

WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL
October 8, 2019

Council members present

Other Town Officials

Other Town Officials

David Hawkins President	<u> X </u>	Norm Gabehart Town Manager	<u> X </u>	Stephen Watson Town Attorney	<u> X </u>
Scot Ford Vice President	<u> X </u>	Debra L. Hendrickson Clerk Treasurer	<u> X </u>	Eric Funkhouser Fire Chief	<u> X </u>
Laura Fleury Member	<u> X </u>	Rick Shipp Town Marshal	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Joe Sayler Member	<u> X </u>	Joe Csikos Planning & Zoning Dir.	<u> X </u>		<u> </u>
Brad Goedeker Member	<u> </u>		<u> </u>		<u> </u>

Call to order – D. Hawkins called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – B. Goedeker absent

Invocation – Norm Gabehart

Adoption of the Order of Business

Minutes from September 10, 2019

- S. Ford had called the Clerk Treasurer about a typing error. Hendrickson stated the corrections were made. S. Ford made a motion to approve the minutes from September 10, 2019 as presented. J. Sayler seconded the motion.

Passed 4-0

Voucher Packet 10-08-19

- S. Ford made a motion to approve Voucher Packet 10-08-19 as presented. J. Sayler seconded the motion.

Passed 4-0

Financial Reports

- D. Hendrickson reported all of the operating funds were in the positive and in good standing.
- N. Gabehart reported there has been over \$900,000 in projects just this year.
 - The water loss percentages are in good standing. N. Gabehart commented Council member Ford reported someone was stealing water from one of the hydrants in the Town. If you see anything please notify the Town as soon as possible.
 - Mrs. Kelly reported a leak last month in the road in front of her property which has now been repaired.

Old Business – Ordinance 2019-05, 2020 Budget (final reading)

- N. Gabehart gave a brief summary of the information passed out last month.

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- The Town will have 8% less in MVH Funds due to a State error which shorted Marion County in funds, but we do applaud them for the money received because of the Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund.
- S. Ford stated we have \$551,438 more than the beginning of the year with all of the funds combined. J. Sayler made a motion to pass the 2020 Budget. S. Ford seconded the motion.

Passed 4-0

New Business –

- **Resolution 2019-11**, Adopting Tax Rates, Tax Levies, and Budget for Town following Consolidation
 - The Fire District approached the Town in 2016. A referendum was passed for the Town to merge with the Fire Department and passed with 78.3% approval. The agreement with the Volunteer Corporation stated the Town would take over administration. Full control was yielded to the town. The District is larger than the corporate limits of the Town. The accountants said if there was an intent to raise the levy (property taxes collected) we needed to do it now before the referendum. We stated we wanted to work with what we already had. After meeting with the DLGF in August they now tell us we need an excess levy for formalities. It doesn't raise the amount only transfers it to the Whiteland budget. S. Watson stated we were left with no choice and will be accomplished through Resolution 2019-12. S Ford made a motion to approve Res. 2019-11. D. Hawkins seconded the motion.

Passed 4-0

- **Resolution 2019-12**, Petition for Excess Levy Appeal
 - S. Watson stated this step is a required action in order to proceed filing an excess levy. S. Ford made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-12. J. Sayler seconded the motion

Passed 4-0

- **Resolution 2019-13**, Approving Tax Abatement for JDW Building 2 and Waiving Time Noncompliance, (Public Hearing)
 - The Town received the original application on September 3, 2019. Upon review there were a couple of items not included. The developer was informed and this now what is on the table. N. Gabehart stated he asked for approval for a 49.5% abatement. All the buildings were presented at the time. The 12-inch water line is going east to the Interstate would be valued at 1.5 to 2 million dollars which will be done by the developer in exchanged for credits. Over a 10-year period there will be an estimated \$1,052,000 taxes paid with the abatement.
 - Public Hearing opened at 7:47 pm.
 - Resident Tim Brown, inquired about the Tax Abatement. 1. When someone moves in the building, will they receive the abatement also? N. Gabehart stated until someone brings a deal to the Council we won't know. 2. Is there a commitment for the developer to meet to receive the Tax Abatement? N. Gabehart replied, No. No other comments. Public hearing was closed at 7:50 pm
 - S. Ford made a motion to approve Res. 2019-13. D. Hawkins seconded the motion.

Passed 4-0

- **Johnson County Trails Group**
 - Carmen Parker, Representative
 - All volunteers for two years have been creating trail plans for connectivity in the County
 - Looking for grants, which requires a Master Plan to qualify
 - Received funding from the OPUS Foundation
 - Hired an engineering firm in 2019 with the funding
 - A plan of 165 miles will be brought to the County

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- No Tax dollars are being used
- JCDC website will have more information

Town Manager Report

- Community Day September was a success. Thank you to all the employees and board members who helped and to Carmen Parker who organized the event.
- New homes sales are going strong.
- Saddlebrook Farms is moving dirt.
- Working with an Eagle Scout to help identify military service type of recognition
- We would like to interact with one of the elementary schools to help come up with a name for the Dog Park.

Council Comment

- None

Public Comment

- None

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Passed by the Whiteland Town Council on this day 12th of November, 2019

Aye


 David Hawkins, President

Nay

 David Hawkins, President



 Scot Ford, Vice President

Scot Ford, Vice President



 Laura Fleury

Laura Fleury



 Brad Goedeker

Brad Goedeker



 Joe Sayler

Joe Sayler

Attest:


 Debra L. Hendrickson, Clerk Treasurer

