

**WHITELAND TOWN COUNCIL  
November 14, 2023**

**Council members present**

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Joe Sayler    |               |
| President     | <u>  X  </u>  |
| Richard Hill  |               |
| V-President   | <u>  X  </u>  |
| Laura Fleury  |               |
| Member        | <u>  X  </u>  |
| David Hawkins |               |
| Member        | <u>      </u> |
| Brad Goedeker |               |
| Member        | <u>  X  </u>  |

**Other Town Officials**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Debra L. Hendrickson       |              |
| Clerk Treasurer            | <u>  X  </u> |
| Carmen Young               |              |
| Director of Administration | <u>  X  </u> |
| Stephen Watson             |              |
| Town Attorney              | <u>  X  </u> |
| Shaun Young                |              |
| Director Of Operations     | <u>  X  </u> |

**Call to Order**

- J. Sayler called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Pledge**

**Roll Call** – D. Hawkins absent.

**Invocation** – S. Young

**Adoption of the Order of Business**

- D. Hendrickson stated the minutes for October 17, 2023 Special Meeting was left off of the Agenda and need to be added.

**Minutes 10/10/2023, 10/17/2023**

- L. Fleury made a motion to approve the Minutes 10/10/23. J. Sayler seconded the motion. All signified by declaring aye. Motion carried.  
**Passed 4-0.**
- B. Goedeker made a motion to approve the Minutes 10/10/23. R. Hill seconded the motion. All signified by declaring aye. Motion carried.  
**Passed 4-0.**

**Voucher Packet 11-14-2023**

- L. Fleury made the motion to approve Voucher Packet 11-14-2023. B. Goedeker seconded the motion. All signified by declaring aye. Motion carried.  
**Passed 4-0**

**Financial Report**

- The Clerk Treasurer reported on the balance of all funds. Distributed the Water and Sewer 2024 Budget.

**Old Business**

- **Ordinance 2023-14, Authorization to Join Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA), 2nd Reading**
  - J. Sayler stated this ordinance was pretty much covered last month. No questions.

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- L. Fleury made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-14 for final reading. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- **Resolution 2023-17, Adopting Strategic Economic Development Plan for Central Indiana Public**

- The plan is part of the qualifications to apply for grants.
- B. Goedeker made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-17. L. Fleury seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

## **New Business**

- **Ordinance 2023-15, 2023, Budget Reduction, 1st Reading**

- D. Hendrickson stated this is done every year with the funds that are not used by the end of the year to let the DLGF know we still have those funds in order to get the Budget approved for the next year.
- L. Fleury made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-15, First Reading. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- D. Hendrickson requested to suspend the rules in order to get the information to the DLGF.
- L. Fleury made a motion to suspend the rules. B. Goedeker seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- L. Fleury made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-15, second reading. B. Goedeker seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- **Ordinance 2023-16, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, Clarifying Application of Insufficient Funds Charge to Include EFT, Credit Card, and ACH transactions**

- D. Hendrickson stated when the current ordinance was established it was for checks only and now the Town has more ways for residents to pay their bills.
- R. Hill wanted to make sure the NSF fee is enough to cover any charges the Town occurs.
- B. Goedeker made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-16 1<sup>st</sup> reading. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- B. Goedeker made a motion to suspend the rules. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- B. Goedeker made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-16 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- **Ordinance 2023-17, 2024 Salary Ordinance, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

- C. Young stated the salary ordinance format has changed from previous years, giving a little more information. Everyone received the same amount of a raise excluding a few people.
- J. Sayler inquired about the asterisks on the last page. C. Young stated they represent the elected officials.
- L. Fleury inquired about the HR position. D. Hendrickson stated she was part time.
- J. Sayler would like to hear more about the Building Commissioner position. C. Young stated that would be previous position of the Community Development and there are still other definitions to come.
- L. Fleury made a motion to approve Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. R. Hill seconded the motion.

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**Passed 4-0**

- **Engagement Agreements with Reedy Financial Group for Rate Studies (Sewer, Water, and Stormwater)**
  - C. Young stated she would like permission to sign the Agreements. The sewer needs the study in order to proceed with the project at the plant. This process is usually done every three to five years and It has been over 20 years for the sewer rates and 13 for the water rates.
  - R. Hill would like to get this on the schedule to review every five years or so to be in compliance. C. Young stated she would do that.
  - B. Goedeker inquired if there was a cap on the costs. C. Young stated there is.
  - Stephen Watson stated he had reviewed the agreements, and it was acceptable.
  - C. Young stated that Reedy Financial Group has been actively involved in a couple of items in the Town.
  - B. Goedeker made a motion to approve the request to sign. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- **Contract with CleverDogs Media for Website Development**
  - S. Watson stated there was a proposal provided approximately five or six pages long and attached the charges. You can authorize to move forward.
  - C. Young stated with WordPress you need a lot of other apps and plug ins on the backside. Our videos of the Council meetings are exceeding our bandwidth. Exceedion is the support we have currently and is not being responsive to our needs.
  - R. Hill inquired if the whole website would change? C. Young stated no, several things will remain the same.
  - B. Goedeker made a motion to authorize C. Young to move forward with CleverDogs Media pending the Town's attorney review. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

