

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 22, 2021
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President S. Darnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was called by Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvare; present were Council Member J. Ton, Council Member D. Lafata, Council Member S. Darnell, Council Member J. Fisher, and Council Member L. Kittredge.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2021 and February 16, 2021 meetings, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

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

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Maura Durham - 301 Sandpiper Dr. - Duneland Chamber of Commerce 2021 Events-

Durham reported that the European Market will run Saturdays May through October and that guidelines will be like last year. There will be no Corkscrew & Brew in March; instead, the event will take place June 19th from 12-4 PM. Another event, replacing Taste of Duneland, will be August 28th possibly. An update will be given closer to this event. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve these dates, subject to contracts, and Department Heads and legal approval; motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to appoint Town Manager D. Cincoski as liaison to the Chamber, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Police—CEDIT REQUEST- Council Member J. Ton discussed a CEDIT funding request involving a 5-year agreement for body & dashboard camera service payments. The agreement requires a payment due on March 1st for \$39,100. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the CEDIT request/agreement, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member Ton informed the other council members, that a revision of fees for camera footage will be provided by legal at the next meeting. Council President S. Darnell reported that the Police Commission has accepted the resignation of Interim Police Chief Nick Brown. The Police Commission is opening the search for a new Police Chief. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to add the item of appointing Robert Byrd as Interim Police Chief to the agenda, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to approve an employment agreement for 60 days (with a 30-day extension if needed) with Robert Byrd, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to add making an agreement with George Nelson to conduct an internal investigation regarding certain matters in the Police Department to the agenda, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the agreement with George Nelson, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. The Council also accepted Interim Assistant Police Chief Dan Rocha’s resignation. Bob Byrd introduced himself and gave background on his experience and commented that he looked forward to working for the Chesterton Police Department.

B. Fire –Interim Fire Chief E. Camel reported that IPEP grant supplies have been coming in.

C. Clerk Treasurer – Outstanding Checks- Clerk Treasurer C. Udvarcsek discussed outstanding checks and provided this list to the Council for review.

D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service –Bid Recommendation for Community Crossing Grant- Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg commended his staff for a job well done with recent snow maintenance. Commissioner Schnadenberg recommended going with Reith Reilly’s bid of \$156,902, the lowest bid, for the community crossing paving. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to accept the Reith Reilly bid recommendation, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.

E. Engineering—Town Engineer M. O’Dell reported that A&R is working on replacing 300 ft. sections of pipeline behind the Abbiocco restaurant in March. They are making sure this doesn’t affect Coffee Creek. This will be a 3–4-month long process.

F. Building —Building Commissioner M. O’Dell said 5 temporary occupancies have been granted in the Springdale subdivision this winter.

G. Parks –Superintendent S. Griffin reported that the Park Board approved the artificial Christmas tree purchase for Thomas Centennial Park. Also, the Park Board has picked the scoring committee for the Coffee Creek revitalization project.

H. Attorney—NO REPORT

I. Utilities—NO REPORT

J. Town Manager—Town Manager D. Cincoski commented that Kevin Nevers has been doing a nice job with the Town’s Facebook page.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS, & REMONSTRANCES

Public Hearing- Vacate a Portion of Public Way- Northeast Corner of Sand Creek Dr.

South and CR 1100 North- Council President S. Darnell opened the public hearing. Katie Kopf spoke on behalf of petitioners, Todd & Laura Elliott, who want to build on 66 in Sand Creek that has an unused drainage easement. There were no comments in favor or in opposition to the petition in person or on Facebook. The public hearing was closed. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to add the ordinance for the vacation of the public way to the agenda, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Bid Opening for Fire Truck- Hoosier Fire Equipment Inc. from Greenfield, IN gave a bid of \$604,863. Sutphen from Dublin, OH gave a bid of \$559,895. Rosenbauer gave a bid of \$679,958. KME Group from St. John, IN gave a bid of \$488,684. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to take these bids under advisement, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2021-04 – Amending Town Code - Change Mandatory Retirement Age-

Attorney C. Parkinson presented this ordinance regarding changing the mandatory retirement age from 65 to 72. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to place the ordinance on the agenda, motion seconded by Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the ordinance on 1st reading, motion seconded by L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to suspend the rules, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2nd reading, motion seconded by Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Ordinance 2021-05- Vacation of a Public Way- Northeast Corner of Sand Creek Dr. South

(Lot 66)-Todd & Laura Elliott-Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the ordinance on 1st reading, motion seconded Council Member J. Fisher; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to suspend the rules, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2nd reading, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

Quiet Zone- Town Manager D. Cincoski mentioned he had reached out to engineering to get the study. Council Member J. Ton suggested contact the Federal Railroad Administration.

XI. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

Westchester Township Fire Protection Agreement- Attorney Lukmann has reviewed the agreement with Chief Camel and had no objections. Member J. Fisher made the motion to approve the agreement as presented, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Deed of Dedication- 11th Street Right-of-Way- Attorney Lukmann explained that this has to do with a temporary occupancy approved previously with conditions. John Kremke of Steiner Homes explained that applications to the Army Corp have been submitted. Also, the letter of credit has been returned to the attorney for modifications. The letter of credit is the only outstanding item.

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member S. Darnell:	No comment
Council Member J. Fisher:	Member J. Fisher commented that the Fire Department did a great job getting bids out. Also, Fisher welcomed Mr. Byrd and thanked the Police Commission for their work.
Council Member L. Kittredge:	No comment
Council Member J. Ton:	No comment
Council Member D. Lafata:	No comment

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member J. Fisher made the motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

CLERK TREASURER C. UDVARE