

WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL

December 11, 2018

Council members present

Other Town Officials

Other Town Officials

Andy Brock President	<u> X </u>	Norm Gabehart Town Manager	<u> X </u>	Stephen Watson Town Attorney	<u> X </u>
James Klenner Vice President	<u> X </u>	Debra L. Hendrickson Clerk-Treasurer	<u> X </u>	Josh Wade WWTP Superintendent	<u> </u>
Scot Ford Member	<u> X </u>	Rick Shipp Town Marshal	<u> X </u>	Dave Gabbard Water Superintendent	<u> </u>
David Hawkins Member	<u> </u>	Joe Csikos Planning & Zoning Dir.	<u> X </u>	Rusty Snyder MS4 Coordinator	<u> X </u>
Joe Saylor Member	<u> X </u>	Eric Funkhouser Fire Chief	<u> X </u>		

Call to order – A. Brock called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Pledge

Roll Call – All present

Invocation - Conducted by N. Gabehart

Adoption of the order of business for the day

Minutes from November 13, 2018

- A change was made on the comment that was incorrectly stated by Klenner and should have been Saylor. S. Ford made a motion to approve the minutes from 11-13-18. J. Saylor seconded the motion.
Passed 3-0-1 Klenner abstains

Voucher Packet 12-11-18

- Ford inquire about what the claim from HWC was. Gabehart replied HWC is the engineering firm helping on the water line.
- S. Ford made a motion to approve V-P 12-11-18. J. Saylor seconded the motion.
Passed 4-0

Financials –

- Gabehart stated the relevant points were year to date numbers and how far we have come along adding law enforcement and raises.

Old business –

- **Update on 4621 Graham Rd. property**
 - N. Gabehart stated spoke with Ron O'Connor and is satisfactorily taking care of cleaning up the area. Mr. O'Connor is trying to build as quick as he can but he still needs to obtain the deed. Recommendation is to remove from the Agenda unless an issue comes up.
- **619 Poplar**
 - After talking to legal Counsel, it was in agreement to speak with the homeowners. They seem to be cooperative and proposed the following solutions, install a privacy fence on the south and west sides, add storage space above the garage and install a new pool.

- S. Ford is concerned about the rodent conditions. Watson stated there would have to be further investigation of the property.
- J. Saylor suggested to table until the January 2019 meeting to see any of the changes were made.
- J. Klenner is concerned whether the property is safe or inhabitable. He also inquired if anyone has visibly seen if there is an inhabitable situation.
- **189 Pinedale**
 - A document stated the homeowner has until 12/23/18 to clean up or fines will incur of \$100 a day. The resident also must restore the area to hard permanent hard surface where it was destroyed due to a parking violation by 4/30/19.
- **259 St. Charles Way**
 - Chief Shipp reached out to the homeowner and asked for entry for inspection. The homeowner agreed. There was no power at the home. N. Gabehart and Chief Shipp were able to restore the power with the financial assistance of Andy & Sara O’Gara and two churches. No further action needed at this point.

New Business

- **Ordinance 2018-05, LR&S Budget Reduction 2018 (1st Reading)**
 - Gabehart stated this ordinance has been withdrawn due to an error in the wrong information.
- **Nepotism Policy**
 - Hendrickson and Watson stated this is a yearly policy that must be signed by all elected offices by statute. The Policy states that whoever signs it declares there is no one in direct line of supervision is related.
- **Resolution to Merge the Towns of Whiteland and New Whiteland**
 - Gabehart stated that multiple residents have approached to ask why are the Towns separate.
 - The Resolution is just being considered to move forward for discussion.
 - The registered voters of the Towns do not need either Council to approve if they get enough signatures for a petition to put it on for referendum in an election.
 - Klenner inquired what is the benefit? Gabehart stated Public Safety would be the number one benefactor.
 - Brock inquired what if New Whiteland declines? Gabehart stated there would be no further action for our Council.
 - What is the Councils’ pleasure to decline or to advance for discussion?
 - S Ford made a motion to direct the Town Manager to move forward for discussion with a Resolution. A. Brock seconded the motion. J. Klenner disagrees. J. Saylor agrees.
- **Chief Shipp**
 - Update on officer J. Davis - will be out possibly until March so Chief would like to request the additional officer due to start in June 2019 to start in January 2019 to cover the void. There will be no other additional equipment needed. J. Saylor made a motion to approve the additional officer to start in January 2019. S. Ford seconded the motion.
- **Passed 4-0**
 - Welcome K-9 officer Vader. He will be assisting Officer Scott Doss.
 - School Resource Officer program will be updated to 5 officers.

Town Manager Report

- N. Gabehart reported the Christmas Square opened up second weekend in December. School choirs will be caroling on December 22, 2018.


- The debt service numbers on Gateway \$3,063,824. A part of that debt is the Roundabout B.A.N. approximately \$195,000. Which the Town could pay off instead of going to bond to save on soft costs. After paying off debt due the beginning of the year the number will be \$2,868,356.
- Bid opening packages will be opened on the 20th of December for the road projects in 2019. After using the money, we received from the Community Crossings Grant Fund our suggested portion to come from: MVH-\$ 125,000, CCD-\$150,000, LRS-\$150,000, Rainy Day Fund-\$45,000.
- The BAN payoff from Sprint PCS-\$130,000, Casino-\$30,000, and ask RDC for \$30,000 and the remaining \$5,000 from Cum funds. Gabehart felt we are in a position to pay off this debt and not incur any more soft costs.
- Incentive letter for JDC to summarize the standard of the incentive packages available. Would like the endorsement of the Council.
 - Sayler stated his concern was about creating a contractual requirement to issue maximum to tax abatements. Watson stated he did not think it was a contractual tax abatement. Sayler would like it to be stated in words “up to the maximum taxable abatement” 49.5%. Watson suggested he could change the verbiage and bring it to the meeting on the 12/20/18 meeting.
- EDIT tax – Gabehart, Chief Shipp and Council member A. Brock attended a meeting, by invitation, at the County Council along with the County Commissioners. The County are needing to add 250 additional beds to the jail to be compliant for overcrowding. They are needing \$15,000,000 to fund the project. There will be two options:
 - 1. There are nine municipalities in the County. In order to obtain some of the funds each municipality in the County would receive money from the EDIT tax and in return donate 50% back to the County.
 - 2. Or if the municipalities do not agree then no one would receive any money and the County would keep all of the money which leaves everyone with nothing.
- S. Ford made a motion to agree to support the EDIT tax with 50% in return to the County. J. Klenner seconded the motion.
Passed 3-0-1, Sayler abstaining
- Cell Tower Sale - \$328,000 has been offered to the Town to acquire a 50year easement in exchange and a lease. In order to proceed with the sale, the Town must allow a public offering for anyone else wanting to purchase the Tower. The proceeds will be up to the Council as to where it goes. J. Sayler made a motion to approve the sale of the Tower. S. Ford seconded the motion.
Passed 4-0
- **Council** – J. Sayler would like to add to the January meeting for discussion on Ordinance 94-11.
- Public comment - NONE

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

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Passed by the Whiteland Town Council on this day 8 of January, 2019

Aye


Shawn A. Brock, President


Scot Ford

David Hawkins

Joe Sayler

Nay

Shawn A. Brock, President

Scot Ford

David Hawkins

Joe Sayler

Attest:


Debra L. Hendrickson, Clerk-Treasurer