

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

November 12, 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 October 28, 2019 Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, 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

NONE

### VI. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

A. POLICE - No Report

B. FIRE - Chief Jarka presented information regarding the Superior Ambulance Agreement – He advised on October 30, a letter of 60 days' notice to terminate the agreement or pay \$150,000 for the remainder of the contract was received from Superior Ambulance. Council Member J. Ton advised that as he remembered, the contract says the Town shared its facilities and Superior was to share its revenues from Ambulance Service in Town. Chief Jarka advised a recent change in the contract was that the Town would receive \$1,000 per month from Superior. Town Attorney C. Parkinson advised the original contract provided a 50/50 revenue sharing threshold through an amount of receipts received. However, according to Superior, that threshold was never attained. Council Member J. Ton advised he was not going to support paying someone to continue their services. Chief Jarka advised the Town would not be without ambulance service. Porter EMS has a contract with the county which also covers the Town. Other fire department ambulance services would assist, including; South Haven, Burns Harbor, Valparaiso, and Portage. The Town also has a certified BLS unit, however there is no mechanism in place for charging for this service. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to not subsidize Superior Ambulance and conclude contractual relationship with the firm on

December 30, 2019 and for the Fire Chief to investigate long-term and short-term options for providing ambulance service to the Town, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. CLERK-TREASURER – Clerk-Treasurer Kuziela reported they are working with the Town Attorney on Board and Commission openings for Council appointments. She advised they are determining who is expiring and what the various party requirements are for these openings. She advised they would be advertising these openings soon and she wanted to know when the Council would like to set the deadline for receiving applications. Town Attorney J. Paulson recommended that the Council receive the applications on December 1<sup>st</sup>, since any later in December would be closer to the holidays. Council Member J. Ton made the motion to receive the applications for Board and Commission candidates by December 2<sup>nd</sup> at end of business, which would provide for current and new Council members time to review the candidates, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

D. STREETS, SANITATION & CENTRAL SERVICES – Street Commissioner J. Schnadenberg advised the 1<sup>st</sup> snow of the season went well, and he requested the 2” snow ban be enacted beginning Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:01 a.m. Council Member L. Kittredge made the motion to enact the 2” snow ban beginning 12:01 am November 14, 2019, motion seconded by Council Member D. Lafata, motion approved by unanimous voice vote. Commissioner Schnadenberg advised that during leaf pickup, brush pickup would be limited. Leaf pickup has been suspended because of the snow and they would continue once they are able to see the leaves. He also commented that the department heads sent the Council a letter several months ago regarding paid time off and equality and the request was for the Council to revisit this letter. Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to take this under advisement until the next meeting, motion seconded by Council Member L. Kittredge, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

E. ENGINEERING – No Report

F. BUILDING - No Report

G. PARK - Superintendent B. Mathias reported all the bathrooms have been blown out, except for the downtown rail cars which would be addressed after the Christmas parade. He also reported they have begun installing the Christmas decorations downtown.

H. ATTORNEY - No Report

I. UTILITIES - No Report

J. TOWN MANAGER- Town Manager B. Doyle advised he has items under Old Business.

## VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS, BID OPENINGS AND REMONSTRANCES

NONE

## VIII. ORDINANCES AND/OR RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2019-09 – A Town of Chesterton Climate Emergency Resolution – Council Member J. Ton made the motion to approve the Resolution, motion seconded by Council Member E. DeLaney, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

X. OLD BUSINESS

Waiver of Standards – 502 Union Ct – Jeffrey and Wendy Knarian – Town Attorney J. Paulson advised she spoke with the building commissioner regarding this and he had no issues with this request to Waive Standards with the condition that a French drain be installed. Council Member E. DeLaney made the motion to approve the request for Waiver of Town Standards under the condition a French drain is installed, motion seconded by Council Member J. Ton, motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Quiet Zone – Council Member J. Ton advised that Mr. Jackson of CTC Inc. of Fort Worth, Texas was in Town for 3 days inspecting and reviewing all the rail crossings in Town. Town Manager B. Doyle reported that Mr. Jackson met with Engineer M. O’Dell, J. Gadzala, and Mr. Doyle to discuss the next step prior to meeting with CSX and Norfolk Southern before discussions with Federal Rail Administration. Town Manager B. Doyle reported the Town would develop a Preferred Action Plan before meeting with the various Rail Road companies. Council Member J. Ton announced the CEDC dispersed funds requested by Chesterton Toy Store.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

- Council Member E. DeLaney: No Comment
- Council Member L. Kittredge: No Comment
- Council Member D. Lafata: No Comment
- Council Member J. Ton: Council Member J. Ton advised yesterday was Veteran’s Day and every day we enjoy our freedoms and exercise our rights should be considered Veteran’s Day.
- Council Member N. Cobbs: No Comment

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

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COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

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Clerk-Treasurer S. Kuziela