- **Agreement for Legal Services with Lynnette Gray**
  - C. Young would like the Council's consideration to add Lynnette Gray services when there is a conflict of interest with the Town's attorney. Before signing the contract, it will be brought to the Council for approval and subject to the Town's attorney for review.
  - S. Watson stated one of the conflicts involved is the proposed roundabout involving the County, New Whiteland, and Whiteland. The County is currently a client of the firm which employees the Town's attorney.
  - B. Goedeker made a motion to authorized C. Young to move forward with the agreement pending the Town's attorney for review. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 3-0-1 with J. Saylor abstaining**

- **Approval of Settlement Agreement**
  - Authorization for the Town's Director of Administration to sign the settlement agreement.
  - J. Saylor made a motion to authorize the Director of Administration to sign the settlement agreement consistent with the mediation agreement. R. Hill seconded the motion.

**Passed 3-1 with B. Goedeker voting no.**

- **Review of Cooper Tire Real Property Abatement Statement of Compliance (CF-1)**
  - S. Watson summarized that this CF-1 should have been included in the packet of CF-1 approvals in June 2023.
  - B. Goedeker made motion to find CF-1 in compliance. L. Fleury seconded the motion.

**Passed 4-0**

## Director of Administration/Director of Operations

- Patch Project Update: Phase I has run into a conflict due to the utilities. It should be done by 2024 as it is stated in the contract.
- Post Tornado:
  - Cell tower was damaged and now reconstructed. The termination of the temporary towers has been completed.
  - Temporary repairs on the buildings damaged with a company name Envoy and use insurance proceeds. J. Saylor and R. Hill stated they would like to see three quotes by next meeting.
- Purchasing Policy: After reviewing the Town Code, the Council is to appoint an agent for purchasing which would be the Town Manager. Since the Town no longer has a Town Manager title, a delegation is needed on who would be a purchasing agent.
  - J. Saylor would like to set an amount of \$20,000 to come to the Council for approval for asset purchases.
  - S. Watson states he does not know of anything in writing on who has authorization.
  - B. Goedeker would like to see specific plans next meeting.
- Fire Department funding:
- Met with Michele Davis to see if there were any legislation that could help. Also met with Jeffery Bellamy who is an attorney specializing in fire departments and has contacts with the DLGF. Would like approval to engage with him to see how to help our Fire budget can be helped. L. Fleury made a motion to engage with Mr. Bellamy. B. Goedeker seconded the motion. All signified by declaring aye. Motion carried.

### Passed 4-0.

- Christmas luncheon/Employee recognitions on December 15 and encouraged the Council members to attend. Santa parade will be on December 16.
- **Chief Shipp** distributed information about holiday pay for the police officers. If an officer works on a holiday they get a personal day in lieu of holiday pay. This leaves the officers only 6 paid holidays instead of what other employees receive. Would like to see eight floating days up front and permit two a month to use. If an officer were to leave early in the year, they would not receive the left over in their pay. J. Saylor would like to direct this change to next month with the handbook amendment. All agree.

### Council Comment - None

### Public Comments

- Kerry Reyman, Briar Creek Subdivision, 214 Bohicket Rd., feels the water rates are insane. Whiteland does not own the water. Why Indiana American Water does not own our water. Has installed an irrigation system and the water bill is high. Does not want to stop watering his lawn and has received a new meter. Does not want the neighborhood to look terrible because they can't afford to water their lawn.
  - J. Saylor states the Town owns their utility. Indiana American is trying to force municipalities to sell their water so they can have a monopoly. The Town is looking into the water rates.
  - Had to fill his pool with other methods.
  - C. Young called Bargersville and shared a couple of different programs.
- John Schalk, Briar Creek Subdivision, 224 Bohicket, water pressure is weak. Is concerned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.


Passed by the Whiteland Town Council on this day 12 of December, 2023.

**Aye**

**Nay**

  
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Joseph Sayler, President

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Joseph Sayler, President

  
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Richard Hill, Vice President

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Laura Fleury

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Brad Goedeker

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Brad Goedeker

  
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David Hawkins

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David Hawkins

**Attest:**



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Debra L. Hendrickson, Clerk Treasurer

