

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

March 14, 2022

7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President J. Fisher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Council President J. Fisher acknowledged and congratulated the Chesterton High School Boys Basketball team for their outstanding season. President Fisher commented that what the Trojans have achieved is historic and monumental. They have won the DAC championship, sectional championship, and regional championship.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 meeting and February 28, 2022 special meeting, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Council Member J. Ton 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

Lisa Wodrich- Upsadaisy Market- Wodrich approached the Council for approval for the Upsadaisy Market's 2022 season as presented. Woodrich stated that there are no changes in the contract and that the market would continue to run on Sundays from 10 am-4 pm. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the upcoming Upsadaisy market as presented subject to legal approval, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. Police—Motorola Contract –Replacing Hardware- Chief Richardson presented the contract to the Council for review, stating that there is significant cost savings in renewing now vs. in two years. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the contract subject to final legal approval, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Fire – Chief E. Camel reported that Josh Blackwood is resigning and will be going to Hammond Fire Department. Next, Chief Camel discussed a change to the Mayday procedure. The update had been approved by the Fire Department Oversight Committee (FDOC). Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve updating this procedure, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Finally, Chief Camel asked for permission to move forward with the quote process to replace the department's Tahoe. Camel is waiting for more information on state pricing. The FDOC has reviewed and recommends approval in moving forward with the process. Council Member S. Darnell made the motion to approve proceeding with this quote process, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. The quote of the truck should not exceed \$48,770.

C. Clerk Treasurer- No report.

D. Streets, Sanitation, & Central Service – Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg reported the Park department's truck is still in the queue even though the order was cancelled. Commissioner Schnadenberg commented that he could possibly call and reinstitute the order. Next Commissioner Schnadenberg presented a banner request from Duneland Exchange Club for their Child Abuse Prevention. Banner will be up for two weeks following April 1st. A 2nd banner request was received from Duneland Kiwanis Club for their Trash to Treasure annual fundraiser. They requested 2 weeks prior to the event on May 11th. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the banner requests, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Next, Commissioner Schnadenberg presented the annual request for sidewalk funding for trip hazard and replacement sidewalk programs. Schnadenberg stated that typically the Riverboat Casino funds \$35,000 for continuation of the replacement program and \$12,000 towards the trip hazard program. Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to approve this request, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Furthermore, Commissioner Schnadenberg reported the Tree Board, Assistant Street Commissioner Moy, and himself have applied for a grant through NIRPC for 42 three to five foot trees. Lastly, he reminded folks to avoid parking vehicles over sidewalks – please keep the sidewalks open.

E. Engineering—Town Engineer M. O'Dell reported that he, Street Commissioner Schnadenberg and Assistant Street Commissioner Moy have met with the engineer firm working on the Westchester Intermediate School regarding a deceleration lane on 5th Street. Next, Engineer O'Dell reminded people that political signs are permitted within 60 days prior to the election per state statute. Furthermore, signs must be 32 square feet or less and must be kept out

of Town Right of Ways.

F. Building — Building Commissioner M. O’Dell reported that the Kenneth Allen Building is undergoing work on walls and footings. Also, the Surgical Center located south of Lakeshore Bone and Joint is working on footings.

G. Parks –Interim Park Superintendent B. Mathias reported that the department has been cleaning up around the compound. NetNitco has removed their stuff from compound. Some snow removal has been done. The department is getting machinery ready for the upcoming season.

H. Attorney— Attorney C. Nolan asked the Council to set a public hearing for the Town’s Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) fund resolution 2202-03 on March 28, 2022. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to set CCD resolution 2202-03 for public hearing on March 28, 2022, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

I. Utilities— No report.

J. Town Manager—Quiet Zone Update- Town Manager D. Cincoski reported he will try to have numbers regarding this project on the 28th of March.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS, & REMONSTRANCES

NONE

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2022-06 – Establishing a Cellular Phone Program for Certain Town Employees- Council Member S. Darnell made the motion to approve the ordinance on 1st reading , motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; 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 L. Kittredge made the motion to approve the ordinance on 2nd reading, motion seconded by Council Member S. Darnell; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

2022 Police Vehicle Bids- Bozak Motors LLC- Attorney Nolan referenced these bids which were presented at the last Town Council Meeting. Bozak came in as the lowest responsive and responsible quote. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the bids, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

Update on the Chesterton Economic Development Company- Council Member J. Ton reported that legal is currently reviewing the requirements to update the application process for CHAMP loans. An update will be given with recommendations from the CEDC at the March 28, 2022 meeting. This will make the process less complex and costly and more user-friendly. CEDC operates 2 funds—the CEDCO fund (balance of \$18,295.95 from tax abatements) and the CHAMP or Chesterton Hometown Asset Maximization Program (balance of \$112,769.59). The CHAMP fund is funded through revenue sharing. All together the CEDC has \$131,065.34 available to business owners who would like to apply for loans at 2% interest.

XI. NEW BUSINESS AND/OR UPDATES

NONE

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member S. Darnell:	No comment.
Council Member J. Fisher:	No comment.
Council Member L. Kittredge:	No comment.
Council Member J. Ton:	No comment.
Council Member D. Lafata:	No comment.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata; motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

CLERK-TREASURER C. UDVARE