

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

May 13, 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 D. Lafata, Council Member N. Cobbs, and Council Member E. DeLaney. Council Member L. Kittredge was absent.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2019 Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to approve the claims as submitted for the Town Council, seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

V. PETITIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Council Member E. DeLaney commented there were a lot of people present tonight and those wanting to speak will be permitted to do so. He stated at the last meeting the Council made it clear to the Chamber of Commerce the Town would not amend the contract to allow the extension of the European Market along 3rd St. to Indiana Ave. and the current footprint would be maintained. That is still the position of the Council.

Jennifer Klug 200 Franklin St Porter, an employee of Chesterton Round-The-Clock Restaurant, advised she received a letter that her employer requested she read to the Council. The letter was received about May 1st and stated the next Council meeting would be May 6th. The letter addressed the Chamber of Commerce's request to expand the footprint of the European Market for the purpose of Food Trucks, and this would cause a negative impact to the brick and mortar restaurants in Town. The writer of the letter called for restaurants and their employees to attend the May 6th Town Council meeting. Mrs. Klug found that the Council meeting would be on the 13th and she went to the 15th St municipal building and left a copy of the letter and suggested that someone post a notice at Town Hall that the meeting was on May 13th and not May 6th. She stated the letter was not signed and there was no return address on the letter.

Council Member J. Ton commented that he is the President of the C.E.D.C. and they have low interest loans for businesses and they have provided a new restaurant a recent loan, for start-up. He advised they support local businesses and restaurants and it would be hypocritical to vote for

temporary food trucks that would be in direct competition to local restaurants that they are loaning money to to assist. At Council Member E. DeLaney's suggestion, Council Member J. Ton outlined the loan application process.

Diana Arroyo petition for vacation of public way. Council President N. Cobbs advised her petition was on the agenda later in the meeting. Mrs. Arroyo explained they had recently purchased the property and found their driveway was partially on the right-of-way for Jefferson Ave. and they are requesting a vacation of this right-of-way since it is unlikely that Jefferson would be extended this far. Town Attorney J. Paulson advised this would need to be set for Public Hearing but there was not sufficient time for appropriate legal notices before the next Council meeting and recommended it be set for the June 10th meeting. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to set this petition for Public Hearing at the June 10th Council meeting, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Brian Birmingham, Crown Point, Indiana and vendor at European Market. Mr Birmingham advised he has been a vendor at various Markets and he believes these events bring in visitors to a community benefiting the brick and mortar businesses in that community. Council Member J. Ton clarified to Mr. Birmingham that the issue for the Town was not the European Market, it was the expansion along 3rd St. to Indiana Ave. and they were advised they could return to the Park Board to request more than the 1/3 of the Park they were currently using. Council Member J. Ton also advised the inclusion of the Food Trucks impacted negatively the Town's restaurants. Council Member E. DeLaney advised the concerns with the food vendors and the conversion of existing food vendors from tents to truck and trailers. He agreed the Council was not against the Market it was more an issue of closing more public right-of way which negatively impacted neighbors and the library when it could have been expanded into the park.

Reggie Blouin 155 E 900 N, owner and operator of PAS workshop has been with the Chamber for a long time and has heard various stories about the issues related to the Market. He understands the concerns of the local restaurants. He thought it was appropriate to extend into the park but he expressed concern about destroying the grass.

David Baum owner and operator of Venice Pizza stated he believes the Town understands the issues of the restaurant owners in Town. He understands the Chamber is under contract and asked when this contract was over. Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela and Town Attorney J. Paulson advised the contract ends in 2022. He also wanted to know if the Chamber would be permitted to drive food trucks into the park. Council Member E. DeLaney advised this was a decision of the Park Board and the Chamber would need to approach the Park Board. Mr. Baum advised he was not against the Market just concerned with competing on Saturdays with an influx of food trucks.

VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

- A. POLICE - No Report
- B. FIRE - No Report
- C. CLERK-TREASURER – Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela requested a manual check for Professional Appraisal services in the amount of \$2,500. Council Member J. Ton made the

motion to approve the request, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

D. STREETS, SANITATION & CENTRAL SERVICES- Commissioner J. Schnadenberg reported on Arbor Day the Town planted an additional 15 trees. He also advised on April 23rd, Richard Sexton, Porter County Highway Superintendent, hosted a meeting with superintendents from area municipalities to discuss a variety of road projects and highway issues within the County. Commissioner Schnadenberg presented a list of the annual paving projects through the bond issue and TIF district projects, plus Community Crosssing Grant project. He advised one priority was Pearson Rd. He also reported on a joint paving project with Porter and Porter County on East Oakhill Rd. He advised this list is for the Council's review and for them to take under advisement. He also updated information on the sidewalk projects and trip hazards program. He reported that Rieth Riley will begin on May 20th on 11th St from Park Ave to 1100 N, and the Town has completed installation of drainage catch basins on 11th St in the area of Crabtree. He reported on the paving on 8th St from Porter Ave to Broadway and Welsh and Kelly's work on 100 E from 1100 N to 1050 N. He also reported on the problems they have with beaver dams in the area of 11th St and the removal of the dams that backed up water and caused flooding. Council Member J. Ton commented about the new curbs in Morgan Park and advised they look great.

E. ENGINEERING – No Report

F. BUILDING - No Report

G. PARK - No Report

H. ATTORNEY - Associate Town Attorney Connor Nolan advised because an issue the Chamber has requested to move the Region Games from Dogwood to Thomas Park. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to move the games from Dogwood Park to Thomas Park, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote

I. UTILITIES - Superintendent D. Ryan reported the camera truck is scheduled to be delivered tomorrow.

J. TOWN MANAGER- No Report

K. NIRPC REPORT - Council Member J. Ton meeting on Thursday for the full commission to review the 2050 plan.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS AND REMONSTRANCES

Ordinance 2019-07 - Carmichael and Penecostal Church Vacation – President N. Cobbs opened the Public Hearing. No one spoke in favor or in opposition of the petition. Council President N. Cobbs closed the Public Hearing.

VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2019-07 - An Ordinance of the Town of Chesterton, Porter County, Indiana Vacating a Portion of a Public Way – Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the Ordinance on 1st Reading, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to suspend the rules, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Council Member D. Lafata made the motion to approve the Ordinance on 2nd Reading, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

Quiet Zone - Council Member J. Ton asked the Town Manager to provide an update on the engineering RFP and its status. Town Manager B. Doyle reported that Engineer M. O’Dell has prepared the RFP and submitted to the Town Attorney for legal review. Town Attorney J. Paulson advised they received the RFP and it is being reviewed for presentation to the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Arroyo Vacation – S. 18th St – This was presented earlier in the meeting and set for Public Hearing.

Moving May 27, 2019 meeting to May 28, 2019 – Council Member D. Lafata made motion to move the date of the Council meeting, motion seconded by Council Member J Ton motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Council Member J. Ton:	Council Member J. Ton stated he appreciated everyone’s participation and attendance at the Council meeting.
Council Member D. Lafata:	No Comment
Council Member E. Delaney:	Council Member E. DeLaney thanked everyone for attending the Council meeting. He also advised it is National Police Week and when you see a police officer thanked them for their service.
Council Member N. Cobbs:	Council Member N. Cobbs thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member J. Ton made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. meeting adjourned.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela