reading and is seconded by Councilman Schilawski. **Vote 3 affirmative.** This will be placed on the September 17th agenda.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maribeth Alspach, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 John Perrin, Council President