

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

October 14, 2019

7:00 p.m.

### I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President N. Cobbs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member L. Kittredge, Council Member D. Lafata, Council Member N. Cobbs, and Council Member E. DeLaney.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2019 Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

### IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to approve the claims as presented, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

### V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Evelyn Komenas 1087 N. Pearson Rd – Mrs. Komenas requested an update on their complaint about the Brassie. Town Attorney Lukmann advised that he has sent a letter to Brassie Golf Course representatives stating the Town's position on this matter but he and the Town have not received any replies to date from The Brassie. Mrs. Komenas asked if she could have a copy of the letter and Town Attorney Lukmann advised that she could submit a record request through the Town Hall, Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela suggested that she contact Town Manager B. Doyle.

### VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. POLICE - Chief Cincoski advised he submitted a letter to the Council requesting CCD Funds to purchase equipment for the new police vehicles. He advised he obtained a quote from Bartronics in the amount of \$39,712.59 for this equipment. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve this purchase, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. He also advised the Police Commission has set Trick or Treat night for October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, which is consistent with surrounding communities. He reported the Town received the annual D.O.J. Bullet Proof Vest grant in the amount of \$3,585.65, to assist with the purchase of required bullet proof vests for officers. He also advised last Tuesday all Law Enforcement Dispatch and radios converted to the 700/800 frequencies and there were few if any issues.

B. FIRE - Chief Jarka reported that all Fire and EMS switched to the 700/800 radio frequencies. He also reported their unit passed the certificate for BLS transport and is now available to assist with transports if needed. He advised they are in the process of finalizing the loan for the new engine and he needs minutes indicating who the authorized person to sign the loan documents is. Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to authorize the Town Council President to sign the loan documents, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. CLERK-TREASURER – Clerk-Treasurer Kuziela advised they have been working on the budget and the insurance numbers and the budget is ready for the Public Hearing tonight.

D. STREETS, SANITATION & CENTRAL SERVICES – Commissioner J. Schnadenberg advised he has a banner request from St. Patrick’s Church for their February 27<sup>th</sup> event. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Schnadenberg advised they are beginning the leaf pickup season and will have applications available for the 5 week program, he advised they will begin their Monday through Friday schedule after October 28<sup>th</sup>. He reported this year’s paving projects are completed and they are beginning to plan next year’s projects. He advised they have been looking for a replacement bucket truck and most have been more expensive than he would like but he found a used unit for \$68,000 and it is in tonight’s claims. Schnadenberg reported the Town submitted a Community Crossing Grant application in July and they have been awarded \$167,888.80, and the Town has received over 1 million dollars in these grant funds since 2016. He requested authorization to work with the Town Attorney on asphalt bids for next year and have them ready for a November 25<sup>th</sup> bid opening. Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to authorize, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton stated the Town owes a debt of gratitude to the grant writing team of Commissioner Schnadenberg, J. Gadzala, and Engineer M. O’Dell.

E. ENGINEERING – 2019 Influential Women - Jennifer Gadzala - Engineer M. O’Dell announced that Jennifer Gadzala was awarded Influential Woman in the Economic Development/Government category. O’Dell also reported they are working on plans for the Dollar General and reviewing the plans on the project proposed behind the Post Office.

F. BUILDING - Building Commissioner M. O’Dell reported Duneland School Corporation has requested building permit waivers for the Chesterton High School Flex Labs. Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to waive the fees, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Commissioner O’Dell also announced the retirement of Code Enforcement Officer Ed Surgener after 12 years with the Town. M. O’Dell provided some statistics concerning Mr. Surgener’s work for the Town, he began working for the Town in 2007, but the records begin in 2010 and go to 2018 during which time he investigated 1,888 violations, handled 406 written complaints, issued 91 citations, 42 stop-work orders, and traveled 101,683 miles on the job. Commissioner M. O’Dell provided information regarding 507 Wabash which after inspection by his office and fire personnel is found not fit for human habitation, a public nuisance, health hazard, and fire hazard, Commissioner O’Dell requested authorization to begin work with the Town Attorney’s office in accordance with the Unsafe Building Ordinance. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to authorize this process, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Commissioner O’Dell provided information regarding political signs, he advised they are to be placed on the residence side of sidewalks and at least 10’ from the edge of

the roadway so they are not in public right-of-way. He advised signs in violation with be moved or removed.

G. PARK - Superintendent B. Mathias reported they have been working on the master plan, and that the splash pad has been blown out.

H. ATTORNEY - No Report – Town Attorney Lukmann advised he would have matters regarding the Quiet Zone later on the agenda.

I. UTILITIES - Superintendent D. Ryan advised they are looking into the cause for the overflow several weeks ago.

J. TOWN MANAGER- Town Manager B. Doyle reported that staff had a kickoff conference with CTC of Fort Worth, Texas this afternoon and they would be in Town in November for face-to-face meetings.

## VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS AND REMONSTRANCES

Ordinance 2019-15 – 2020 Budget – Council President N. Cobbs opened the Public Hearing, no one spoke in favor or against the Budget. Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to close the Public Hearing, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

## VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

Town Attorney Lukmann introduced ORDINANCE 2019-15 – An Ordinance of the Chesterton Town Council Adopting Its 2020 Budget on 1<sup>st</sup> reading. He advised this is a 2 meeting process and it can be passed on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading tonight. Council President N. Cobbs passed the gavel to Vice President D. Lafata and read a statement addressing the Town’s Health Insurance Plan and the increase in costs this year. He also advised that all full time employees of the Town would receive a 2% salary increase this year. Council Member N. Cobbs made the motion to approve Ordinance 2019-15 on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Vice President D. Lafata passed the gavel back to President N. Cobbs.,

## IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela advised she received a request from Chesterton Pop Warner Cheer for a Tag Day on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Calumet and Porter and 8<sup>th</sup> and Broadway from either 9am to 1pm or 10am to 2pm. Chief Cincoski advised that he was not in favor or the Calumet and Porter intersection, but the 8<sup>th</sup> & Broadway intersection is fine and the time doesn’t matter to him. Chief Jarka commented that he has safety vests available and would be willing to purchase more if needed, for the safety of the participants. The Council approved the 8<sup>th</sup> & Broadway location by consensus.

## X. OLD BUSINESS

Quiet Zone – Town Attorney Lukmann reported the contract with CTC of Fort Worth, Texas has been signed and there was a conference call with them today and they will be in Town in November and they are anticipating a Spring conclusion of their work.

NEW BUSINESS

CEDC Loans – Chesterton Montessori and Chesterton Toys – Council Member J. Ton reported at the October meeting of the Chesterton Economic Development Company loan applications for the Chesterton Montessori School and Chesterton Toys were reviewed and appropriate credit checks were satisfactorily completed. The CEDC recommends the approval of 2% loans to both applicants, the amounts are \$5,000 for Chesterton Toys, and \$20,000 for Chesterton Montessori School. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve both loans, motion seconded by Council Member L, Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member E. DeLaney: Council Member E. DeLaney commented the CEDC just approved low interest loans, which is for local businesses and is a 5 year loan, payable twice a year, at an interest rate of 2%. It is up to the residents to support local businesses and whenever possible shop locally. Council Member J. Ton added that the 2 part application for these loans are online, and the application process has been streamlined for the applicants.

Council Member L. Kittredge:	No Comment
Council Member D. Lafata:	No Comment
Council Member J. Ton:	No Comment
Council Member N. Cobbs:	No Comment

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. meeting adjourned.

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

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Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela